‘LOSE HEART’

Did you ever lose heart over a difficult situation? The phrase is used four times in the English Standard Version of the Bible, yet not once in the ASV or the KJV.

It is used in Luke 18:1 “And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.” In 2 Cor. 4:1 “Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart.” In 2 Cor. 4:16 “So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.” Then in Eph. 3:13 “So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.”

We have all seen people “lose heart” when in difficulty or unable to accomplish something they were passionate about. It can be almost anything, but in these passages it has to do with the work of God in the lives of people. Instead of “losing heart” in one instance we are encouraged to “pray,” in another we are to be thankful for the “mercy” of God rather than to “lose heart.” We all know the feeling that our lives are passing fast, “wasting away” and in the last verse the church in Corinth is concerned about the suffering Paul is experiencing in his work and are told not to “lose heart.”

We are especially concerned when those close to us have difficulty or suffer. Prayer is always important but not the answer to “all things” like some people infer.

Just don’t “lose heart” when these arise. Cast your care on Him. 1Pet. 5:7 “casting all your anxiety upon him, because he careth for you.”

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