

The Church and The Blessed Hope “Standing for The Truth” II Thessalonians 2:13-17

Introduction - Stability is a coveted quality in every area of life!

- The need stabilize the nations economy.
- Contractors and builders seek to build stable houses.
- Aircraft and ships have “stabilzers” to counteract turbulence and the ocean swells.
- And we admire people who have a stable personality, character, and convictions!

The New Testament say’s much about Christian stability.

I Thessalonians 3:8, “For we now live, if ye “stand fast in the Lord.”

II Thessalonians 2:3, “...don’t be shaken....”

The believer’s in Thessalonica were being shaken by the winds of:

- Opposition, Chp. 1
- Deception, Chp. 2
- Temptation, Chp. 3

In chapter 2, the dangerous wind of deception! So Paul’s call, verse 15, “stand” and “hold.”

You won’t want to be swept away by the gale of false teaching.

Every Christian has three responsibilities to God’s truth.

I. Believe in the Truth, vv. 13-14

Paul was a balanced Christian! He turns from “Satan’s lies” to “God’s truth.” From “Satan’s activity,” vv. 9-12 to “God’s victory,” vv. 13-14. Note the contrast.

Ask what Paul was thankful for?

1. Loved by God, vs. 13.
2. Chosen by God, vs. 13.
3. Set apart by God, vs. 13.
4. They believed the truth of God, vs. 13.

5. Called by God, vs. 14.

6. They will enjoy the Glory of God, vs. 14.

II. Guard the Truth, vs. 15

It's Paul's call to doctrinal adherence! We need a high view of Scripture, not man's traditions! So "stand fast" and "hold" are both present imperatives! **Illus.**, a ship in a storm.

III. Practice the Truth, vv. 16-17.

Paul's prayer for practical compliance. It's not enough to believe the truth and guard the truth, we must also practice it!

James 1:22-25. Paul prays for God's power in their lives!

IV. Share the Truth, vs. 3:1

Ask, what is the ultimate secret of Christian stability? "The love of God."

1. "Beloved of the Lord," vs. 13.

2. "Jesus Christ and God the Father which hath loved us," vs. 16.

3. "...their hearts might be directed into the love of God," "as they wait for the Lord to come." vs. 3:5.