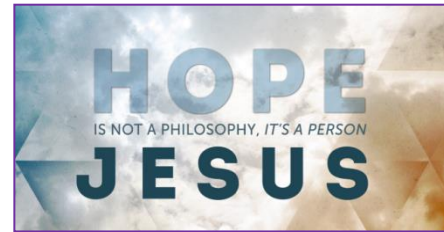




Thessalonians



There Is Hope!

Lesson 13

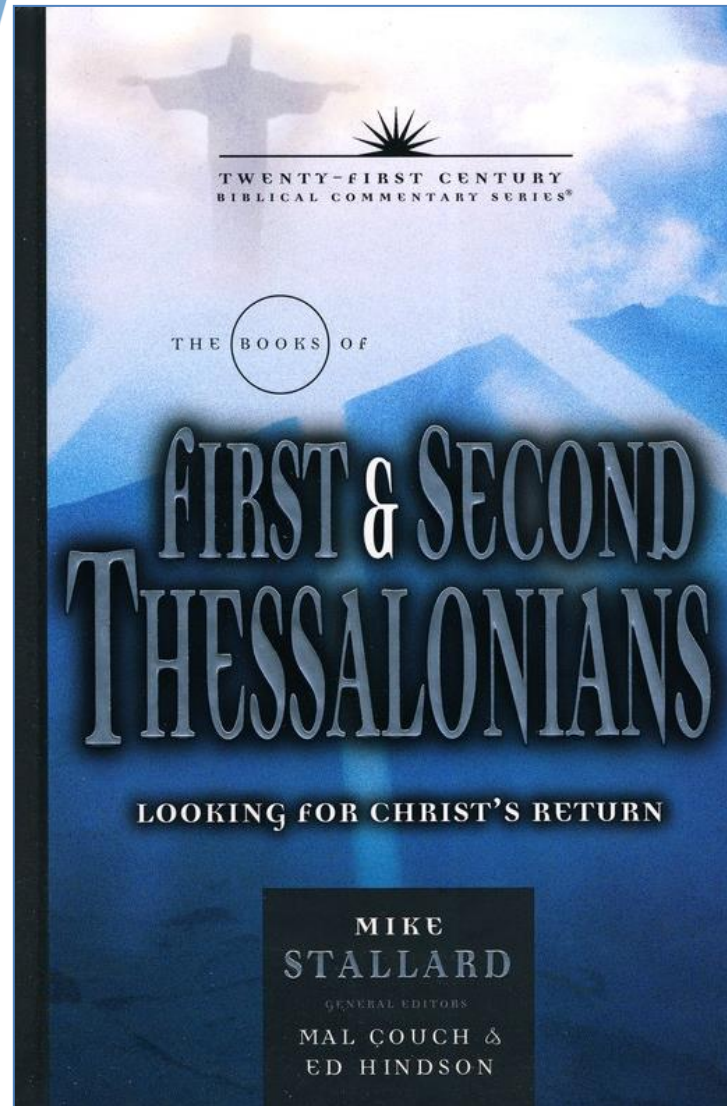
Living Hope

2 Thessalonians 3:1-18

Philip Giorgio

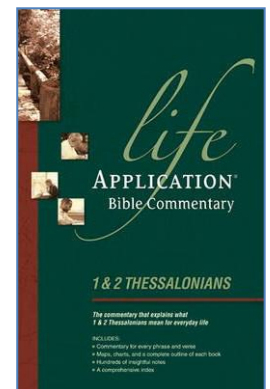
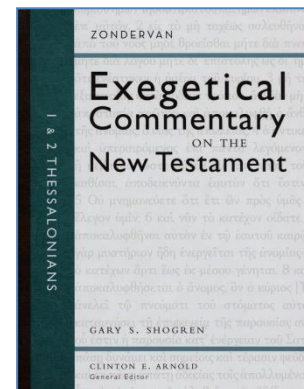
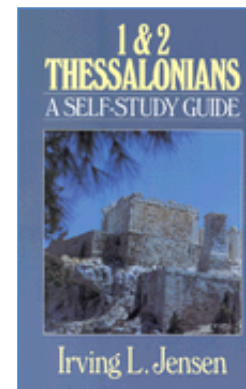
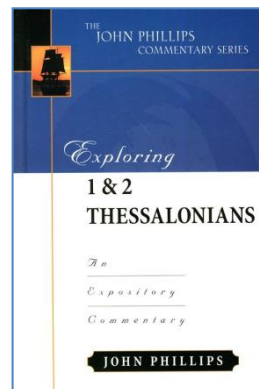
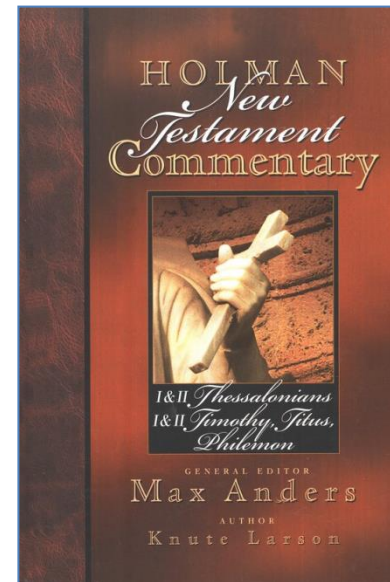
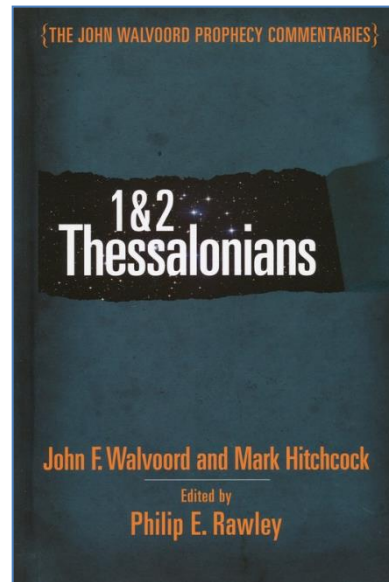


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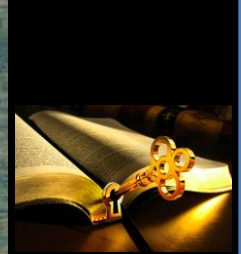
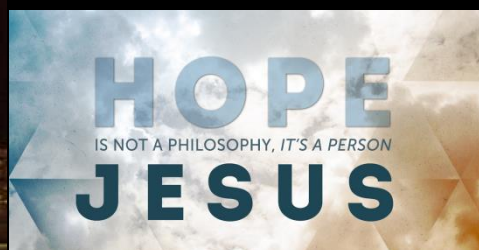
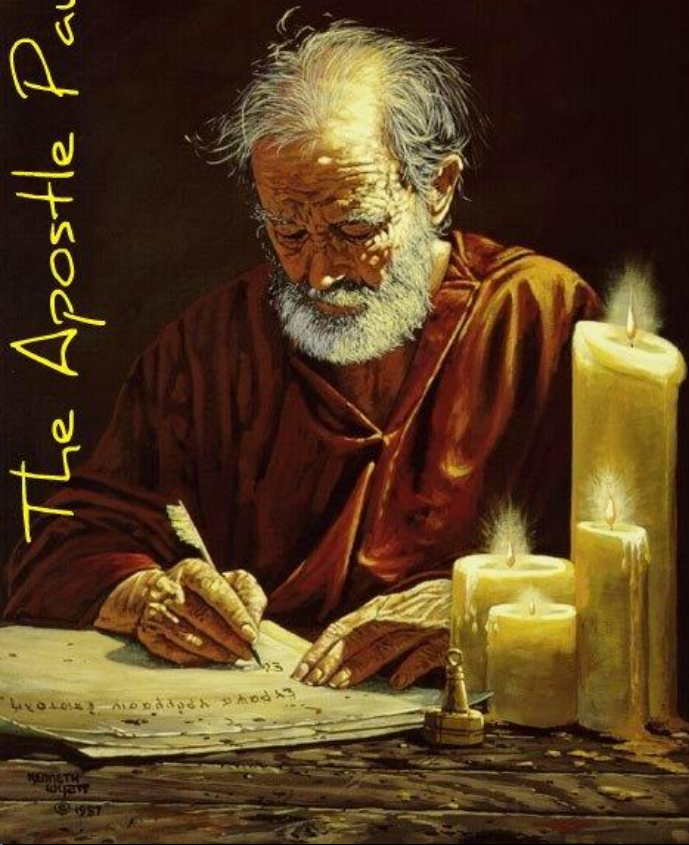




References



The Apostle Paul





Course Outline

Course Outline - Lessons

■ Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

- Lesson 01: Introduction [THESSALONIANS]
- Lesson 02: Inspiring Hope [1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-10]
- Lesson 03: Working Hope: *Part I* [1 THESSALONIANS 2:1-12]
- Lesson 04: Working Hope: *Part II* [1 THESSALONIANS 2:13-20]
- Lesson 05: Purifying Hope: *Part I* [1 THESSALONIANS 3:1-13]
- Lesson 06: Purifying Hope: *Part II* [1 THESSALONIANS 4:1-12]
- Lesson 07: Comforting Hope [1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18]
- Lesson 08: Future Hope: *Part I* [1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-11]
- Lesson 09: Future Hope: *Part II* [1 THESSALONIANS 5:12-28]
- Lesson 10: Blessed Hope: *Part I* [2 THESSALONIANS 1:1-12]
- Lesson 11: Blessed Hope: *Part II* [2 THESSALONIANS 2:1-12]
- Lesson 12: Blessed Hope: *Part III* [2 THESSALONIANS 2:13-17]
- Lesson 13: Living Hope [2 THESSALONIANS 3:1-18]

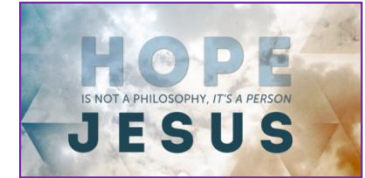


Lesson Outline

Lesson 13 - Outline

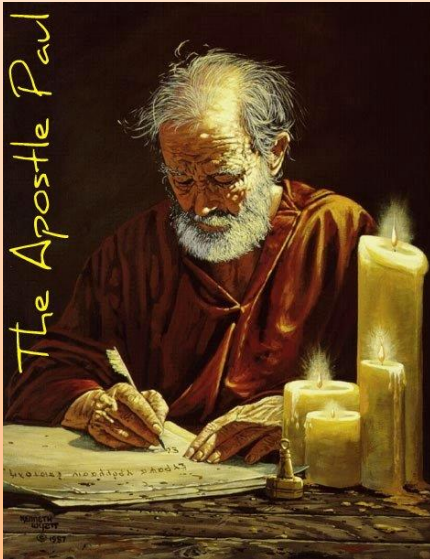
■ Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

• Lesson 13: Living Hope



✓ STRUCTURE

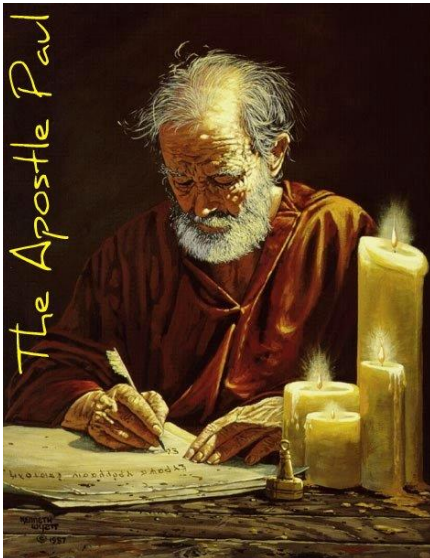
- ➡ » Lesson Preview *Introduction*
- » Pray for Us *2 Thessalonians 3:1-5*
- » Warning Against Idleness *2 Thessalonians 3:6-15*
- » Benediction *2 Thessalonians 3:16-18*



Lesson Preview - INTRODUCTION

- Preview ... LIVING HOPE

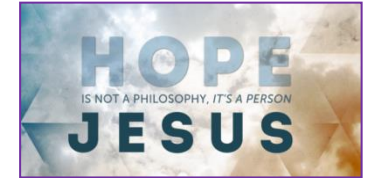
Paul asks the **Thessalonian saints** to **withdraw** from association with **unruly believers** who are **not working** but are **spending their time** bothering **others** in the **assembly**. These **disorderly believers** should be **admonished** to **work hard** for **their own upkeep** and **follow** the **example** of the **apostle** in the matter. **Paul signs his** name, extending **blessing** to the **Thessalonians** in the **hope** that **they** might **experience God's grace** and **peace**.



Lesson 13 - Outline

■ Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

• Lesson 13: Living Hope



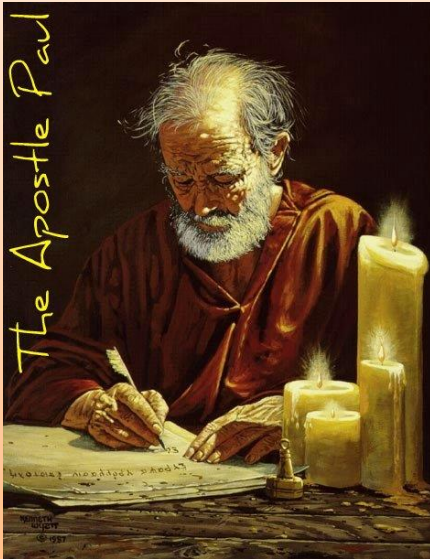
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» Benediction *2 Thessalonians 3:16-18*



Pray for Us - 2 Thessalonians 3:1 - OBSERVATIONS

3 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run *swiftly* and be glorified, just as it is with you, ² and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith. ³ But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one. ⁴ And we have confidence in the Lord concerning you, both that you do and will do the things we command you. ⁵ Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5... NKJV

• Prayer Request - Pray for Us

• FINALLY, BRETHREN, PRAY FOR US

- Paul constantly asked other Christians to PRAY FOR him

Romans 15:30, 2 Corinthians 1:11, Ephesians 6:18-19, Philippians 1:19, Colossians 4:3, 1 Thessalonians 5:25, and Philemon 22

- Paul knew that the success of his ministry in some measure depended on the prayers of God's people.

• THAT THE WORD OF THE LORD MAY RUN SWIFTLY AND BE GLORIFIED

- Paul's great concern - what he FIRST asked the Thessalonian Christians to pray for - was that God's word be free to do its work among others, even as it had among the Thessalonians (JUST AS IT IS WITH YOU).

Pray for Us - 2 Thessalonians 3:1 - OBSERVATIONS

3 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run *swiftly* and be glorified, just as it is with you, ² and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith. ³ But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one. ⁴ And we have confidence in the Lord concerning you, both that you do and will do the things we command you. ⁵ Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5... NKJV

• Prayer Request - Pray for Us

- THAT THE WORD OF THE LORD MAY RUN SWIFTLY AND BE GLORIFIED

- Paul asked for prayer so that the word can RUN freely, without any hindrance.
- Paul's prayer request makes us wonder how often the work of God's word is hindered by our prayerlessness.
- God has promised that His word would be free and perform its work: [Isaiah 55:11](#)
- But as with many of God's promises, we are expected to take this promise in faith, and ask God to perform it for His honor and glory.

11 So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

--- Isaiah 55:11 ... NKJV

Pray for Us - 2 Thessalonians 3:2 - OBSERVATIONS

3 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run *swiftly* and be glorified, just as it is with you, ² and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith. ³ But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one. ⁴ And we have confidence in the Lord concerning you, both that you do and will do the things we command you. ⁵ Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5... NKJV

• Prayer Request - Pray for Us

- THAT WE MAY BE DELIVERED FROM UNREASONABLE AND WICKED MEN

- These were those who wanted to hinder the spread of the gospel by Paul and the Thessalonian believers.
- Fanatical Jewish opponents at Corinth.
- Thessalonians had personal experience with such antagonists (Acts 17:5-9)
- Paul had further experience with such bitter opponents at Berea (Acts 17:13-15).
- Even as he was writing this letter, the same threatening attitude was at Corinth (the attack of Acts 18:12-17 followed).
- Paul's prayer was for God to either deliver him from such men, or change them into reasonable and godly men.

Pray for Us - 2 Thessalonians 3:2 - OBSERVATIONS

3 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run *swiftly* and be glorified, just as it is with you, ² and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith.

³ But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one. ⁴ And we have confidence in the Lord concerning you, both that you do and will do the things we command you. ⁵ Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5... NKJV

• Prayer Request - Pray for Us

• FOR NOT ALL HAVE FAITH

- All men HAVE FAITH of some sort.
- Biblical faith is rooted in Jesus Christ.
- Without FAITH you cannot please God (Hebrews 11:1,6)
- God's righteousness is through FAITH (Romans 3:21-26)

²¹ But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²² even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, ²⁶ to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. --- Romans 3:21-26 ... NKJV

Pray for Us - 2 Thessalonians 3:3 - OBSERVATIONS

3 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run *swiftly* and be glorified, just as *it is* with you, ² and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith. ³ But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one. ⁴ And we have confidence in the Lord concerning you, both that you do and will do the things we command you. ⁵ Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5... NKJV

• The Lord is Faithful - Who will Establish You

- BUT THE LORD IS FAITHFUL, WHO WILL ESTABLISH YOU AND GUARD YOU FROM THE EVIL ONE

- Even if not all men have FAITH, THE LORD IS FAITHFUL.
- This was the basis of Paul's confidence in God's ability to ESTABLISH and GUARD us from THE EVIL ONE.
 - God promised to keep Satan (THE EVIL ONE) on a leash.
 - He will not allow any temptation to become too great for us (1 Corinthians 10:13), and will not allow Satan to do whatever he wants with us (Luke 22:31-32).
- ESTABLISH: inner stability
 - Contrast with reaction to "Day of the Lord"
 - Shaken and stirred
- GUARD: conveys military image
 - Implying conflict and armed protection from violent spiritual attack (2 Corinthians 10:4-6)

⁴ For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, --- 2 Corinthians 10:4 ... NKJV

Pray for Us - 2 Thessalonians 3:4 - OBSERVATIONS

3 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run *swiftly* and be glorified, just as *it is* with you, ² and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith. ³ But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard *you* from the evil one. ⁴ And *we* have *confidence* in the *Lord* concerning *you*, both that *you* do and *will* do the *things we command you*. ⁵ Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5... NKJV

• Confidence in the Lord - Concerning You

• AND WE HAVE **CONFIDENCE** IN THE LORD

- *Paul* was also *confident* (IN THE LORD) *regarding* the *Thessalonians themselves*, that *they* would *follow through* and be *obedient* to *God's word* (THAT YOU DO AND WILL DO THE THINGS WE COMMAND YOU).
- This shows that *God's work* of *establishing* and *guarding us* is *done*, in part, *through His appeal* to *our will* in *obeying His word*.
 - *God* doesn't just *pour spiritual maturity* and *stability* into *His followers*.
 - *He works* it *in us* through *our cooperation* with *His will*.

13 for it is *God* who *works* in *you* both *to will* and *to do* for *His good pleasure*. --- Philippians 2:13 ... NKJV

Pray for Us - 2 Thessalonians 3:5 - OBSERVATIONS

3 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run *swiftly* and be glorified, just as *it is* with you, ² and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith. ³ But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard *you* from the evil one. ⁴ And we have confidence in the Lord concerning you, both that you do and will do the things we command you. ⁵ Now **may** the Lord direct **your hearts** into the love of God and into the **patience** of Christ.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5... NKJV

• May the Lord Direct - Your Hearts

• NOW MAY THE LORD **DIRECT YOUR HEARTS**

- Paul **prays** that God will **DIRECT** the **Thessalonian believers'** HEARTS into both LOVE and PATIENCE (endurance).
- These are **two qualities** (LOVE and PATIENCE) that are **essential** for the kind of **spiritual stability** and **strength** the **Thessalonians needed**.

21 The **king's heart** *is in* the **hand** of the **LORD**, *Like* the **rivers** of **water**; **He turns** it **wherever He wishes**. --- Proverbs 21:1 ... NKJV

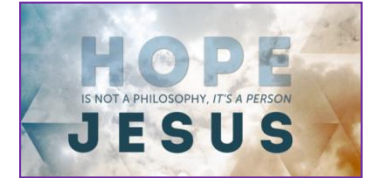
5 **Trust** in the **LORD** with **all your heart**, And **lean not** on **your own understanding**; **6** In **all your ways** **acknowledge Him**, And **He shall direct your paths**. --- Proverbs 3:5-6 ... NKJV

² My **brethren**, **count** it all **joy** when **you fall** into **various trials**, ³ **knowing** that the **testing** of **your faith** **produces PATIENCE**. ⁴ But let **PATIENCE** have *its perfect work*, that **you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing**. --- James 1: 2-4 ... NKJV

Lesson 13 - Outline

■ Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

• Lesson 13: Living Hope



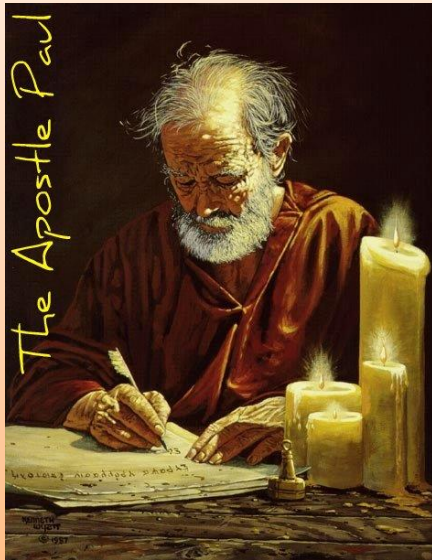
✓ STRUCTURE

» Lesson Preview *Introduction*

» Pray for Us *2 Thessalonians 3:1-5*

➔ » Warning Against Idleness *2 Thessalonians 3:6-15*

» Benediction *2 Thessalonians 3:16-18*



Warning Against Idleness - 2 Thessalonians 3:6 - OBSERVATIONS

⁶ But **we command you, brethren**, in the **name** of our **Lord Jesus Christ**, that **you withdraw** from **every brother who walks disorderly** and **not according to the tradition which he received** from **us**.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:6... NKJV

• Command - To Withdraw

- BUT WE **COMMAND** YOU, BRETHREN, IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

- Note this is a COMMAND for **believers** - **not a suggestion**.
- This COMMAND is **made** IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

- THAT YOU **WITHDRAW** FROM EVERY BROTHER WHO WALKS DISORDERLY

• **“WITHDRAW:”**

- More **stern** than 1 Thessalonians 5:14.
- Over **behavior** - not **doctrine**!
- **Churches** should **never withdraw** from **someone** because **they fail** to **conform** to **man's traditions** or **teachings**.
- The **only standard** to **uphold** is **apostolic** TRADITION and **teaching**.

¹⁴ Now **we exhort you, brethren**, **warn those who are unruly**, **comfort the fainthearted**, **uphold the weak**, be **patient** with **all**.



Warning Against Idleness - 2 Thessalonians 3:6 - OBSERVATIONS

⁶ But **we command you, brethren**, in the **name** of **our Lord Jesus Christ**, that **you withdraw** from **every brother who walks disorderly** and **not according to the tradition which he received from us**.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:6... NKJV

⁴ In the **name** of **our Lord Jesus Christ**, **when you** are **gathered together**, along with **my spirit**, with the **power** of **our Lord Jesus Christ**, ⁵ **deliver** such a **one** to **Satan** for the **destruction** of the **flesh**, that **his spirit** may **be saved** in the **day** of the **Lord Jesus**.

--- 1 Corinthians 5:4-5 ... NKJV

• Command - To Withdraw

- THAT YOU **WITHDRAW FROM EVERY BROTHER WHO WALKS DISORDERLY**

• **“WITHDRAW:”**

- The **purpose** in **withdrawing** from the **disobedient** was **not** so much **punishment**, but more to **deny them** the **aid** and **comfort** of the **fellowship** of the **body** of **Christ** until **they repented**.
- It put **them out** of the **church** into the "**domain**" of **Satan** (the **world**); in **hope** that **they** might miss the **fellowship** of the **church** so much **they would repent** of **their disobedience**.
- **Paul** **echoed** the **same idea** in **1 Corinthians 5:4-5**. The **purpose** was to **bring** about **repentance** and **salvation** in the **disobedient ones**, **not** to **condemn** or **damn them**.
- In an **indirect way**, **Paul** showed **his vision** for the **church**; a **place** of **love** and **comfort**; **separation** from it **leads** to **deprivation**. **Churches today** should also **catch** this **vision**.

Warning Against Idleness - 2 Thessalonians 3:6 - OBSERVATIONS

⁶ But **we** **command** **you**, **brethren**, in the **name** of **our Lord Jesus Christ**, that **you** **withdraw** from **every brother who walks disorderly** and **not according to the tradition which he received from us**.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:6... NKJV

¹¹ For **we** **hear** that there are **some who walk among you** in a **disorderly manner**, not **working at all**, but **are busybodies**.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:11... NKJV

• Command - To Withdraw

- THAT YOU WITHDRAW FROM **EVERY BROTHER** WHO **WALKS DISORDERLY**

- **EVERY BROTHER:**

- Do **not deny** **he** is a **brother**, but **his fault** must be **censured**.

- **WALKS:**

- The **present tense** of the **verb** **WALKS** **denotes** that it is a **deliberate course of action**.
- **Their disorderly conduct** is not an **occasional lapse** but a **persistent practice**.
- **Addicted to deliberate loafing**; very **active** as **busybodies** (**verse 11**); **interfering** with the **work** of **others**.

- **DISORDERLY:**

- **Paul defined** the **DISORDERLY** as **those who** did **not** **WALK ACCORDING TO THE TRADITION** (the **pattern** of **teaching** and **living**) **Paul** and the **apostles** **gave** to **them**.

Warning Against Idleness - 2 Thessalonians 3:7-9 - OBSERVATIONS

⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you; ⁸ nor did we eat anyone's bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, ⁹ not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:7-9... NKJV

¹⁸ For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain," and, "The laborer is worthy of his wages." --- 1 Timothy 5:18 ... NKJV

• An Example - To Follow

• FOR YOU YOURSELVES KNOW HOW YOU OUGHT TO FOLLOW US

- Paul was an excellent example among the Thessalonians, in that he worked hard to support his own needs.
- This wasn't because apostles like Paul didn't have the right to request support.

- Paul had the right:

1 Timothy 5:18; 1 Corinthians 9:3-14

- He voluntarily waived that right.

¹⁴ Even so the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should live from the gospel. --1 Corinthians 9:14

- Instead, it was because he wanted to set a good example of hard work and prove false any accusation that he preached the gospel for personal gain.

• TO MAKE OURSELVES AN EXAMPLE OF HOW YOU SHOULD FOLLOW US

- The Thessalonians are encouraged to follow Paul in his example of both hard work and willingness to sacrifice for the furtherance and integrity of the gospel.

Warning Against Idleness - 2 Thessalonians 3:10 - OBSERVATIONS

10 For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:10... NKJV

The theft of socialism: Chuck Missler

Its spiritual goal is to destroy Biblical traditions, family, and private property. Nazis were socialists. Socialism leads to dictatorships. American founders established a "Republic" not a "Democracy".

These two forms of government: **DEMOCRACY** and **REPUBLIC**, are not only dissimilar but antithetical, reflecting the sharp contrast between ...

(a) DEMOCRACY: The MAJORITY UNLIMITED; lacking any legal safeguard of the rights of The Individual and The Minority.

(b) REPUBLIC: The MAJORITY LIMITED; under a written Constitution safeguarding the rights of The Individual and The Minority.

• No Work - No Eat

- FOR EVEN WHEN WE WERE WITH YOU, WE COMMANDED YOU THIS:

- This is not the first time the Thessalonian believers heard this command.
- He told them in-person - WHEN WE WERE WITH YOU

- IF ANYONE WILL NOT WORK, NEITHER SHALL HE EAT

- Simply put, Paul says that if anyone WILL NOT WORK (instead of CANNOT WORK), NEITHER SHALL HE EAT.
- God's plan is to provide for our needs through our WORK.
- God created Adam and put him to WORK!
- WORK is a privilege as well as a responsibility.
- Since God is able to provide our needs in any manner imaginable, it means something that He has chosen (for the most part) to meet our needs through WORK.
- Deliberate loafers must not be supported out of a false sense of charity. An abuse of Acts 2:44-46; 4:32-35.

Warning Against Idleness - 2 Thessalonians 3:11 - OBSERVATIONS

¹¹ For **we hear** that there are **some who walk among you** in a **disorderly manner**, not **working at all**, but **are busybodies**.

¹² Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:11-12... NKJV

"It is the inactive drones whom Paul is berating - those who live by the sweat of others while they themselves do nothing for the common good to help the human race, such as our monks and priests who acquire ample dimensions by their inactivity." ... Calvin

• Busybodies - Among You

- THERE ARE **SOME** WHO WALK AMONG YOU IN A DISORDERLY MANNER

- The **idleness** of **some** had become a **source** of **sin**.
- It was not only because of the **work** that **they didn't do**, but also because of the **harm they did do** with **their idle time** (BUT ARE BUSYBODIES).

- **NOT WORKING AT ALL**, BUT ARE **BUSYBODIES**

- There is a **play on words** between the **ancient Greek phrasing** in the **lines** NOT WORKING AT ALL and BUT ARE BUSYBODIES.
- The **idea** is **something** like "**busybodies who do no business**."
- Perhaps these BUSYBODIES **thought** that if **Jesus** was **coming soon**, it made **no sense** to **work**. [*"Rapture-itis"?*]
- It would then be **easy** for **them** to **intrude** into the **lives** of **others** and **take advantage** of **Christian generosity**.

Warning Against Idleness - 2 Thessalonians 3:12 - OBSERVATIONS

¹¹ For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies.

¹² Now **those who** are such **we command** and **exhort** **through our Lord Jesus Christ** that **they work** in **quietness** and **eat their own bread**.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:11-12... NKJV

"Paul forbids the Thessalonians to encourage their laziness by indulging it, and teaches that it is those who proved themselves with the necessities of life by honourable (sic) and useful work that lead a life of holiness." ... Calvin

• Command and Exhort - Work In Quietness

• NOW THOSE WHO ARE SUCH WE **COMMAND**

- With **authority**, THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS,
- **Paul commanded these** BUSYBODIES to ...
 - **WORK**
 - **Mind** their own **business** (IN QUIETNESS) and
 - **Provide** for **their own needs** (EAT THEIR OWN BREAD) **instead** of **expecting other believers** to **provide** for **them**.
- The **early church** did **provide** for the **truly needy among them**, but **only after being certain** that **they** were **truly needy** and after **putting them** to **work** for the **church** (1 Timothy 5:3-16).

"You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves."



-Abraham Lincoln

**THERE IS NO
SUBSTITUTE
FOR HARD WORK**

Thomas Edison

Warning Against Idleness - 2 Thessalonians 3:13 - OBSERVATIONS

¹³ But *as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good.*

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:13... NKJV

Do not grow weary in doing good, for **in due season you will reap** a promised harvest if you **do not give up.**

Galatians 6:9

• Do Not Grow Weary - In Doing Good

• DO NOT **GROW WEARY** IN DOING GOOD

- This was a **proper encouragement** for **those who** were **working** as **they should**.
- Few things are more **wearying** than **seeing others** take **advantage** of **Christian generosity**.
- But **we** should **never** let the **manipulations** of **some** **discourage us** from **doing good** to the **truly needy**.
- There are **many excuses** **one** might **make** to **allowing weariness** in **doing good**, but they **should all be rejected**.

Excuse

Counter

"It takes so much effort to keep doing good"

but you will extend effort towards the things of the world.

"It takes so much self-denial to keep doing good"

but it is worth it when we consider the reward.

"It just brings me persecution to do good"

but your persecutions are nothing compared to that which others have suffered.

"People don't respond and there are little results when I do good"

but remember how slow you were to respond to Jesus Christ.

"It doesn't earn much gratitude when I do good"

but God sends many blessings even to those who do not thank or appreciate Him.

Warning Against Idleness - 2 Thessalonians 3:14-15 - OBSERVATIONS

¹⁴ And if **anyone** does not **obey our word** in this **epistle**, **note** that **person** and **do not keep company** with **him**, that **he may be ashamed**. ¹⁵ Yet do not **count him** as an **enemy**, but **admonish him** as a **brother**.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:14-15... NKJV

⁶ But **we command you**, **brethren**, in the **name** of **our Lord Jesus Christ**, that **you withdraw** from **every brother who walks disorderly** and not according to the **tradition which he received from us**.

---2 Thessalonians 3:6 ... NKJV

• Dealing With - The Disobedient

- AND IF ANYONE **DOES NOT OBEY** OUR WORD IN THIS EPISTLE

- Here, **Paul finished** the **thought introduced** at 2 Thessalonians 3:6.
- **He** here **elaborates** on what it **means** to **withdraw** from a **brother** as **mentioned previously**.

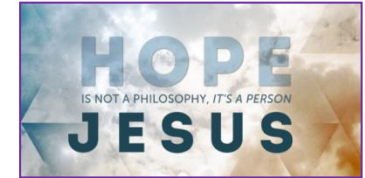
- NOTE THAT PERSON AND DO NOT **KEEP COMPANY** WITH HIM

- To **withdraw means** to **note** that **person**, and to NOT KEEP COMPANY WITH HIM, with the **purpose** of **causing him** to be **ashamed**.
- Yet, the **purpose** is not to **make him** AN ENEMY of the **church**, but **through** the **severity** of the **withdrawal** from **fellowship**, to **warn** and ADMONISH HIM AS an **erring BROTHER**.
- The **goal** is not **exclusion** but **reformation**.

Lesson 13 - Outline

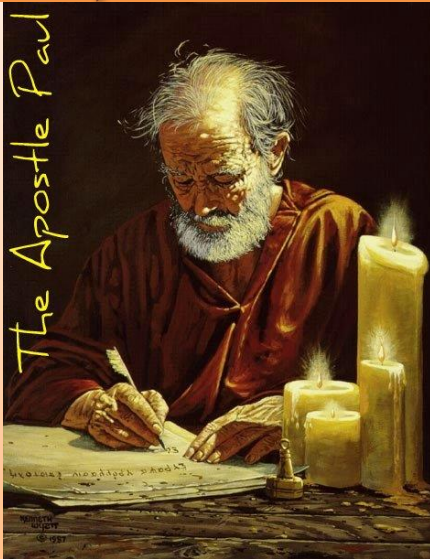
■ Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

• Lesson 13: Living Hope



✓ STRUCTURE

- » Lesson Preview *Introduction*
- » Pray for Us *2 Thessalonians 3:1-5*
- » Warning Against Idleness *2 Thessalonians 3:6-15*
- ➔ » Benediction *2 Thessalonians 3:16-18*



Benediction - 2 Thessalonians 3:16 - OBSERVATIONS

¹⁶ Now **may** the **Lord** of **peace** **Himself** give **you** **peace** **always** in **every** **way**.

The **Lord** *be with you all*.

¹⁷ The salutation of Paul with my own hand, which is a sign in every epistle; so I write.

¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be with you all*. Amen.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:16-18... NKJV

• Benediction - Conclusion to the Letter

• NOW MAY THE **LORD OF PEACE**

- **Paul's blessing** of **peace** (ALWAYS IN EVERY WAY) was **appropriate** for the **believers** **who** were **experiencing** both **persecution** and **tribulation**.
- It is the **presence** of the **LORD OF PEACE** that will **grant** **them** this **PEACE**.

The *Will of God* will
never lead you
Where the *Peace of*
God will not keep
you!

WHEN WE PUT
OUR PROBLEMS IN
GOD'S HANDS,
HE PUTS HIS PEACE IN
OUR HEARTS.

Benediction - 2 Thessalonians 3:17 - OBSERVATIONS

¹⁶ Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord *be* with you all.
¹⁷ The **salutation** of **Paul** with **my own hand**, which is a **sign** in **every epistle**; so **I write**.
¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.

--- 2 Thessalonians 3:16-18... NKJV

amanuensis

noun aman·u·en·sis
 \ə-,man-yə-'wen(t)-səs\

one employed to write from dictation or to copy manuscript

• Benediction - Conclusion to the Letter

• THE SALUTATION OF PAUL WITH MY OWN HAND

- As was **his custom**, **Paul himself** wrote the **final words** of the **epistle** with **his own hand**.
- This was both a **personal demonstration** of **affection**, and **proof** that the **letter** was **authentic** (A SIGN IN EVERY EPISTLE).
- **Takes** the **pen** from the **amanuensis** and **adds** the **closing words** in **his own hand** (Romans 16:22; 1 Corinthians 16:21; Colossians 4:18).
- The **use** of **scribes** (amanuenses) was **common**.
 - **Roman business men** were **great letter writers**.
 - **They** had **invented three systems** of **shorthand** as **aides** (James C. Muir, How Firm a Foundation).
- **Response** to **forgery**?
 - **Signing** may not have **been his earlier practice**.

Benediction - 2 Thessalonians 3:18 - OBSERVATIONS

¹⁶ Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord *be* with you all.

¹⁷ The salutation of Paul with my own hand, which is a sign in every epistle; so I write.

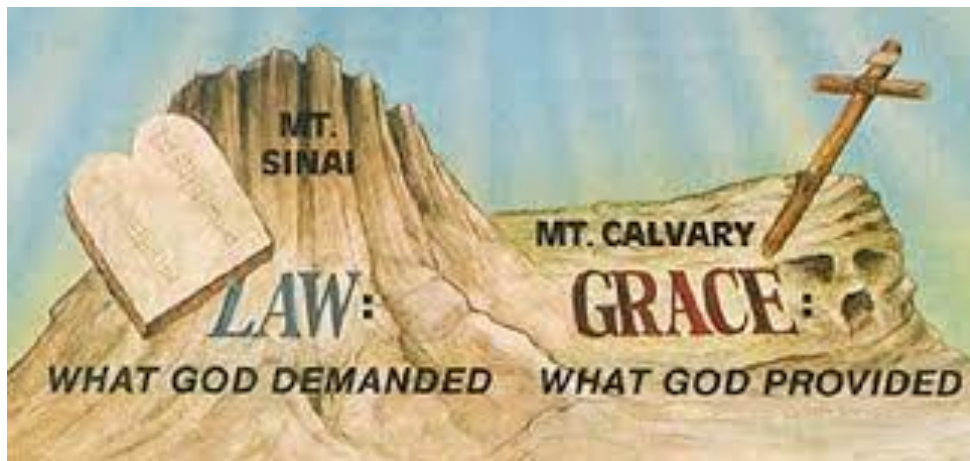
¹⁸ The **grace** of **our Lord Jesus Christ** *be with you all*. Amen.

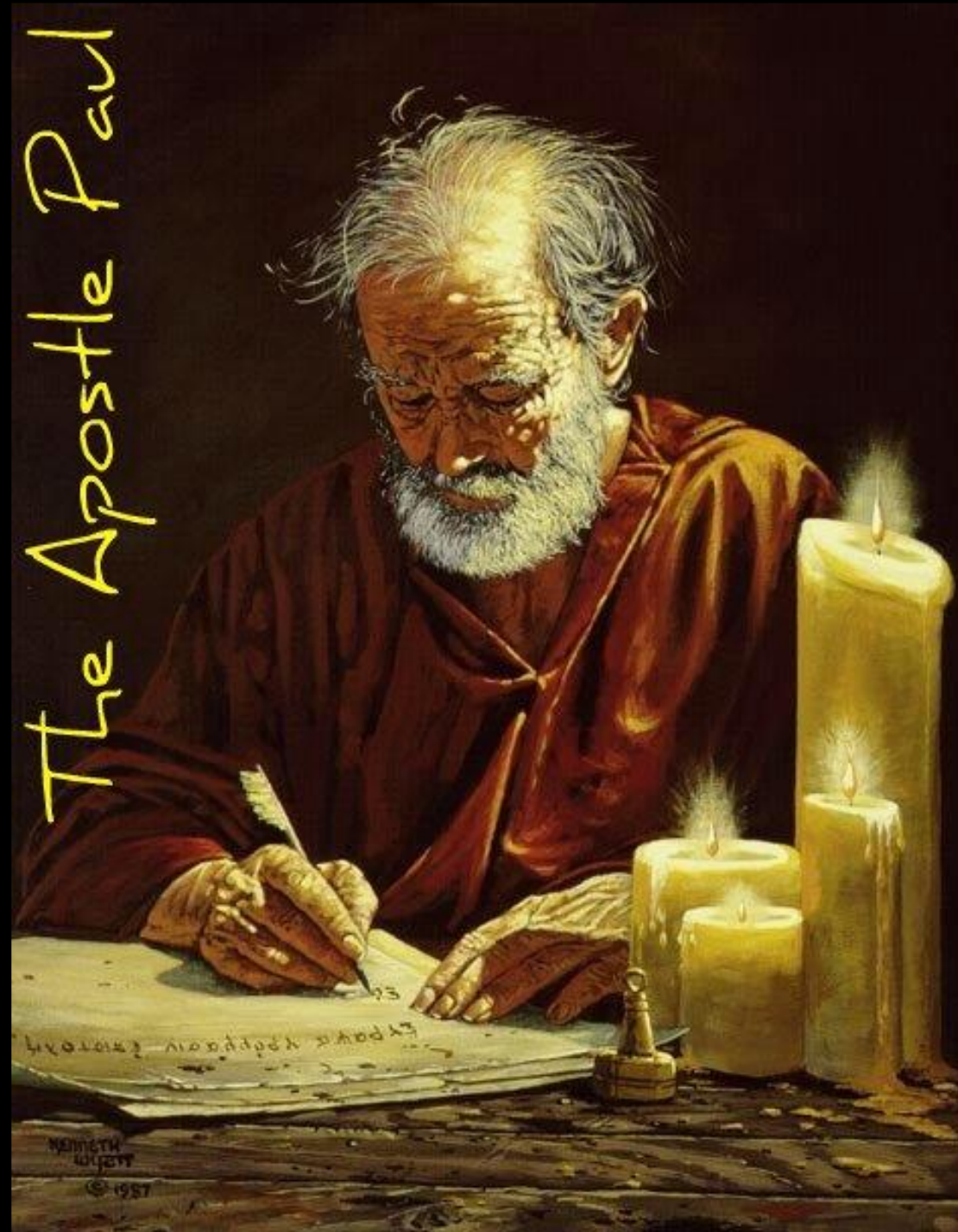
--- 2 Thessalonians 3:16-18... NKJV

• Benediction - Conclusion to the Letter

- THE **GRACE** OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOU ALL

- For **Paul**, God's **grace** was the **beginning** and the **end** of the **Christian life**.
- It was **appropriate** that this **letter** - *as most of his letters* - **began** and **ended** with a **mention** of **grace**.
- **ALL**: **Notice** the **inclusive** "ALL" - even **those** he was correcting.





The Apostle Paul

Thessalonians

"There Is Hope!"

End of Lesson



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