

All verses are copied from <https://biblehub.com/> in King James.

May 30,2021

Paul's Request for Prayer

Paul is going to ask the Thessalonian's to pray for all the disciples and themselves. Having active prayer in the daily walk-in life for ourselves and others is critical to keep our minds, hearts and Spirit in tune with God and His Will in our lives.

1Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as *it is* with you:

The power of the Word of God not only sets men free it also is allowed to run a free course on this earth not channeled by the will of man or of Satan. When men and women come to a saving knowledge of the Son of God, they are set free, and God is “glorified”.

2And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all *men* have not faith.

We know that God's Perfect Will is that none should perish, but we also know the reality of the flesh and there are those who will refuse the free Gift regardless of any effort on the part of God and His Holy Spirit and the Blood Sacrifice of Christ Himself. Paul is

asking as should we that we be delivered from such people; those that do not have the Faith.

3But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.

Even though we are sinners, God is Faithful to His Word and that is the Truth. By His word we are being kept from evil.

4And we have confidence in the Lord touching you, that ye both do and will do the things which we command you. 5And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ.

Three repeated commands; obedience love, and patience.

Warning against Idleness

6Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us.

Interesting that Paul tells the Thessalonians to withdraw from “every brother that walketh disorderly”. The implication is what we know that the flesh even among brothers and sisters can impact our walk. Paul tells those who are walking in obedience to withdraw from those who are not.

This disorderly may span a number of obnoxious behaviors but it seems to be speaking more directly to being lazy. Taking things from others without working for those necessities.

7For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you; 8Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you: 9Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow us. 10For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.

This entire set of verses from 6-15 calls believers to not be lazy. It is the antithesis of socialism or communism and is the foundation of specifically personal responsibility. It is making each person responsible for themselves and their families.

The founders of America found this Biblical provision to be true in one of the earliest colonies. William Bradford the Governor of the Plymouth Colony after several years of near starvation and observing that in the communal setting that was required by the investors in England that it was a total failure. There were some who were hard workers others were lazy. The solution was to privatize the land, making each family responsible for their own. It turned a failure into a success immediately. The idea of “no work, no food” is a powerful motivator and a Biblical president.

11For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.

The idea here is that if you have nothing to do then you will introduce yourself into everyone else's business becoming a busybody and gossiper. Neither is a Biblical position. The Bible promotes the idea of minding your own business and being a diligent worker.

12Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread. 13But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing.

14And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. 15Yet count *him* not as an enemy, but admonish *him* as a brother.

Even though these verses promote the idea of separation from those who do not take personal responsibility but not to count them as enemies. In the end God will judge each of us on our commitment to Biblical principles that are based on God's Truth.

Paul's Final Greetings

(1 Corinthians 16:19-24)

16Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord *be* with you all.

17The salutation of Paul with mine own hand, which is the token in every epistle: so I write. 18The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. {*The second epistle to the Thessalonians was written from Athens.*

Paul was undoubtedly challenged in writing skills likely due to an affliction he suffered due to his eyesight. He could teach and preach but to write he often used the skills of fellow disciples. Paul in an effort to have more buy in to the very letters he was having penned would often close them himself in his own handwriting, which is what verse 17 refers to. His desire to personally ask the Godheads blessing on those whom he addressed these letters to was heartfelt and moved by God.

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