

# **Pure Doctrine for Holy Living**

*A Study of 2 Thessalonians*

## **Confidence in the Lord**

**Lesson 21**

**2 Thessalonians 3**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School*

*May 26, 2019*

## The Gospel in the Old Testament Summer, 2019

- Lesson 01: The Creator of Heaven and Earth  
Genesis 1
- Lesson 02: You Shall Surely Die!  
Genesis 2-3
- Lesson 03: Grace in the Eyes of the Lord  
Genesis 6-9
- Lesson 04: The Gospel Preached to Abraham  
Genesis 12:1-9; 15:1-21; Galatians 3:8
- Lesson 05: The Lord Will Provide  
Genesis 22
- Lesson 06: Jacob and Esau  
Genesis 25:20-34; 27:1-40
- Lesson 07: The Passover Lamb  
Exodus 11-12
- Lesson 08: The Old Covenant  
Exodus 19, 24
- Lesson 09: A King and a Kingdom  
2 Samuel 7
- Lesson 10: An Offering for Sin  
Isaiah 52:13-53:12
- Lesson 11: The New Covenant  
Jeremiah 31
- Lesson 12: The Valley of Dry Bones  
Ezekiel 36:22-37:14
- Lesson 13: The Just Shall Live by Faith  
Habakkuk 1-3

# 2 Thessalonians 1

- ▶ A growing church (1:3, 11)
- ▶ A suffering church (1:4)
- ▶ A church displaying the righteousness of God (1:5-10)
  - Worthy of the Kingdom of God for all who believe
  - Eternal justice for those who do not believe
- ▶ Christ will be glorified in His saints
- ▶ Paul's prayer captures the essence of the Christian life
  - A worthy life (1:11)
  - A life in which Christ will be glorified at His coming (1:12)

## 2 Thessalonians 2

- ▶ A threat to their peace – false teaching about the Day of the Lord (2:1-2)
- ▶ The signs: the apostasy and the man of sin
- ▶ A time of Satanic activity to be terminated by the return of the Lord
- ▶ The hope of the believer – chosen to gain the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ
- ▶ An encouragement to stand firm in the truth
- ▶ Prayer to God - comfort and strength “for every good work and word”

## 2 Thessalonians 3

- ▶ Focus continues on persevering in “every good work and word”
- ▶ A prayer request concerning the word (3:1-5)
- ▶ A serious problem within the church (3:6-15)
- ▶ A prayer for grace and peace (3:16-18)

## 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5

- ▶ “Brethren, pray for us . . .”
- ▶ That the word of the Lord will run rapidly
  - Boldness to proclaim the instrument of God’s grace
  - Faith to believe that it is the instrument of God’s grace
  - Understanding that the word is effective
- ▶ That the word of the Lord will be glorified
  - The glory of God consists in His attributes (Ex. 33:18, 21,23; 34:5-7)
  - To glorify God is to expose Him, by word or work
  - Glory belongs to God (Rev. 19:1; 1 Peter 4:11)
  - As it did with you (1:10, 12; 2:14)

## 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5

- ▶ That we will be rescued from perverse and evil men (3:2-3)
  - A binary world – faith or no faith
  - Obey or not obey the Gospel of our Lord Jesus (1:7)
  - Love or hate Jesus Christ (John 15:18-21)
  - The need for protection from evil men
  - The Lord is faithful – will strengthen and protect from the evil one
- ▶ We have confidence in the Lord concerning you (3:4-5)
  - He will strengthen and protect you is grounds for confidence (3:3)
  - The result of Divine strength – obedience to what Paul commands
  - The heart of the matter (Jer 17:9; Deut 30:6; Eze 36:26-27)
    - Directed into the love of God – for us and/or in us
    - Directed into the steadfastness of Christ – for us and/or in us

## 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15

- ▶ The undisciplined life (3:6)
  - A surprising issue
  - Literal translation: without order
  - Explained: not according the tradition received from Paul (3:6)
  - Tradition: customs or beliefs passed on to following generations
  - Tradition from man (Matt. 15:6; Gal. 1:14; Col. 2:8)
  - Traditions from God (2:15; 1 Cor. 11:2) – apostolic teaching
- ▶ Paul's example of a disciplined life (3:7-10)
  - Labor and hardship; night and day; not be a burden
  - Deferring the right to be supported (1 Cor. 9:6-18)
  - Instructing the Thessalonians

## 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15

- ▶ The undisciplined life in Thessalonica (3:11)
  - Unwilling to work
  - Acting like busybodies
    - “working around” – where you do not belong (Acts 19:19; 1 Tim. 5:13)
    - “bishop of what belongs to another” (1 Peter 4:15)
    - No concern for their own needs but interfering with others
  - A serious issue
    - Peter – lists sin of being a busybody with murder
    - Paul – says not working is equivalent to being an unbeliever (1 Tim. 5:8)
  - The alternative commanded (3:12)
    - Work – to supply your own bread (i.e. not be a burden on others)
    - Work in a quiet fashion – focus on the task at hand

## 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15

- ▶ The discipline for lack of discipline (3:13-15)
  - Do not be weary in doing good
  - Do not associate with the undisciplined person (3:6, 14)
    - Manner of dealing with sin in the church (1 Cor. 5:9-13)
  - Intent is to make him ashamed of his conduct
  - Treat as a brother and not an enemy
  - A variant of the church discipline in Matt 18:15-20
- ▶ Consider the extent of change brought by a life of faith in Christ

## 2 Thessalonians 3:16-18

- ▶ The Lord of peace
  - Peace – encompasses the entire work of salvation (Heb 13:20)
  - Peace – with God in justification (Romans 5:1)
  - Peace – of God in trials (Phil 4:6-7)
  - Peace – in the church (1 Thess 5:13)
  - Peace – in righteous living (1 Peter 3:11)
  - Peace because the Lord is with you
- ▶ The apostolic authority – Paul's mark of verification
- ▶ The Lord of grace – confidence in Him