

“Destined For This”

1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians

October 21, 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)

9. The work of the Gospel is about bring lost sinners into holiness before God, (vs. 13)

13.1) The Gospel Is The Message Of God’s Mercy

“May Establish (Aor.Act.Inf) Your Hearts”-

“Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.” (James 5:7-11, ESV)

13.2) The Gospel Is Not Just Positional; Its Ontological

“Blameless In Holiness Before God”-

“Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.” (Ephesians 5:25-27, ESV)

13.3) The Gospel Is The Warning Of Impending Judgment

“At The Coming Of Our Lord Jesus & Saints”-

“This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering – since indeed God considers it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. 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.” (2 Thessalonians 1:5-10, ESV)

1) “And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, 2) he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, 3) if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, 4) which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.” (Colossians 1:21-23, ESV)

- 1) All of God’s children were once lost.
- 2) Our blameless condition required the sacrificial death of the Lord.
- 3) Perseverance is the professing fruit of God’s saving activity.
- 4) The Gospel is made available to all persons through the testimony of God’s people.

What message you are giving to the world? Gospel?

Quasi-Gospel?

No Gospel?

- 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)