

October 30, 2019
“Standing Firm in a Shaky World”
2 Thessalonians 2: 13-17
David Self

I. Sentiment

“But we must always thank God for you” (13)

II. Security

“brothers loved by the Lord,” (13)

III. Salvation

“God has chosen you for salvation and” (13) “. . . to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (14)

A. Salvation was initiated by God: Expressions such as “from the beginning God has chosen you” (13) and “before the foundation of the world” (Eph. 1:4) help us understand that salvation is God’s idea.

B. Salvation is inspired by the Holy Spirit “through sanctification by the Spirit” (13)

C. Salvation is instructed by God’s Word “through belief in the truth” (13)

D. Salvation is intended to allow us a glimpse of God’s glory “He called you to this through our gospel, so that you might obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (14)

IV. Standing Firm

“Therefore, brothers, stand firm” (15) Paul addressed this idea in I Th. 3:8. (I Cor. 15:58, 16:13; II Cor. 1:21, 24; Gal. 5:1; Eph. 6:14; Phil. 1:27, 4:1; Col. 4; Gal. 5:1; Eph. 6:14; Phil. 1:27, 4:1; Col. 4:12) Rather than accepting false teaching (2:2-3), the Thessalonians were to “hold to the traditions you were taught, either by our message or by our letter.” (15)

V. Supplication (2:16-17)

- A. Who “May our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who” (16)** Paul prays to Jesus and God as two distinct people, equal, separate but unified as indicated by the singular “**who.**”
- B. What “has loved us and given us eternal encouragement and good hope by grace” (16)**
1. God’s love – John 3:16; Rom. 5:8
 2. God’s comfort – 2 Cor. 1:3-5
 3. God’s hope – Titus 2:13; Heb. 6:19
 4. God’s grace – Eph. 2:8-10
- C. Why “encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good work and word.” (17)**
The **encouragement** and **strength** we receive from God will result in **good words** and **good works**.

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