

"This We Declare"

1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians

April 21, 2013

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)
10. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Is An Ontological Matter Not Just Theological, (vs. 5)

5.1) If We Are In Christ Our Very Nature Is Light

"You Are All Children Of Light"-

"And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him," (John 12:32-37, ESV)

5.2) If We Are In Christ Our Nature Will Be Evident

"Children Of Day"-

"Therefore do not become partners with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."'" (Ephesians 5:7-14, ESV)

5.3) If We Are In Christ Our Nature Is Not Surrender

"Not Children Of Night Or Darkness"-

"And the manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light." (Luke 16:3-8, ESV)

1) "...for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, 2) delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles – to whom I am sending you to open their eyes, 3) so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, 4) that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me." (Acts 26:16-18, ESV)

- 1) God has revealed Himself to us so that we may be servants & witnesses to the truth.
- 2) God will provide all that is necessary to proclaim the message of light.
- 3) The purpose of our witness is to turn others to the light; away from Satan & darkness.
- 4) The method of coming to the light is the forgiveness of sin.

How are you living outside the fellowship of your ontology by walking in darkness?

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)