

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