

Chosen

2 Thess. 2:13-17

13 But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. 14 He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. 15 So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter. 16 May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, 17 encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

1. Chosen by God (13-14)

- God is sovereign

- Humans are responsible

2. Hold Fast (15-17)

“That God predestines, and yet that man is responsible, are two facts that few can see clearly. They are believed to be inconsistent and contradictory, but they are not. The fault is in our weak judgment. Two truths cannot be contradictory to each other. If, then, I find taught in one part of the Bible that everything is fore-ordained, that is true; and I find that in another Scripture, that man is responsible for all his actions, that is true; and it is only my folly that leads me to imagine that these two truths can ever contradict each other.” - Charles Spurgeon

Questions to Answer as You Respond to God’s Word

1. What would change in your life if you thought about your identity as “loved by God”?
2. What do you find difficult to understand about God’s sovereign choice and human responsibility in salvation?
3. When is it most difficult for you to stand firm in the faith?
4. Why does “eternal encouragement” and “good hope” help us live godly lives today?

Next Week: 2 Thess. 3:1-5 (E-mail your questions about 2 Thess. to christcovenantchurchbr@gmail.com)