

"Your Whole Body, Spirit & Soul"

1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians

June 30, 2013

C. The revelation of God requires that His children are found blameless at the Lord's return, (vs. 5: 12 – 28)

5. Blamelessness Requires That We Practically Demonstrate A Heart Of Gratitude In All Things, (vs. 16-18)

"If ye love me, keep my commandments." John 14: 15... It is then only where this love is shed abroad in the heart by the Holy Ghost, that we may expect to find the fruit of obedience. Swayed by this Divine principle, the believer labours not for life, but from life: not for acceptance, but from acceptance. A holy, self-denying, cross-bearing life, is not the drudgery of a slave, but the filial, loving obedience of a child: it springs from love to the person, and gratitude for the work of Jesus; and is the blessed effect of the spirit of adoption in the heart. ~ Octavius Winslow

18.1) Ask Yourself If You Really Want To Know God's Will? "For This Is The Will Of God In Christ Jesus"-

"For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor." (1 Peter 2:15-17, ESV)

As our guide, [God] doth enlighten our minds with saving knowledge ; and no knowledge is saving but what endeth in righteousness ... 'You are light in the Lord: walk as children of the light... We have no true knowledge of God, either of his nature or of the will of God, till this knowledge influence the duties of our callings and relations ; for God is no further savingly known than he is obeyed... ~ Thomas Manton

16.2) What Stops You From Rejoicing Always?

"Rejoice (Pres.Act.Imprv) Always"-

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you." (Matthew 5:11-12, ESV)

*I will tell the wondrous story, How my lost estate to save,
In His boundless love and mercy, He the ransom freely gave.*

*Sing, oh sing, of my Redeemer, With His blood, He purchased me.
On the cross, He sealed my pardon, Paid the debt, and made me free. ~ Philip Bliss*

17.3) What Hinders You From Praying Without Ceasing?

"Pray (Pres.Act.Imprv) Without Ceasing"-

"But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man." And every day he was teaching in the temple, but at night he went out and lodged on the mount called Olivet." (Luke 21:34-37, ESV)

Much is said and many complaints are made about the feebleness of the Church to fulfill her calling, to exercise an influence over her members, to deliver them from the power of the world, and to bring them to a life of holy consecration to God. Much is also spoken about her indifference to the millions of heathen whom Christ entrusted to her that she might make known to them His love and salvation. What is the reason that many thousands of Christian workers in the world have not a greater influence? Nothing save this – the prayerlessness of their service. In the midst of all their zeal in the study and in the work of the Church, of all their faithfulness in preaching and conversation with the people, they lack that ceaseless prayer which has attached to it the sure promise of the Spirit and the power from on high. It is nothing but the sin of prayerlessness which is the cause of the lack of a powerful spiritual life! ~ Andrew Murray

18.4) What Prevents You From Giving Thanks In All Things?

"Give Thanks (Pres.Act.Imprv)

In All Circumstances"- *"Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:5-7, ESV)*

1) "So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. 2) Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. 3) For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. 4) Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name." (Hebrews 13:12-15, ESV)

- 1) Why are you unwilling to recognize that salvation brings suffering and difficulty?
- 2) Why are you afraid to go the Christ in difficulty and take on the same things He did?
- 3) Why must you continue to focus on the earthly when the heavenly is what you are called to?
- 4) Why would you not embrace the grace God gives to endure and praise Him for His gift?

Could it be that you are grieved by this world because you will not embrace living with a thankful heart?

*All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Him serve with fear, His praise forthtell; Come ye before Him and rejoice.*

*The Lord ye know is God indeed; Without our aid He did us make.
We are His folk, He doth us feed, And for His sheep He doth us take.*

*O enter then His gates with praise; Approach with joy His courts unto.
Praise, laud, and bless His name always, For it is seemly so to do. ~ William Kethe*

6. Blamelessness Requires That We Do Not Discount The Work Of The Holy Spirit, (vs. 19-20)
 7. Blamelessness Requires That We Test All Things By God's Word & Avoid What Is Deficient, (vs. 21-22)

 8. Blamelessness Is Only Accomplished By The Sanctifying Power Of Christ Unto The Last Day, (vs. 23)
 9. Blamelessness Is A Promise That Christ Himself Has Given To Those Who Believe Him, (vs. 24)
 10. Blamelessness In Christ Is The Identifying Mark Of Those Who Love Christ & The Brothers, (vs. 25-26)
 11. Blamelessness Is Not A Secondary Issue But Must Be Primary To The Call Of God's People, (vs. 27-28)
- 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)