

"This We Declare"

1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians

March 10, 2013

"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)

- II We must pay much closer attention to how we put into practice what we say we believe, (vs. 4: 1 – 5: 28)
- B. The revelation of God requires that His children be informed about the reality of the last day, (vs. 4: 13 – 5: 11)

6. A Correct Understanding Of The Last Day Requires A Proper Application Of God's Ordination, (vs. 18)

18.1) God Has Ordained An Edifying Hope In The Last Day

"Therefore Encourage (Pres.Act.Impv)"-

"And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." (Luke 21:25-28, ESV)

18.2) God Has Ordained That Edification Be By His Word Alone

"With These Words"-

"For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no "root of bitterness" springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears." (Hebrews 12:10-17, ESV)

1) "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. 2) And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 3) not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, 4) but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." (Hebrews 10:23-25, ESV)

- 1) Our only real hope is found in what Christ has promised those who love Him.
- 2) Our hope should motivate us to grow and grow others in the fruit of repentance.
- 3) Neglecting our hope is more than broken fellowship; it is a refusal to help build others up.
- 4) Our hope is the only real safeguard against the struggles we face until the Lord returns.

How have you become discouraged because you have lost sight of the real hope in Christ our Lord?

7. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Does Not Require Any Special Revelation; It Is Plain, (vs. 5: 1-2)
8. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Does Not Require Present Events As A “Trigger”, (vs. 3)
9. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Protects The Child Of God From Surprise, (vs. 4)
10. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Is An Ontological Matter Not Just Theological, (vs. 5)
11. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Must Make Distinctions Between Persons, (vs. 6-7)
12. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Is Not Escapism But Marching Orders, (vs. 8)
13. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Mandates The Active Declaration Of The Gospel, (vs. 9)
14. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Does Not Focus On The Timing Of The Day, (vs. 10)
15. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Focuses On The Building Of Christ’s Church More & More, (vs. 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)