

## "Predestined"

### 1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians

January 29, 2012

*"he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved." (Ephesians 1:5-6, ESV)*

#### **God Has Predestined His Children Not To Wrath But For Salvation Through Jesus Christ, (vs. 5: 9)**

- I. We must pay much closer attention to what we believe about God's work of salvation, (vs. 1: 1 – 3: 13)
  - A. God's choice of His children for salvation is manifest in real-life terms, (vs. 1: 1 – 10)
    - The reality is that God's grace in salvation is undeniable & irrefutable, (vs. 8)
      1. The proclamation of God's grace in salvation is not in doubt for the believer, (vs. 8a); *"How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?" So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have, for "Their voice has gone out to all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world.""* (Romans 10:14-18, ESV)
      2. The proclamation of God's grace in salvation is what is naturally expected, (vs. 8b); *"Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you, or from you? You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all. And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts."* (2 Corinthians 3:1-3, ESV)

- B. God's choice of His children for salvation results in correctness & purity, (vs. 2: 1 - 20)
  - C. God's choice of His children for salvation motivates believers to see God's work in others, (vs. 3: 1 - 13)
- II. We must pay much closer attention to how we put into practice what we say we believe, (vs. 4: 1 - 5: 28)
- A. The revelation of God requires that His children live in holiness & purity not lustful passions, (vs. 4: 1 - 12)
  - B. The revelation of God requires that His children be informed about the reality of the last day, (vs. 4: 13 - 5: 11)
  - C. The revelation of God requires that His children are found blameless at the Lord's return, (vs. 5: 12 - 28)
- III. We must pay much closer attention to why we must live with self discipline under God's word, (2 Ths. 1: 1-3: 18)
- A. The wrath of God is a very present reality for those who do not believe the gospel, (vs. 1: 1 - 12)
  - B. The wrath of God is a very present reality governed by the ordained decrees of God, (vs. 2: 1 - 17)
  - C. The wrath of God is a very present reality that must be avoided even in its temporal aspects, (vs. 3: 1 - 18)