2Thess #167

Every Believer must adjust to the plan of GOD to achieve spiritual success.

Open back up in our current study of 2Thessalonians chapter three RF.

Now in this last chapter of the second letter to Thessalonica, the Apostle Paul is going to emphasize the problem happening in the congregation, because they accepted false teaching on Eschatology.

/You see every action has a reaction and every decision has a consequence. The Bels at Thessalonica had a group from the congregation who had digested false teaching concerning the Rapture and the 2nd Advent. They had assumed the Tribulation was upon them or about to happen. Because of this, many of them stopped living an orderly life, they stopped working and participating in the body of Christ.\

This was the consequence of their decision to absorb false teaching about the end times.

It sent many of them in the wrong direction concerning their spiritual walk.

In fact, some scholars believe, the counterfeit letters may have come from a group of Gnostics who refused to acknowledge the Church Age. They distorted the doctrine of dispensations which in turn, distorts many other core doctrines.

2Thes 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

[2Th 3:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/4/s_1119004) We have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you are doing, and will do, what we command.

[2Th 3:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/5/s_1119005) May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the perseverance of Christ.

The Apostle Paul is confident they will fall back in line and get back on track under accurate teaching.

/[2Th 3:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/6/s_1119006) Now **we command you**, brothers *and sisters,* in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that **you keep away from every brother *or sister* wholeads a disorderly life** and not *one* in accordance with the tradition which you received from us.\

The Apostle Paul commands – written in a present tense, indictive mood…this is serious.

This is ongoing and factual; this is not a wish or a simple request.

This is an extreme call for separation – because the ones going astray were now jeopardizing accurate doctrine and confusing other Bels.

[2Th 3:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/7/s_1119007) For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example, because we did not act in an undisciplined way among you,

This is the beginning of a set of lessons on self-discipline, having a balanced and an orderly life.

[2Th 3:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/8/s_1119008) nor did we eat anyone’s bread without paying for it, but with labor and hardship we kept working night and day so that we would not be a burden to any of you;

The Apostle Paul was a seasoned tent maker and it is believed he trained some of the men who travelled with him in that trade as well.

This was written a few short years before the Apostle Paul would drop his tent making career and dive full time into his ministry.

Jump over to Ephesians chapter one RF.

/For the Christian to live a disorderly life, it is often related to their priorities as well as not having peeled away from the cosmic system. They are not fully engaged or interested in the plan of God. Most Bels do not fully understand the plan of God, which means they are clueless as to why the human race was even created.\

Most Christians believe they are here to clean up the devil’s world.

The plan of God was designed in eternity past, just as we were created to resolve an angelic rebellion from eternity past.

God created mankind out of HIS love and mercy, yet there is a distinct purpose and mission for mankind as well.

 REPEAT

Part of our creation revolves around the principle that God loves all HIS created creatures such as angels and human beings.

None of HIS creatures are created to be useless.

/God created angels and humans with free will to display the simple fact that apart from a close relationship with HIM, one of obedience and love. Rebellion always emerges which is in opposition to HIS divine perfection and love. Created creatures lack divine integrity and righteousness among other godly traits. GOD allows free will to show us in the end, it is a root of arrogant rebellion.\

Because God is not a tyrant, HE did not create obedient robots. Nor can HE re-create another GOD exactly like Himself – HE resolves this by offering us a piece of HIS divine nature.

Through HIS precious SON TLJC!

God did this without compromising HIS divine essence - HIS own perfect attributes were never compromised.

/The glory of GOD is viewed in HIS essence (attributes);

Eternal Veracity

Love Immutable

Righteous Omnipotent

Justice Omnipresent

Sovereign Omniscient \

Each one of these attributes are beyond what we know as pure or perfect - that is why we use the word DIVINE in front of each of these attributes.

Just because GOD loves humanity does not mean HE can bypass HIS own justice and righteousness.

In fact, everything GOD ever did or will do - is filtered through HIS divine justice system.

If you do not understand the justice and righteousness of GOD you will never understand the plan of God.

 REPEAT

GOD has to be exactly who HE tells us HE is – He cannot lie!

Therefore, GOD can never neglect any aspect of HIS divine essence. God never compromises any of HIS divine nature.

The Bel with a lack of priorities and one who never truly peels away from the cosmic system, will never fully digest the plan of God, never truly understand the essence of GOD.

Many of these Christians do not even understand there is an angelic conflict raging all around them;

/Mat 25:41 “Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, you accursed people, into the eternal fire **which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;**

Rev 20:10 And **the devil who deceived them** was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where **the beast and the false prophet** *are* also; **and they will be tormented** day and night forever and ever.\

All decreed and completed in eternity past – we are watching it take place right now.

GOD has a lake of fire already prepared – it is currently empty.

Now in Ephesians we have one of four prison epistles written by the Apostle Paul and most of these letters were designed as circular letters, to go out too many congregations.

Many of these prison epistles highlight God’s pre-designed plan established and fully completed in eternity past.

 Eph 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are at Ephesus and *are* faithful in Christ Jesus:

The word Ephesus is not found in the original text.

[Eph 1:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/1/2/s_1098002) Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

/[Eph 1:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/1/3/s_1098003) Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing** in the heavenly *places* in Christ,

Past tense – everything is already given to Church Age Bels! Most do not even take the time to understand, therefore, they will never apply and live in spiritual gifts and blessings.\

40 Grace Gifts given at salvation that many Christians never even know they have.

They walk in emotional nonsense and denominational dogma and yet they never grow into spiritual maturity.

In the original context of the Greek, verse 3 is one long sentence into verse 14.

I believe it is one of the longest sentences in ancient text.

God the Father, God the SON and God the HS are highlighted in these verses.

[Eph 1:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/1/4/s_1098004) just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love

HE CHOSE us is in the aorist tense – pointing to a decision or a work already done.

Election is through Jesus Christ – HE is the elected one, we are in union with HIM once we believe upon HIM!

/God knew in eternity past who would become positive toward the message of Christ crucified. Before He chose us He provided the blessing first because the blessing was based upon His perfect essence. Christ died for the whole world and God’s desire is for all mankind to come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. God’s grace plan is for everyone, yet many reject the grace offering, starting with the Grace Gift of Christ crucified for the sins of the whole world.\

The cross of Christ is at the center of the universe.

[Eph 1:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/1/5/s_1098005) He predestined us to adoption as sons *and daughters* through JesusChrist to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

/Your human life means God has a destiny for you – your free will choice will dictate whether it is as a child of GOD or a child of Satan. By means of the baptism of the Holy Spirit every Believer enters into union with Christ. Positional truth is the mechanics of adoption, it happens at the moment of salvation. You are changed forever! Adoption as well as salvation in general gives us freedom toward God, not freedom in the human race. You are immediately an adult child of GOD, open for all blessings and personal relationship with the Creator.\

The veil in the temple was torn in two! Access to GOD changed at the cross.

All humanity has been destined and blessed from eternity past. Yet many will never receive any of it - because they reject the person and work of TLJC.

God the HS works in our favor to guide us across the salvation gate, GOD the HS distributes gifts and blessings.

Yet without a free will decision toward The Lord Jesus Christ none of this will ever reach the Unbeliever. Also, the negative Believer who refuses to gain any spiritual momentum misses out on crowns, blessings and rewards.

 REPEAT

/Most Christians live what they believe is a spiritual life – moral goodness and generosity, mixed with emotional worship. The true plan of God is dependent upon our union with Christ. That union grows stronger as we walk in the New Nature and absorb the mind of Christ (BD). There is no substitute for the filling power of the Spirit and doctrine resident in the soul – it is the very core and mechanics of the plan of GOD for our temporal walk.\

Here in Ephesians one, it is detailing the whole plan of GOD from the point of believing upon HIS precious SON and going forward into HIS full grace plan for CA Bels.

It is all available for those who want to grow within it – it requires no money, no special talent - it is available only in the NEW NATURE it is a GRACE PLAN!

/2Pet 3:18 but **grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.** To Him *be* the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

Col 3:10 and have put on the new *self,* which **is being renewed to a true knowledge** according to the image of the One who created it—

(Col 1:10, 2Cor 4:6, 2Pet 1:8, Eph 4:15) \

[Eph 1:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/1/6/s_1098006) to the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He favored us in the Beloved.

God’s grace plan was designed for all mankind and yet most remain outside of that plan – due to a lack of knowledge.

God will not force HIMSELF upon anyone.

He gave all of this in eternity past, out of HIS abundant love and grace – the only stipulation is we have to be in union with Christ and walking within that union toward maturity.

The Christian who understands the nature of GOD, the first divine institution of free will.

Along with the basic concept of the grace plan, comes out of the darkness of confusion and into a light of truth.

A Christian cannot base their Biblical knowledge on emotional concepts and religious rituals.

/*Grace is all that God is free to do for man on the basis of what happened at the cross. God is free to express His love through grace and He does this without jeopardizing His essence. No one can truly give apart from freedom and God gives out of total freedom because of the cross to us. Grace is the work and the plan of God on behalf of man beginning at the cross.*

 *Col. R.B. Thieme Jr.* \

The problem often centers on an issue of love – it is not Virtue Love but emotional human love that becomes the stumbling block.

GOD so loved the world – yet the whole world is not going to heaven.

Because GOD could not deny HIS own justice and righteousness.

TLJC satisfied the justice system of GOD!

/[Eph 1:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/1/7/s_1098007) **In Him we have redemption** (*apolytrōsis*) through His blood, the forgiveness of our wrongdoings, according **to the riches of His grace**

A ransom was paid (Christ on the Cross), through HIS blood speaks to the work of salvation. Jesus gave HIMSELF over for a payment and judgment for all of us.\

AP-OLOOSE-IS, meaning a debt was paid to remove us from the slave market of sin.

It is related to a strong Greek word for the purchase of a slave – it points to a release and to freedom.

[Eph 1:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/1/8/s_1098008) which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight

HE lavished upon us - out of HIS abundant grace from eternity past, before we were ever created.

That is what is meant by no one can earn or deserve HIS grace – HE already did it all… before you were ever a twinkle in God’s eye!

All wisdom and insight tell us, GOD does everything in eternity past – the Grace Plan was done, nothing can stop it and no one can shock or confuse GOD!

[Eph 1:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/1/9/s_1098009) He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He set forth in Him,

Mystery doctrine is available for the Bel moving forward under the two power options.

IT IS IN HIM (union w/Christ)!!!

[Eph 1:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/1/10/s_1098010) regarding *His* plan of the fullness of the times, to bring all things together in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth.