

“Destined For This”

1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians

August 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)
- C. God’s choice of His children for salvation motivates believers to see God’s work in others, (vs. 3: 1 – 13)

1. The work of the Gospel must be spread abroad and not just in one place, (vs. 1-3a)

1a) Do You Have A Burden For The Gospel?

“Bear (Pres.Act.Part) It No Longer”-

“The LORD could no longer bear your evil deeds and the abominations that you committed. Therefore your land has become a desolation and a waste and a curse, without inhabitant, as it is this day.” (Jeremiah 44:22, ESV)

1b) Are You Willing To Be Left Behind?

“Willing (Aor.Act.Ind) To Be Left (Aor.Pas.Inf) Behind”-

“... with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches.” (2 Corinthians 11:23-28, ESV)

2) Are You Willing To Let Someone Else Be The Speaker?

“Sent (Aor.Act.Ind) /

Establish (Aor.Act.Inf) & Exhort (Aor.Act.Inf) In Faith”- *“Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers, that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God. For I bear him witness that he has worked hard for you...” (Colossians 4:12-13, ESV)*

3) Are You Really Concerned About Other People’s Faith?

“No One Be Moved (Pres.Pas.Inf)”-

“No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:37-39, ESV)

1) “When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, 2) strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God. 3) And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.” (Acts 14:21-23, ESV)

- 1) The work of the Gospel is more than preaching conversion.
- 2) The work of the Gospel is the continuing to strengthen other believers through difficulty.
- 3) The work of the Gospel is regulated by God’s instructions and revelation.

How are you actively taking the work of the Gospel to other places?

2. The work of the Gospel places believers in harm's way, (vs. 3b - 4)
3. The work of the Gospel is under constant bombardment from the enemy, (vs. 5)
4. The work of the Gospel bring encouragement to those who labor, (vs. 6 - 7)
5. The work of the Gospel is the only work that truly is worthwhile, (vs. 8 - 9)
6. The work of the Gospel requires the support and interaction of other believers, (vs. 10)
7. The work of the Gospel must be directed by the Lord Himself, (vs. 11)
8. The work of the Gospel can only be successful through the power of Christ, (vs. 12)
9. The work of the Gospel is about bring lost sinners into holiness before God, (vs. 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)