

"Not The Word Of Men"

1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians

February 26, 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)
- B. God's choice of His children for salvation results in correctness & purity, (vs. 2: 1 – 20)
 2. God's gospel of salvation is not dependant on worldly means of deception but on God's grace (vs. 3 – 4)
 1. The gospel message is not proclaimed so as to "win the argument," (vs. 3); *"But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake."* (2 Corinthians 4:2-5, ESV)
 2. The gospel message is proclaimed by those who have been called of God, (vs. 4); *"But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things? For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ."* (2 Corinthians 2:14-17, ESV)

3. God's gospel of salvation does not unduly misrepresent the human condition, (vs. 5 - 6)
4. God's gospel of salvation is manifest in the tender affections of a loving parent, (vs. 7 - 8)

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)