

# The Doctrine of Exhortation

## I. Introduction & Definition

A. Greek Vocabulary: παρὰ <sup>#3844</sup> *beside* + καλέω <sup>#2564</sup>: *to call*.

1. παρακαλέω <sup>#3870</sup>: *to implore, exhort, comfort, encourage*. (109x)
2. συμπαρακαλέω <sup>#4837</sup>: *to exhort together, comfort with others*. (1x: Rom. 1:12)
3. παράκλησις <sup>#3874</sup>: *exhortation, comfort, encouragement*. (29x)
4. παράκλητος <sup>#3875</sup>: *advocate, helper*. (5x: Jn. 14:16,26; 15:26; 16:7; 1<sup>st</sup> Jn. 2:1).

B. English Vocabulary:

1. Implore: *to call upon in supplication*: beseech; *to call or pray for earnestly*: entreat.
2. Exhort: *to incite by argument or advice*: urge strongly.
3. Comfort: *to give strength and hope to*: cheer; *to ease the grief or trouble of*: console.
4. Encourage: *to inspire with courage, spirit, or hope*: hearten; *to spur on*: stimulate.

C. The basic idea of παρακαλέω is to come alongside. Whether the person is imploring, exhorting, comforting, or encouraging, they are coming alongside another person in order to minister.

D. Although an exhortation can parallel a command (2<sup>nd</sup> Thess. 3:12), it is generally given instead of a command (Philem. 8-10).

## II. The Work of God as our Exhorter, Comforter, Encourager.

A. God the Father is our provision of παράκλησις (2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 1:3-7; 2<sup>nd</sup> Thess. 2:16,17).

B. The Holy Spirit is our earthly παράκλητος (Jn. 14:16,26; 15:26; 16:7).

C. Jesus Christ is our heavenly παράκλητος (1<sup>st</sup> Jn. 2:1).

## III. The Word of God as our Exhorter, Comforter, Encourager (Rom. 15:4,5).

A. As it is written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit (Heb. 12:5 (Prov. 3:11,12); 13:22).

B. As it is taught by faithful Pastors/Evangelists (Lk. 3:18; Acts 4:36; 11:23; 13:15; 15:31,32; 20:1,2; 1<sup>st</sup> Thess. 2:3,11; 1<sup>st</sup> Tim. 4:13; 6:2; 2<sup>nd</sup> Tim. 4:2; Tit. 1:9; 2:15; 1<sup>st</sup> Pet. 5:12).

C. As the fellowship of the Word encourages reciprocally (Rom. 1:12; 2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 1:3-7; 2:7,8; 7:4-7,13; 1<sup>st</sup> Thess. 4:18; 5:11,14; Heb. 3:13; 10:25).

D. As good reports are received from other geographical locations (Eph. 6:22; Col. 4:8; 1<sup>st</sup> Thess. 3:2).

E. Spiritually gifted believers as exhorters, comforters, encouragers (Rom. 12:8 cf. the exhorting role of NT prophets 1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 14:3,31).

## IV. Subjects for New Testament Exhortation

A. Present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice (Rom. 12:1).

B. Strive together with me in your prayers (Rom. 15:30; 1<sup>st</sup> Tim. 2:1).

C. Keep an eye on, and turn away from those who cause dissensions (Rom. 16:17).

D. You all agree, and be made complete (1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 1:10; Phil. 4:2).

E. Be imitators of faithful spiritual leaders (1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 4:16), and be in subjection to them (1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 16:15,16).

F. Walk in a manner worthy of your calling (Eph. 4:1).

G. Excel still more (1<sup>st</sup> Thess. 4:1,10).

H. Admonish, encourage, help, & be patient (1<sup>st</sup> Thess. 5:14).

I. Work in order to eat (2<sup>nd</sup> Thess. 3:10-15).

J. For sensible youth (Tit. 2:6).

K. Abstain from fleshly lusts (1<sup>st</sup> Pet. 2:11).

L. Contend earnestly for the faith (Jude 3).