

## 2 Thessalonians

### Lesson #7, Chapter 2:13-17

1. Verse 13 begins with the contrasting word *but*. What distinction is Paul making between what he said previously in verses 1-12 and what he is now writing in verse 13?
  
2. What reason(s) does Paul state for giving thanks for the Thessalonians?
  
3. Define *beloved* [Strong's #25 (NIV *loved*)].
  
4. Paul says in 1 Thess. 1:4 and again here in 2:13 and 2:16 that the Thessalonians are beloved by God. Why did Paul want to make sure they understood that God loved them? Also in light of what he had just been teaching on in verses 1-12, why did Paul review the fact that God loved them?
  
5. When did God choose the Thessalonians (verse 13)?
  - a. What was God's purpose in choosing them (verse 13)?
  
  - b. What means did God use to bring about His plan (verse 13)?

6. Look up the following verses to discover what the Bible teaches about God choosing you: See Jn. 15:16; Rom. 9:11, 15, 16; Eph. 1:11; Titus 1:1.
  
7. How did God call the Thessalonians (verse 14)?
  
8. What was God's purpose in calling them to salvation (verse 14)?
  
9. What is the *glory* of our Lord Jesus Christ? See Rom. 8:17; Eph. 1:18; 1 Thess. 2:12; 1 Pet. 1:4; and 5:10.
  
10. Because God has chosen believers for salvation to gain the glory of the Lord what does Paul urge us to do in verse 15?
  
11. What do you learn from the other instances in the Bible where Paul urges his readers to stand firm? See 1 Cor. 16:13; Gal. 5:1; Phil. 1:27; 4:1; and 1 Thess. 3:8.
  
12. Read through verses 13-15 again. What do you note about your position, your purpose, and how you are to achieve that purpose? How does your life reflect the truths found in those 3 verses?
  
13. How were the traditions taught according to verse 15?

14. What does Paul mean when he uses the word tradition? See Rom. 16:17; 1 Cor. 11:2; 2 Thess. 3:6; and Jude 3.
  
15. The word *hold* used in verse 15 means to *hold onto strongly or to grasp firmly in the mind and affections*. Why is it so essential to hold on tightly to the truths of God's Word in your mind?
  
16. Notice in Paul's prayer of benediction that Paul cites the things that God has already done for the believer. What are they (verse 16)?
  
17. What does Paul ask for each believer to experience (verse 17)?
  
18. Please note where the comfort and hope come from in verse 16.
  
19. What are the good works and good words that we are to engage in?

We are not justified by doing good works, but being justified we then do good.  
~William Jenkyn

God hath in Himself all power to defend you, all wisdom to direct you, all mercy to pardon you, all grace to enrich you, all righteousness to clothe you, all goodness to supply you, and all happiness to crown you. ~Thomas Brooks