

## "Be Comforted"

2 Thessalonians 2: 6-8

April 27, 2014

### III We must pay much closer attention to living with self discipline under God's word, (2 Ths. 1: 1-3: 18)

God Has Chosen Us To Receive Divine Comfort & Be Established In Every Good Work, (vs. 16 - 17)

**Message Emphasis:** The believer is called, by the work of the Gospel, to an everlasting comfort that is displayed in the ongoing work of the Gospel.

*There needs to be... a consistency, if not an identity, between the belief expressed in worship and the belief expressed in the forms of reflective theology. This is necessary on two fronts : first, because worship and theology are both "intending" a single object, namely the truth of God; and second, because worship and theology are each occupations which engage the person of the one who practices both. To acquiesce in less than a positive correspondence between liturgy and theology would thus be to accept internal contradiction in both the content and the act of belief.*  
~~ Geoffrey Wainwright

#### 1) There Is ONLY One Source Of True Comfort; God's Divine Love, (vs. 16a)

- God's love has it's tangible fruit - Now *How is my view of "comfort" shaped by my faith?*
  - Thanksgiving, (vs. 13a)
  - Sanctification, (13b)
  - Belief in the truth, (vs. 13c)
  - Obtain Christ's glory, (vs. 14)
  - Standing firm, (vs. 15a)
  - Holding to tradition, (vs. 15b)
- God's love must be in keeping with His nature - *What is my "comfort" nature? Giving away? Seeking my comfort?*  
**may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved (Aor.Act.Part) us**

*"In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." (1 John 4:9-10)*

#### 2) There Is ONLY One Means Of True Comfort; God's Gift Of Grace, (vs. 16b)

- Any comfort we have must come from our salvation - *Am I satisfied with my salvation or do I want more comfort?*  
**and gave (Aor.Act.Part) us eternal comfort**
- Any comfort we have must come from divine hope - *My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood & righteousness. I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly lean on Jesus name?*  
**and good hope through grace,**

*"But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life." (Titus 3:4-7, ESV)*

#### 3) There Is ONLY One Result Of True Comfort; The Believer's Outward Display Of The Gospel, (vs. 17)

- Divine comfort is of the heart not the body -
  - The ultimate desire is the soul's comfort - **comfort** (Aor.Act.Opt) **your hearts** *How does my comfort lessen my testimony?*
  - The ultimate goal is firmness, resolve - **and establish** (Aor.Act.Opt) **them** *How does comfort weaken my resolve?*
- Divine comfort produces good fruit - *How does my lack of comfort drive me to the Gospel?*  
**in every good work and word.**

*His oath, His covenant, His blood, Support me in the whelming flood. When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my Hope and Stay. On Christ the solid Rock I stand, All other ground is sinking sand; All other ground is sinking sand.*

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

**Message Directive:** Look to Christ for the salvation of your soul; ONLY in Christ will there be genuine comfort for your soul.

D. The wrath of God is a very present reality that must be avoided even in its temporal aspects, (vs. 3: 1 - 18)