

Five Important Admonitions
(1 Corinthians 16:13-14)

Introduction:

1. We learn from the first 2 verses of this letter (1:1-2) that it was written:
 - a. by the apostle Paul
 - b. to the church in Corinth.
2. This letter addresses a number of issues.
 - a. Paul was told about several issues (1:11; 5:1).
 - b. He was asked about others (7:1).
3. As Paul was concluding his letter, in the verses we read (16:13-14) he gave "five important admonitions" that we are studying today.

Discussion:

- I. THE FIRST ADMONITION IS "WATCH YE"
 - A. "Watch" means to be cautious and to be alert (see 1 Thessalonians 5:6).
 - B. The Scriptures teach us to be alert concerning:
 1. the Lord's return (Matthew 25:13)
 2. the activities of the devil (1 Peter 5:8).
- II. THE SECOND ADMONITION IS "STAND FAST IN THE FAITH"
 - A. "Stand fast" means to persevere and to stand firm in maintaining a right relationship with the Lord (see Galatians 5:1).
 - B. Christians are to be united in standing fast in the faith (Philippians 1:27-28a).
- III. THE THIRD ADMONITION IS "QUIT YOU LIKE MEN"
 - A. "Quit" means to acquit, act, or behave.
 - B. This is an admonition for Christians to be brave (2 Timothy 1:7).
 - C. To be victorious we must be brave, as illustrated by the Philistines when they fought Israel (1 Samuel 4:9-10).
- IV. THE FOURTH ADMONITION IS "BE STRONG"
 - A. This is another admonition for Christians to demonstrate bravery.
 - B. A more detailed appeal is given in Ephesians 6:10-13.
- V. THE FIFTH ADMONITION IS "LET ALL YOUR THINGS BE DONE WITH CHARITY"
 - A. A failure to do everything with love had gotten the Corinthians into trouble.
 - B. We must do everything with love because:
 1. without love we are nothing (1 Corinthians 13:1-3)
 2. we show others that we are the Lord's true disciples (John 13:34-35).

Conclusion:

1. We pointed out earlier that the apostle Paul wrote these "five important admonitions."
2. According to 1 Corinthians 14:37, they are "the commandments of the Lord."
3. Let us put forth our best effort to practice these admonitions because they are designed to help us:
 - a. stay on guard against our enemy, Satan
 - b. remain faithful to Christ, our Savior.