

“God Chose You”

2 Thessalonians 2: 6-8

April 6, 2014

III We must pay much closer attention to living with self discipline under God’s word, (2 Ths. 1: 1-3: 18)

C. Those God Has Chosen Are Not Under The Dominion Of Lawlessness But Are The Firstfruits Of The Kingdom Of Christ, (vs. 13 – 17)

God Has Chosen Us To Be The Firstfruits Of The Kingdom Of Christ, (vs. 13)

Message Emphasis: The believer is called out of the world and its lawlessness to stand as the glorious harvest of the kingdom of Christ; that is, the visible promise of God’s consummation of His creation.

1) There Is ONLY One Way We May Truly Be Thankful In This World, (vs. 13a)

“But we ought (Pres.Act.Ind) always to give thanks (Pres.Act.Inf) to God for you, brothers beloved (Perf.Pas.Part) by the Lord,

- The life of the believer stands as the ONLY real contrast to the lawless world – “But”
- The life of the believer sees ONLY one person as being entitled, God – “we ought” *We are obliged before God; He is entitled*
- The life of the believer demonstrates ONLY one motivation – “always to give thanks to God”
- The life of the believer is the proof of ONLY one real condition – “brothers, beloved”

2) There Is ONLY One Direction That Any Life Can Take & Be Worth The Time, (vs. 13b)

because God chose (Aor.Mid.Ind) you as the firstfruits to be saved,

- The only reason we have anything is because God has chosen to act – *So often we forget that if God did not move we would not have what we have*
- What God has chosen us for is to demonstrate His promise of the consummation – “Firstfruits to be saved” *(from the beginning) “But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power.” (1 Corinthians 15:20-24, ESV)*

3) There Is ONLY One Gauge That Determines Whether We Have Succeeded, (vs. 13c)

through sanctification (lit. deliverance) by the Spirit and belief in the truth.”

- What really matters is not what you have done but what God has done in you
 - Are there the fruits of the Spirit in my life?
 - Do I have a genuine belief in the truth as evidenced by my actions?

*****What Must I Do To Be Saved? *****

Message Directive: Look to Christ for the salvation of your soul; ONLY in Christ can truly fulfill what God has called you to be; the promise of His glorification realized.

God Has Chosen Us To Obtain The Glory Of Christ & Stand Firm, (vs. 14 - 15)

God Has Chosen Us To Receive Divine Comfort & Be Established In Every Good Work, (vs. 16 - 17)

D. The wrath of God is a very present reality that must be avoided even in its temporal aspects, (vs. 3: 1 - 18)