

"Christ In You"

**2 Thessalonians
December 8, 2013**

III We must pay much closer attention to living 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)

9. The Gospel Prepares The Real Grace Within The Life Of Every Believer, (vs. 12)

Message Emphasis: Many do not understand that to take the name "Christian" means that our Lord's honor and reputation is at stake. If we are to receive from Christ the salvation He promises, we must also submit to His commands as to what a true follower of Christ is to do.

12.1) If Christ Is Not Clearly Seen In You; You May Only Have Religion

Our Text Says, "So That The Name Of Our Lord May Be Glorified" - 1) *"He who slaughters an ox is like one who kills a man; b) he who sacrifices a lamb, like one who breaks a dog's neck; c) he who presents a grain offering, like one who offers pig's blood; d) he who makes a memorial offering of frankincense, like one who blesses an idol. 2) These have chosen their own ways, and their soul delights in their abominations; I also will choose harsh treatment for them and bring their fears upon them, because when I called, no one answered, when I spoke, they did not listen; but they did what was evil in my eyes and chose that in which I did not delight." 3) Hear the word of the LORD, you who tremble at his word: "Your brothers who hate you and cast you out for my name's sake have said, 'Let the LORD be glorified, that we may see your joy'; but it is they who shall be put to shame." (Isaiah 66:3-5, ESV)*

Appearance of ...Obedience ...Righteousness ...Holiness ...Faithfulness

1. Religion that has no true regard for God's Law; b) lives in uncleanness; c) is an abomination; d) embraces idolatry
2. Religion that does not live "under" God's covering
3. Religion that hates God and His people to their own shame

• The Spirit Of Christ Will Change A Person

Our Text Says, "In You" - *"If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" (1 Peter 4:14-18, ESV)*

• The Testimony Of Christ Will Be Seen

Our Text Says, "And You In Him" - *"that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me." (John 17:21-23, ESV)*

There lies beneath its shadow but on the further side The darkness of an awful grave that gapes both deep and wide And there between us stands the cross two arms outstretched to save A watchman set to guard the way from that eternal grave.

12.2) If Christ Is In You, He WILL BE Clearly Seen

Our Text Says, "According To The Grace Of Our God And The Lord Jesus" - 1) *"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, a) training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and b) to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, c) waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works." (Titus 2:11-14, ESV)*

Upon that cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see The very dying form of One Who suffered there for me; And from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess; The wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.

*****What Must I Do To Be Saved? *****

Message Directive: Look to Christ for the salvation of your soul; ONLY in Christ can you truly accomplish anything that is genuinely good. *"Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other." (Isaiah 45:22, ESV) "They called to the LORD, and he answered them." (Psalm 99:6, ESV)*

"For he was crucified in weakness, but lives by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but in dealing with you we will live with him by the power of God." (2 Corinthians 13:4, ESV)

- 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)