2Thess #181

What the Christian sows will come to harvest.

Our current study in 2Thessalonians chapter 3 has us looking into what appears to be a harsh statement.

In reality… truth is not always pleasant; truth can feel like a bitter pill to swallow or a nagging pain that weighs you down.

Just as truth is an incredible cleansing and healing agent – truth is a bright light in a dark and mysterious room.

The accurate truth of BD is what I am speaking of…not a cosmic counterfeit.

Truth sets us free – but it has to be absorbed and understood.

/Jhn 8:31 So **Jesus was saying** to those Jews **who had believed Him**, “**If you continue in My word**, *then* you are truly My disciples; 32 and **you will know** the truth, and **the truth will set you free.”\**

Salvation comes from the truth of the person and work of Jesus Christ.

You only need a tiny amount of faith to become born again and saved.

But to continue in the WORD (mind of Christ), is the only pathway into living and accepting the freedom.

The chains of slavery were broken at salvation – faith alone in Christ alone. Now you must learn to understand and live in true freedom.

Walking in wisdom (divine knowledge) is the goal after salvation;

/Eph 5:15 So then, **be careful how you walk**, not as unwise people **but as wise**,

1Cor 14:20 Brothers *and sisters,* **do not be children in your thinking**; yet in evil be infants, but **in your thinking be mature.**\

Spiritual growth will not naturally drop in your lap after salvation folks.

In our current study (Thessalonica) we had a few who did not grow in the GNOSIS given to them which would have turned into EPIGNOSIS and kept them free from the grasp of satanic influence.

/[2Th 3:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/10/s_1119010) For even when we were with you, we used to **give you this order**: if anyone is **not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either.**

IF is written in the Greek first-class condition – meaning this is true. Many were not working or moving forward in the ministry.\

As we see in the church today – Bels with the wrong information about end time events are confused. Perhaps false doctrine about the plan of GOD, either way that sets into motion a negative response, confusion and bad decisions.

They sit back and become detached from true Christianity waiting on the Rapture. Or… perhaps they believe the plan of GOD is calling them into Christian activism to clean up the devil’s world.

Maybe they don’t even understand the basic concepts of the filling power of GOD the HS.

 REPEAT

False teaching and counterfeit Christianity lead a large majority of the church astray.

The latest push in false teaching is on love – if a pastor or a mature Christian speaks out against sin, they are ostracized for being unloving.

That is how Satan has successfully put blue-haired women behind the pulpit. As well as feminized men as church leaders who hang rainbow flags outside their church. Totally neglecting the principle behind the rainbow shown to Noah after the flood.

It also accounts for skinny-jean pastors who teach fun and emotional messages that tickle the ears and fill up stadiums like rock concerts.

 REPEAT

Now pick it back up in Galatians chapter six where we see the Apostle Paul is keeping this congregation on track concerning their personal walk with Christ.

/The fact is no Christian can have a beneficial walk with GOD if their life is erratic or disorderly. This means that when others need some spiritual guidance or any assistance at all, that Christian with a disorderly life, is incapable of stepping up for the task. They usually make matters worse when they attempt to do so. There is an imperative calling in Christianity for handling the WORD with accuracy! \

This will make the difference in not only spiritual growth but many of the decisions we make in life.

Especially in the area of assisting others, which is a huge part of our calling in the church of Jesus Christ.

In verse 2 the Apostle Paul tells the growing Christian to assist with the burden when it falls upon the unsuspecting Believer.

It is not a call to interfere when self- induced misery or discipline has been ordained by GOD, which happens to wake up a backsliding Bel.

Never become a Bel who enables other Bels to maintain an apostate lifestyle.

Understanding these concepts and the original language ensures you do not think there is a contradiction between verse 2 and verse 5;

 /[Gal 6:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gal/6/5/s_1097005) For **each one will bear his own load** (*phortion*).

This statement reflects the fact that at the end of our life, we will all be responsible for our own growth as well as the race we have run.\

FAR-TEE-AH, is not like the other word burden (v 2), it means to carry a work load, to distribute a freight or cargo that you are responsible for.

This was actually a naval term for the shipping industry in the ancient world.

/Each Believer has a designated workload, a cargo or freight (cross), we all carry at different points of growth. This cargo must get from point A to point B, therefore it is YOUR responsibility! It was part of the plan it was NOT A SUDDEN burden put upon you. This was expected at some point in your spiritual growth.\

[Gal 6:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gal/6/6/s_1097006) The one who is taught the word is to share all good things with the one who teaches *him.*

The Apostle Paul reminds them, also as part of your work load, will be to support a doctrinal ministry.

Interestingly enough… these Galatians were not very wealthy and yet, history shows they were very generous with the Apostle Paul.

The problem with the Galatians was an area of stubbornness in certain legalistic attitudes about sin or religious rituals. Not giving an offering was not an issue, they gave generously.

Some of the Galatians fell for the nonsense of the Judaizers, leaning toward legalism – ritual over reality.

[Gal 6:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gal/6/7/s_1097007) Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a person sows, this he will also reap.

This is what I have been pointing out quite a bit recently…every action has a reaction; every decision has a consequence.

We all take responsibility for our own walk.

/[Gal 6:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gal/6/8/s_1097008) For the one who sows to his own flesh will reap destruction from the flesh, but **the one who sows to the Spirit will reap eternal life from the Spirit.**

To sow and reap speaks to an active lifestyle. This points to spiritual production (divine good), what is achieved only by the power of GOD the HS and the WORD active in the Bels life.\

[Gal 6:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gal/6/9/s_1097009) Let’s not become discouraged in doing good, for in due time we will reap, if we do not become weary.

There is always a harvest after all the plowing, tilling, planting, pruning and work of the field is complete.

In the spiritual realm we either end up with good fruit, a healthy harvest – Fruit of the Spirit seen within divine good.

Or rotten fruit that brings misery and illness.

 REPEAT

/[Gal 6:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gal/6/10/s_1097010) So then, **while we have opportunity**, let’s **do good to all people**, and **especially** to those who are of the **household of the faith**.

The opportunity is the TIME, TALENT and TREASURE GOD gives us from HIS grace plan. We are called into action now! Actions that touch the lives of the body of Christ and then outward toward a lost and dying world.\

The Bel who is unwilling to step up and step out, is living a timid lifestyle which we are called out of.

/2Tim 1:7 For God has not given us a **spirit** **of** **timidity**, but **of power and love and discipline.**

A spirit of apathy, doubt and weakness is the polar opposite of what we are called into in the New Nature.\

Our power is found inside the word of God, filled by God the HS.

Our life should reflect the Virtue Love of Christ - that HE put on display during HIS earthly ministry.

We are called into having self-discipline, becoming organized and having a balanced life of purpose and priorities focused on the spiritual, not the natural.

 REPEAT

God has called us to be in HIS army…to operate from HIS power.

God did not call us into apathy and doubt, HE did not give us a SPIRIT of weakness and laziness.

Remember your mind is like a high-tech computer – garbage in… garbage out.

Or truth and accuracy in… and truth and wisdom coming out.

There is no truth outside of the mind of Christ.

Your bible holds the greatest divine knowledge and divine wisdom. It is the only source of spiritual guidance. Your spiritual growth and understanding of God’s plan are found in the truth of scripture.

Human viewpoint and cosmic system counterfeits are the culprit of much the division and confusion in Christianity.

As I have mentioned last lesson, many of the congregations the apostles formed had to be constantly reminded do not fall for the cosmic system lies…avoid the counterfeits of the world.

Corinth, Thessalonica, Rome or Galatians it was an ongoing issue for the Apostle Paul…why do we think we don’t have that same issue in the church today?

/Gal 3:3 Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?

Eph 5:6 *See that* no one deceives you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. \

Just remember within the two power options you can find forward progress - you can move toward growth and understanding.

There is no growth and understanding inside God’s plan for the Bel who refuses to step up and step out, seeking a true relationship with the LORD.

It is only found in the NEW NATURE with the accuracy of the WORD motivating your spiritual life.

 REPEAT

Let us close today in the Old Testament – Ecclesiastes chapter four RF.

/1Chron 16:11 Seek the LORD and His strength; Seek His face continually.

Phlp 4:13 I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.\

Do not allow the world to dictate what truth is for you.

Do not allow the world to become your strength and your source of knowledge.

You are given victory… IN CHRIST!

/Mat 6:33 “But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided to you.

Prov 2:6 For the LORD gives wisdom; From His mouth *come* knowledge and understanding.\

The only source of truth – the mind of Christ.

/The growing Bel begins to realize that fellowship around the accuracy of the WORD becomes the source of real strength. Your union with Christ grows stronger and then you begin to understand fellowship with others and the importance of being an active member of the body of Christ. No one is an island unto themselves. Bels need to be available for those in need, just as we need others to lift us during our down times. SM goes beyond your own personal desires for growth – ‘others’ becomes one of the key battle cries for a maturing Bel.\

Spiritual growth is not simply about you, we are all called to greater missions than self & our family.

/Prov 27:17 *As* iron sharpens iron, So one person sharpens another.\

Let us close with the wisdom of King Solomon;

Ecc 4:9 Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor;

/[Ecc 4:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/ecc/4/10/s_663010) for if either of them falls, the **one will lift up his companion**. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up!

There are several reasons we are called a Royal Family and a BODY of Christ. One reason is that we are all intertwined, designed to work in unison, as well as support of each other in this temporal spiritual warfare.\

[Ecc 4:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/ecc/4/11/s_663011) Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm *alone?*

/[Ecc 4:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/ecc/4/12/s_663012) And if one can overpower him who is alone, **two can resist him**. **A cord of three *strands* is not quickly torn apart.**

Growing inside the plan of GOD is a journey of accountability and responsibility. Within God’s grace plan we can have fellowship with like-minded Bels standing shoulder to shoulder in spiritual combat with us.\

The strength of the third cord is the power of the WORD of GOD.

The unity in Christianity when two Bels are reaching upward toward maturity with GOD the HS guiding them is a powerful force.

The power of GOD the HS and the word circulating in a small group of Bels is a restraining agent against evil.

/2Thes 2:7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains *will do so* until Heis removed.

Gen 18:32 Then he said, “Oh may the Lord not be angry, and I shall speak only this once: suppose ten are found there?” And He said, “I will not destroy *it* on account of the ten.”\