

Reflecting on 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

November 29, 2020

Introduction: In 2 Thessalonians 2, Paul once again addresses a misunderstanding about the Day of Lord. At the end of the chapter, he assures the Thessalonian church that God has chosen them and destined them to share in the glory of Christ. After providing that assurance, Paul challenges the church to live in light of the glory that is coming. In our study, we identify four ways to do so:

1. Stand firm (15)
2. Hold tight to truth (15)
3. Be hopeful (16-17)
4. Live well (17)

All of this leads to the Big Idea of the text: *God calls believers to live this life in a way that reflects the glory they will enjoy in the next life.*

Up for Discussion:

1. Which of the four ways to live the present in light of future glory is most meaningful to you? Why?

2. Give yourself a grade on each of the four ways, then share your best and worst grade with your group:

Grade	Ways	Definition
	1. Stand firm	Search out the truth and then don't move from it
	2. Hold tight to the truth	Let the truth that you know show up in your life
	3. Be hopeful	Let the knowledge of the glory to come shape your perspective
	4. Live well	Let your actions and words reflect the reality of your hope

3. In verse 13, Paul gives thanks to God for the Thessalonian believers. What specifically causes Paul to thank God for them? How specifically did those circumstances come about?

4. According to verses 13-14, how did God call the Thessalonians to become his children? What is wrapped up in the word “gospel”? To ask the question a different way, if someone asks you what the gospel is, how might you answer them?

5. What makes Christ worthy to receive glory? Read Colossian 1:15-22, and create a résumé of things that point to the glory of Christ?

6. How is it that Christians (saved sinners) can share in Christ’s glory in the next life? (Hint: See Colossians 1:22 and 2 Corinthians 3:18)

7. If you had to choose one thing that God has spoken to you about this morning, what would it be? How are you going to obey God in that area this week?