

## “Destined For This”

### 1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians

September 30, 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)

**6. The work of the Gospel requires the support and interaction of other believers, (vs. 10)**

#### **10.1) The Cornerstone Of Christian Interaction Is Intercession**

**“We Pray** (Pres.Mid/Pas.Part) **Most**

**Earnestly”-** *“I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf, that I may be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, so that by God’s will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company.” (Romans 15:30-32, ESV)*

#### **10.2) The Mode Of Christian Interaction Is Personal Investment**

**“That We May See You”-**

*“Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? – unless indeed you fail to meet the test! I hope you will find out that we have not failed the test. But we pray to God that you may not do wrong – not that we may appear to have met the test, but that you may do what is right, though we may seem to have failed. For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. For we are glad when we are weak and you are strong. Your restoration is what we pray for. For this reason I write these things while I am away from you, that when I come I may not have to be severe in my use of the authority that the Lord has given me for building up and not for tearing down.” (2 Corinthians 13:5-10, ESV)*

#### **10.3) The Goal Of Christian Interaction Must Be Maturity**

**“Supply** (Aor.Act.Inf.-to put in order)

**What Is Lacking”-** *“They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed. To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.” (2 Thessalonians 1:9-12, ESV)*

**1) “of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, 2) the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. 3) To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. 4) Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.” (Colossians 1:25-29, ESV)**

- 1) Our interaction must be focused on God’s revelation to His people.
- 2) Not everyone understands what God is doing.
- 3) God has however chosen to reveal Himself to and through some.
- 4) Our declaration of God’s revelation is what we labor for.

**How have you encouraged someone else with the Gospel?**

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)