

“Safe & Secure – Through Salvation!”
2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

Introduction:

1. What Makes You Feel Secure?
 - At Home - A Security Alarm System?
 - In Life - A Large Bank Account / Retirement Account? Money?
 - A Country - Strong Defense / Military?
 - Much Of Our Security As Americans Rests In The Strength Of Our Military!
 - If We Were Invaded By Enemy Forces, Would This Make You Feel Secure?
 - A Shelter Nearly 1 Mile Under A Mountain Of Solid Granite – With All The Food, Water & Air You Need?
 - The Same Shelter Built On Large Steel Springs, To Absorb The Shock Of Bombs & Even Earthquakes?
 - Doors Weighing 25 Tons, Built To Withstand Even A Nuclear Explosion?
 - A State Of The Art Communications System, So You Know Everything That Is Going On Around You?
 - I Would Feel Pretty Secure! Unfortunately, I Wouldn't Be Allowed In There! Because The Place I Just Described Is Known As Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center, Near Colorado Springs, Colorado! One Of The Strongest, Most Impenetrable Military Installations In The World!
2. In 2 Thessalonians 2, Paul Was Describing Another Invasion!
 - In Which The Anti-Christ Would Take Over The Government Of This World, Just Before The Final Return Of Jesus Christ!
 - And This Will Be A Very Dangerous & Fearful Time!
 - During This Time, There Will Be No Cheyenne Mountain To Flee To! There Will Be No Shelter!
3. But, To Encourage & Reassure Those Christians In Thessalonica, He Now Teaches That:
 - ***The Security Of Salvation Rests In The Savior!***
 - Read 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17!

* We Find In These Verses:

1. ***The Reason For Christian Security!***
 - **IE:** Reason Cheyenne Mountain Was Chosen Was Because It Is A Huge Rock! The Deeper They Went Into The Mountain, The Safer They Were! So It Is With Jesus Christ! “He Is The Rock!” (Deuteronomy 32:4)
 - Your Security Rests Completely In The Lord! Based On:
 - ***The Choice Of God!***
 - 2:13 - “But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth!”
 - This Teaching Is: For Christians! For Comfort!
 - So, If You Are Trusting In Jesus For Salvation, The Fact Is That: God Chose You!
 - “Chosen” - To Pick Between Different Options!
 - Used By Paul: To Live Or To Die!
 - Used About Moses: To Suffer Or To Sin!
 - When It Came To You, God Had Two Options! He Could “Take It Or Leave It!”
 - He Could Have Left You To Yourself!
 - He Could Take You To Himself!
 - The Timing Of His Choice!
 - “From The Beginning!”
 - Above & Beyond Time! If God Set His Mind On You “From The Beginning,” Do You Need To Be Afraid Of The End?
 - The Purpose Of His Choice!
 - “To Salvation!”
 - This Is The Current Condition Of A Christian! Not Completely Realized, But A Christian Is Saved!
 - The Instruments Of His Choice!
 - **IE:** When I Make A Choice At The Store, I Use The Instruments Of My Hands To Pick

- What I Have Chosen!
 - “Through” - “By” - God’s Choice Is Not Automatic – He Executes The Choice He Made **Before** Time **In** Time! Through:
 - A Consecration By The Holy Spirit!
 - “A Process Of Causing You To Become Increasingly Detached From The World And Attached To Christ!”
 - A Personal Commitment To The Truth!
 - The One Is The Evidence Of The Other!
 - When You Personally Commit To The Truth Of Jesus Christ, It Reveals That You Are One Of God’s Chosen!
 - And That You Are Secure! You Don’t Have To Live In Fear & Doubt!
- Another Reason For Christian Security: **The Call Of God!**
 - 2:14 - “Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ!”
 - Those Whom God Chose, He Calls! How? Why?
 - Through The Gospel Of Jesus Christ!
 - “By Our Gospel!”
 - “Gospel” - “Good News” – The ESSENTIAL Truth For Salvation!
 - **IE:** The Gospel Is Like A Megaphone, That Clarifies, Amplifies & Even Simplifies The Truth!
 - Well Known! See 1 Corinthians 15:1-11!
 - The Call Is To “Repent ye, and believe the gospel!” (Mark 1:15)
 - “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved!” (Acts 16:31)
 - Those Who Respond To The Call Of God Are The Chosen Of God!
 - To The Glory Of Jesus Christ!
 - “To The Obtaining Of The Glory Of Our Lord Jesus Christ!”
 - We Know How Great Jesus’ Glory Is!
 - He Is The “Lord Jesus Christ!”
 - We Know How Great The Father’s Glory Is!
 - Moses Asked: “Shew Me Thy Glory!” (Exodus 33:18)
 - But The Purpose For God’s Choice Was Not Only To **Show** You His Glory, But To **Share** His Glory With You!
 - **IE:** Michael Phelps Sharing His “Glory” With His Mother – Only We’ve Done Nothing For It! (Bouquet Of Flowers)
 - Also In 1:12! “Those Who Are In Christ Share The Glory Of Christ!” (Morris)
- This Is Why You Can Be So Secure!
 - **The Security Of Salvation Rests In The Savior!**

2. **The Response To Christian Security!**

- When You Understand That Your Salvation Is Secure Because Of God Himself – As Ephesians 2:8 Says: “And that not of yourselves” – It Should Produce Some Powerful Responses!
 - **IE:** How Would You Respond If Someone Saved Your Life? Well, Jesus Has Saved Your Soul!
- **Rejoice!**
 - 2:13a - “But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord!”
 - When Paul, Silas & Timothy Considered How Secure The Thessalonian Christians Were In Christ, They Expressed Their Joy Through Thanksgiving!
 - It Is An Obligation! They Considered It To Be!
 - “Bound” - “Owe” / “Ought To!”
 - Not A Lump-Sum Payment, But Continuous!
 - **IE:** Balloon Payment Vs. Regular Payment - Should Last A Lot Longer Than Even 30 Years!
 - It Is An Honor!
 - Because Of Their Relationship With Christians!
 - Because Of Their Relationship With Christ!
 - How Do You Respond To Your Security In Christ?
 - Are You Perpetually Thankful?
- **React!** (Emphasize “Act!”)

- 2:15 - "Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle!"
- **How Should** You React To The Fact That God Has Chosen You, And Made You Completely Safe & Secure?
- Not Just An Attitude, But Your Actions Are To Be Impacted!
- React With Courage! "Stand Fast" – "Stand!"
 - 1 Corinthians 15:58a - "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord!"
- React With Conviction! "Hold" – "Grasp!"
- **What?** - The Truth! "The Traditions Which Ye Have Been Taught!"
 - "Traditions" Here - Something Handed Down!
 - 1 Corinthians 15:3 - "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures!"
- How Do You React To Your Security In Christ?
 - Are You Standing In & Holding On To The Truth You Have Received? Psalm 118:6 - "The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?"
- **Request!**
 - **How Can** You React Appropriately To The Gracious Fact That God Has Chosen You?
 - John 15:5 - "Without me ye can do nothing!"
 - So Recognizing This, We Find A Prayer In 2:16-17 - "Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, / Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work!"
 - A Prayer Request For God To Comfort Them In Truth!
 - Worry Will Paralyze Your Service To God!
 - But God's Love & God's Gifts Are The Basis Of A Christian's Prayer / Request!
 - A Prayer Request For God To Confirm Them In Truth!
 - "Stablish"
 - When You Speak For & Serve The Lord, You "Can Do Nothing Effective In Your Own Strength!" (Morris)
 - Do You Request God To Empower You To Speak For & Serve Him?
- This Is How You Will Respond, When You Remember That:
 - **"The Security Of Salvation Rests In The Savior!"**

Conclusion:

1. And When The Savior Is Yours – His Security Is Yours!
 - You Can Say:
 - What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.
 - Leaning, leaning,
Safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.
2. This Morning, Remember The Reason For Your Security & Respond!
 - With A Thankful Heart! A Commitment! A Dependence & Trust!

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