

Paul's Second Epistle To The

THESSALONIANS

CHAPTER 2:13-17

MEDIA REFERENCE SM. #241 ~ OCTOBER 20, 1996

TITLE:

“ STAND STILL AND HOLD ON “
AWAITING THE RETURN OF JESUS CHRIST

THEME:

“2 Thessalonians 2:2

“Do not be shaken in mind or troubled... either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come.”

INTRODUCTION: Reading of the Text 2:13-17

“Small Talk”

- The Context *(the theme, the purpose)* is *Everything in Bible Study & Understanding*
- The Text *is a section within the Context (a specific thought relating to the context)*

A Text, Taken out of Context becomes a Pre Text or a falsehood

The Context of 1st Thessalonians
is The Appearing (Rapture) of the Church

The Context of 2nd Thessalonians
is The Coming of Jesus Christ

We Have Stressed The Difference Between
the Rapture and The Second Coming

Christ Appearing

1 Timothy 6:14

that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until **our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing,**

From Paul's Own Eulogy

2 Timothy 4:8

Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved **His appearing.**

1 Thessalonians 4:14

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.

Titus 2:13

looking for the blessed hope and **glorious appearing** of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

Peter Jumps In and Announces the Same

1 Peter 1:7

that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the **appearing** of Jesus Christ

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Appearing GRK 2015 epiphaneia (ep-if-an'-i-ah)

Appearing - **Not the "Parousia"**

• **The "Parousia - par-oo-see'-ah"**

is used to describe The Second Coming, The Presence. The Arrival of...

That word is reserved for the Second Coming, At the end of the Seven year - Great Tribulation Period specifically appointed for the nation Israel

• **That's why we (The Church) can be so excited about the soon "epiphaneia - The Appearing" of Jesus Christ - In the Atmosphere to Receive Us to Him...**

John 14:1-3

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe (trust) in God, believe (trust) also in Me. "For In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. **I go** to prepare a place for you. (It's not on earth) "And if **I go** where?) and prepare a place for you, I will come again ("**epiphaneia** ") and receive you (pick you up) to Myself; that **where I am**, the Fathers house) there you may be also.

An Exhortation

(otherwise known as "The Swift Kick" method of learning)

1.) We are to Believe the Truth

vv. 13-14

But we are bound to give thanks
to God always for you

Paul Emphasis was on God's Great Truth, the Word rather than Satan's Great Lie. **Paul Contrasted** God's truth against Satan's lie

So Serious is this,
that God issued a great warning...

2 Thessalonians 2:8

And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His (second) coming. But The coming of the lawless one (the anti-christ) is according to the working of Satan, with all signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe **the lie**, that they all may be condemned who did not believe **the truth**

The Truth is:

a) That God Loved Them

13a

brethren "beloved" by the Lord,

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates (did then, & does now) His own love toward us, in that while we were **still sinners**, Christ died for us.

Loved, While A Sinner ?

“Give the worst man you know...
your life (your family, your house, your money, your cars, your toys... everything !)

Jesus didn't only do that and more...
He does it **still today & now**

Your Forgiveness is a “Continuum”

1 John 1:9

If we confess (a continuum) our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us (a continuum) from all our unrighteousness.

As True Believers,
we sin, we are in the act of confession because forgiveness is a
continuum

...GOD LOVES YOU TOO!!!

I wouldn't love you, you wouldn't love me

Psalm 139:17

How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; and **when I awake, I am still with You.**

Jeremiah 31:3

The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: "Yes, **I have loved you** with an everlasting love; (it's not "PAST TENSE")
therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.
(((Hey, you just now have arrived at the truth - that I have always loved you and do still love you...))

Verse 13b

The Truth is:

because God ((from the beginning))
chose you for salvation

Love is not enough !!!

Love must Show Love, Love Must be Displayed

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son,
(a universal love for all of mankind = the world)

But the entire human race will not be saved even
though God loves them all

**HOW CAN I BE SURE IF GOD HAS CHOSEN ME ((from the
beginning))**

The Doctrine of Election

((Ps. 109:8))

1 Peter 1:2

elect (picked out) according to the **foreknowledge** (the "before" knowing)
of God the Father,

"First Knight"

(I have seen the movie countless times. I know what's coming before the actor does or you if you
have never seen the movie)

God has seen your Movie...

"Jack, This is Your Life"

**Based Upon What He Knows (*not what you know*)
- God makes Selections**

A rerun of a Horse Race and I already know what horse will win
(which horse am I going to bet on ?)

1 Thessalonians 1:4
knowing, beloved brethren, your election (picked out) by God.

Ephesians 1:4-5
just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him..... in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Romans 8:28
And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

EVERY EVENT, EVERY TRIAL, EVERY PRESSURE
>>>>>>> is God known, God observed, God ordained <<<<<<<<

...GOD CHOSE YOU TOO!!!

I wouldn't choose you, you wouldn't choose me

Verse 13c

The Truth is:

c) That God Had Sanctified Them 13c

through sanctification by the Spirit
and belief in the truth,

The Setting Apart

There's a " **Positional** " Sanctification
(that happens the moment you're born again, **once and for all**)

Romans 10:9

that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. :10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

1 Corinthians 15:1-2

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, :2 by which also you are saved,

There's a " **Practical** " Sanctification

(that happens since you were born again and **it continues on for a lifetime**)

1 Thessalonians 5:23

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless...

The Moment you gave (or give) your life to Jesus.... The process began (A Process of Maturity)

#1 The More you yield to the Process ---- the Greater the Progress

#2 The Longer the Process ---- the Deeper the Progress

Paul's Crusade at Antioch

Acts 14:22

They strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, saying, "**We must through (many tribulations - that's the process) enter the kingdom of God.**"

...GOD SANCTIFIED YOU TOO!!!

I wouldn't sanctify you, you wouldn't sanctify me

Verse 14

The Truth is:

d) That God Called Them

14a

to which He called you by our gospel,

My Life and the End of My life is known to God

(The year, the month, the week, the day, the hour, the moment)

Psalm 139

For You formed my inward parts; you covered me in my mother's womb....
16 Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were
written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them.

Example;

Galatians 1:15 Paul said....

But when it pleased God, who separated (pulled me out) me from my mother's
womb, called me through His grace,

...GOD CALLED YOU TOO!!!

I wouldn't call you, you wouldn't call me

God Could be Calling You Now !

Do you know God's Phone Number ?

Jeremiah 33:3

`Call Me, and I will answer you,
and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'

(((If there was ever a collect call - it's this one)))

The Truth is:

e) That God Glorified Them 14b

for the "obtaining" of The glory
of our Lord Jesus Christ.

* obtaining GRK 4047 peripoiesis (per-ee-poy'-ay-sis)
the acquisition of something. To possess a possession

John 17:22-24

"And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: "I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

The Glory of Jesus Christ (NOT THE WORLD'S GLORY - the KREMLIN - the WHITEHOUSE)

1 John 3:2

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, **we shall be like Him**, for we shall see Him as He is. (Then - Ps. 138:8)

**"The Glory" will be revealed in us
at His Appearing....**

Colossians 3:4

When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

...GOD GLORIFIED YOU TOO!!!

I wouldn't glorify you, you wouldn't glorify me

An Exhortation

(otherwise known as "The Swift Kick" method of learning)

2.) We are to Guard the Truth vv. 15

Verse 15

Therefore, brethren, "stand fast" and "hold" the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle.

* Traditions GRK 3862 paradosis (par-ad'-os-is)
the transmission of truth, the precepts; specifically, the law!

We are living in the days that Jesus warned us
about in the book of Revelation

The Laodicean Period

Revelation 3:14

"And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, `These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. "So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. "Because you say, `I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'--(sounds like Fred Price & Kenneth Copeland) and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked--

The Church

is to be the Guardian of the Gospel

1 Peter 3:15

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared **to give an answer** to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

1 Timothy 3:15

I write to you so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is **the church** of the living God, **which is the pillar and ground of the truth.**

We are living in the days that Paul warned us
about in II-Timothy

2 Timothy 4:3

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;

(TELL US WERE CUTE, TELLS US WERE WONDERFUL, TELLS US WERE BEAUTIFUL)

The Human Nature has a Propensity to believe a Lie...

It doesn't even have to be a good juicy lie - as long as it's a lie

Mark Twain Said
“A lie runs around the world twice
before the truth ever gets his shoes on...”

Hey, Ya Know What

What ? ^&*\$%&*(*%^(%\$#&*^(*@

2 Timothy 3:5

These are they who..... having **a form** (a universal studio facade)
of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

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Standfast GRK 4739 steko

to become stationary, Fixed to the ground with a sense to
persevere:

In Yellowstone National Park, The Bison
turn and face the oncoming storms head-on

(((((with their feet fixed to the ground)))))

To Not Turn From The Truth

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Hold GRK 2902 krateo (krat-eh'-o)

to use all strength. to keep the hands on, to lay hold of
and not to let go

A couple a months ago we all went water skiing and one of the kids with us, each had their turn at it. Well it was Anthony's turn... so we told him, what ever you do, don't let go of the ski rope - hold on !!! he wouldn't let go even after he fell... he looked like a human torpedo !!!

That's the Word " H o l d O n "

An Exhortation

(otherwise known as "The Swift Kick" method of learning)

3.) We are to Practice the Truth vv. 16-17

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work.

a) Put to Action what is believed & Guarded v.16

b) To lead Others in the Way of Truth v.17

Conclusion:

#1 Until Jesus Raptures His Church from this world, we are to be growing in grace and in knowledge of our Lord now...

#2 We are to be believing and using the truth, the Word of God and we are to be active in our Christianity

we have our jobs, we have our families,
we have our toys & our outings

Are You Investing Spiritually

Luke 19:12

Jesus said: "A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return. "So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten dollars, and said to them, '**Do business till I come again**' "But the citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We will not have this man to reign over us.' "And so it was that when he returned, having received the kingdom, he then commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.

**Where does serving God fit in to your life's
Priorities ?**