

**The Enduring Church: An Exposition of 2 Thessalonians**  
Discerning: Knows the True Gospel from a False Gospel  
2 Thessalonians 2:13–17  
The Lord's Day Evening  
March 24, 2019

### **Five Marks of An Enduring Church**

1. Steadfast: Respond To Adversity In View of Christ's Return (1:1–12).
2. Wary: Reject False Revelation, Signs, and Wonders (2:1–12).
- 3. Discerning: Knows the True Gospel from a False Gospel (2:13–17)**
4. Prayerful: Depends On A Faithful God (2 Thessalonians 3:1–5).
5. Disciplined: Intolerant of an "Easy Money" Philosophy (3:6–17).

### **Goldmine of Theological Truth (2:13–14)**

1. The doctrine of the Trinity
2. The doctrine of the deity of Christ
3. The doctrine of unconditional election
4. The doctrine of regeneration
5. The doctrine of salvation
  - 5.1 There is something the Holy Spirit must do: sanctify you; set you apart for God by causing you to be born again (John 3:8).
  - 5.2 There is something you must do: Believe (*pisteuo*; "place faith in")
6. The doctrine of justification by faith alone

### **The Logical Response to Theological Truth (2:15)**

1. *Stand firm*: Don't let false teachers persuade you to believe a false gospel. Even a false gospel that promises health, wealth, and prosperity if you obey and have enough faith (see 4:4–5!).
2. *Hold to the traditions*: Don't let go of the apostles' teaching recorded for eternity in the New Testament letters.

### **The Blessing (2:16–17)**

Don't worry that Christ has already come or that you won't belong to him when he does. Even in your suffering be comforted in God's sovereign grace. There is nothing you did to gain your salvation and there's nothing you can do to lose it. Keep up the good work!