## "Not The Word Of Men"

## 1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians March 4, 2012

"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)

- I. We must pay much closer attention to what we believe about God's work of salvation, (vs. 1: 1 3: 13)
  - B. God's choice of His children for salvation results in correctness & purity, (vs. 2: 1 20)
    - 3. God's gospel of salvation does not unduly misrepresent the human condition, (vs. 5 6)
      - The preaching of the gospel cannot "puff" people up for gain, (vs. 5); "For, speaking loud boasts of folly, they entice by sensual passions of the flesh those who are barely escaping from those who live in error. They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved." (2 Peter 2:18–19, ESV)

• The preaching of the gospel cannot be administered by those who are "puffed" up themselves, (vs. 6); "But I have made no use of any of these rights, nor am I writing these things to secure any such provision. For I would rather die than have anyone deprive me of my ground for boasting. For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel." (1 Corinthians 9:15–18, ESV)

- 4. God's gospel of salvation is manifest in the tender affections of a loving parent, (vs. 7 8)
- C. God's choice of His children for salvation motivates believers to see God's work in others, (vs. 3: 1 13)
- II. We must pay much closer attention to how we put into practice what we say we believe, (vs. 4: 1 5: 28)
  - A. The revelation of God requires that His children live in holiness & purity not lustful passions, (vs. 4: 1 12)
  - B. The revelation of God requires that His children be informed about the reality of the last day, (vs. 4: 13 5: 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)