

"This We Declare"

1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians

March 10, 2013

"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)

- II We must pay much closer attention to how we put into practice what we say we believe, (vs. 4: 1 – 5: 28)
- B. The revelation of God requires that His children be informed about the reality of the last day, (vs. 4: 13 – 5: 11)

7. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Does Not Require Any Special Revelation; It Is Plain, (vs. 5: 1-2)

1.1) God Has Already Made Known To Us What We Need To Know

"Times & Seasons"-

"...when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" And Jesus answered them, "See that no one leads you astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will lead many astray. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are but the beginning of the birth pains. "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come." (Matthew 24:3-14, ESV)

1.2) God Has Already Prepared Us For What We Need To Do

"You Have No Need"-

"Now it is superfluous for me to write to you about the ministry for the saints, for I know your readiness, of which I boast about you to the people of Macedonia, saying that Achaia has been ready since last year. And your zeal has stirred up most of them. But I am sending the brothers so that our boasting about you may not prove empty in this matter, so that you may be ready, as I said you would be. Otherwise, if some Macedonians come with me and find that you are not ready, we would be humiliated – to say nothing of you – for being so confident. So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you and arrange in advance for the gift you have promised, so that it may be ready as a willing gift, not as an exaction." (2 Corinthians 9:1-5, ESV)

1.3) God Has Already Instructed Us With What We Need To Defend

"Anything Written To You"-

"Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ." (Jude 3-4, ESV)

- 1) *"He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority.*
- 2) *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, 3) and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.""* (Acts 1:7-8, ESV)

- 1) We are not given liberty to know all God has ordained.
- 2) What God has purposed for us He will also give us the only resource needed; the Holy Spirit.
- 3) We are to use what we have been given to be witnesses of God's glory to all nations.

How are you failing to complete what God has given you to because you think your missing something?

8. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Does Not Require Present Events As A “Trigger”, (vs. 3)
9. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Protects The Child Of God From Surprise, (vs. 4)
10. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Is An Ontological Matter Not Just Theological, (vs. 5)
11. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Must Make Distinctions Between Persons, (vs. 6-7)
12. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Is Not Escapism But Marching Orders, (vs. 8)
13. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Mandates The Active Declaration Of The Gospel, (vs. 9)
14. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Does Not Focus On The Timing Of The Day, (vs. 10)
15. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Focuses On The Building Of Christ’s Church More & More, (vs. 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)