

2 Thessalonians 3:1-18 **Closing Thoughts**

Pray for us

¹ Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you, ² and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith.

God will establish and guard you

³ But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one. ⁴ And we have confidence in the Lord concerning you, both that you do and will do the things we command you. ⁵ Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.

Withdraw from the disorderly

⁶ But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the tradition which he received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you; ⁸ nor did we eat anyone's bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, ⁹ not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us.

If anyone will not work he should not eat

¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat. ¹¹ For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies. ¹² Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread.

Do not grow weary id doing good

¹³ But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good.

Do not keep company with the disobedient – Admonish him as a brother

¹⁴ And if anyone does not obey our word in this epistle, note that person and do not keep company with him, that he may be ashamed. ¹⁵ Yet do not count him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

Blessing & Salutation

¹⁶ Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord be with you all.

¹⁷ The salutation of Paul with my own hand, which is a sign in every epistle; so I write.

¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Pray for us [2 Thessalonians 3:1-2]

- ✠ Paul's prayer request is focused on the goal of his ministry, that the Word of the Lord may spread swiftly and be glorified effectively as it was with the Thessalonians.

- ✚ Paul's personal prayer request is that he and his company may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men.
 - ✧ Reasonable and godly men believe the Gospel message.
 - ✧ Unreasonable and wicked men reject and violently oppose the Gospel message.
 - ✧ Paul acknowledges that not all men have faith.

God will establish and guard you [2 Thessalonians 3:3-5]

- ✚ The work is the Lord's, and He is faithful to establish the Church and guard it from Satan (the evil one).
 - ✧ With the report of the faithfulness of the Thessalonian Church in the face of great persecution, Paul expresses confidence in the Lord that the Thessalonians will continue to do the things Paul has given them as instructions.
 - ✧ Paul also acknowledges that it is the Lord Who can and will direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ as the Church grows toward maturity.

Withdraw from the disorderly [2 Thessalonians 3:6-9, 14]

- ✚ As with the Corinthian Church, there are times when it is necessary to exercise Church discipline in the face of disorderly and disruptive conduct. [1 Corinthians 5:1-13]
 - ✧ Now Paul calls the Church to withdraw from everyone who calls himself a brother believer but lives ungodly, ignoring the teachings for proper living they had first received when Paul and his associates first preached the Gospel message to the Thessalonians.
 - ✧ The command is given in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ for highest authority.
 - ✧ When Paul and his company had been in Thessalonica, they had set the example of proper and orderly living.
 - ✧ Paul and his people had worked day and night to support themselves and their ministry in order that they would not be a burden on those they were endeavoring to save.
 - ✧ Though they had authority to require support from the Church, they had not used their authority, that they might present themselves as examples for the Church to follow.

[Matthew 10:7-10, Mark 6:7-10, Luke 9:1-4, 2 Thessalonians 3:7-9]

If anyone will not work he should not eat [2 Thessalonians 3:10-12]

- ✚ When we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat. [2 Thessalonians 3:10]
 - ✧ The report that came to Paul indicated that those who were not working had given themselves to obtrusively meddling in the affairs of others as busybodies.
 - ✧ The command through (by the authority of) the Lord Jesus Christ for the busybodies is, that they should work in quietness and eat their own food.
 - ✧ This indicates that not only were they meddling in things that were not their concern, but they were also gossips about others with slanderous words causing dissension.

Do not grow weary in doing good

- ✚ But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good. [2 Thessalonians 3:13]
 - ✧ These are encouraging words we often need to hear as the struggle some times seems more than we can endure, but we remember the words of the Lord, "He that endures to the end will be saved," so we keep on keeping on in faith, trusting God for the ability to persevere.

Do not keep company with the disobedient – Admonish him as a brother [2 Thessalonians 3:14-15]

- ✚ And if anyone does not obey our word in this epistle, note that person and do not keep company with him, that he may be ashamed.
 - ✧ Yet do not count him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.
 - ✧ The goal is to bring the offender to realize his error and offense, but only to cause him to change his behavior, not to make him feel like an outcast.
 - ✧ Public rebuke causes one to be ashamed, and is a good tool to call them to repentance.

Blessing & Salutation [\[2 Thessalonians 3:16-18\]](#)

- ✠ Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way.
- ✠ The Lord be with you all.
- ✠ Paul signed the letter with his own hand.
- ✠ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.