



October 19, 2025
 Series: Week 7
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Live Standing Firm in Truth

Today's Passage: 2 Thessalonians 2

Paul Exposes the Half-truth - Verses 1-3a

- **Summary:** Paul asked the Thessalonian believers to not be “shaken in mind or alarmed” by those who were deceiving them about the timing of the Day of the Lord.
- **Key Words:** 1. Shaken- Saleuō -“to agitate, disturb mentally...” ,“to be distressed ⇔ shake — to be or become distressed, conceived of as shaking back and forth intensely.” 2. Alarmed-throeō -“to be alarmed — to be filled with apprehension or alarm; be unpleasantly surprised.”
- **Day of the Lord=Day of Judgement:** 1 Thess. 5:1-3; Joel 2:30-32; Malachi 4:1
- **Passages for deeper study:** 1 Thess. 4:14-17; 1 John 4:1
- **Reflection:** Are there things that you believe that seem true but bring you anxiety, worry, or fear instead of hope? What might be the lie that you believe?

Paul Reminds Them of the Whole Truth - Verses 3b-12

- **Summary:** Paul reminds what will happen leading up to the Day of the Lord: 1.) the rebellion, 2.) the man of lawlessness revealed (the man whom Jesus will kill with the breath of His mouth), and 3.) the unbelievers falling into deeper deception.
- **Man of Lawlessness=The Antichrist:** Dan. 7:25; Dan. 8:25; Dan. 11:36-37; Ezekiel 28:2; Rev. 13:5-6
- **Passages for deeper study:** 1 John 2:18; 1 John 4:3; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; Isa. 11:4; John 8:44; John 14:6; 1 Cor. 1:18; Romans 1:18-25
- The **antichrist** is the embodiment of **ALL LIES** and **Jesus** is the embodiment of **ALL TRUTH!**
- **Reflection:** As Paul helped to remind the Thessalonians of the whole truth, who are some godly people in your life whom you can share your worries with that can help remind you of the whole truth that is found in God's word? Why is it important for others to remind you of the truth?

Paul Reassures Them with the Truth - Verses 13-14

- **Summary:** Paul reassures them that they are saved and will share in Christ's glory!
- **Reflection:** Take a moment to thank God that you are saved through the Holy Spirit's sanctifying work and your belief in God's truth. Thank Him that you are not destined for wrath but for salvation. How do these truths encourage you in your walk with Jesus?

Paul's Main Point - Verse 15

- **Summary:** Paul tells to stand firm and hold on to the truth he had taught them!
- **Key Terms:** 1. Stand Firm-stēkō -“to stand (maintain) — to hold one's ground; maintain a position; be steadfast or upright. Sense Antonym: to yield (give in).” 2. Hold To-krateō -“to hold (adhere) — to remain firmly committed to.” 3. Traditions-paradosis -“a specific practice (of long standing) handed down from respected authorities.”
- **PAUL'S MAIN POINT: UPSIDE DOWN LIVING IS STANDING FIRM ON THE UNSHAKABLE TRUTH OF GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST NO MATTER WHAT!**

- **Reflection:** In what area of your life is God calling you to stand firm and hold on to His truth? Why can it be difficult to stand firm in the truth? How can we encourage one another to do that?

Paul Comforts Them with the Truth - Verse 16-17

- **Summary:** *Paul prays for the believers that God, who loved them and gave them eternal comfort and hope, may comfort and strengthen their hearts to do good work and speak good things for God's glory!*
- **Reflection:** How does knowing that God loves you and has given you eternal comfort & hope through grace strengthen, comfort, and inspire your heart to do good work and speak good things for the glory of God?

HOW TO STAND FIRM IN GOD'S TRUTH (some practical next steps):

1. **Stay in the Word daily. Study, Memorize, and Meditate on it!**
2. **Discern if the news you have received lines up with or opposes God's Word.**
3. **Study God's Word in Community.**
4. **Read Christ-centered books that help you better understand the Bible.**
5. **Listen & Watch Christian Podcasts.**
6. **Read the EFCA Statement of Faith & Study the Biblical Citations.**

2 Thessalonians 2

1 Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, **2** not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. **3** Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, **4** who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God. **5** Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? **6** And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. **7** For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. **8** And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. **9** The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, **10** and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. **11** Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, **12** in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness. **13** But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. **14** To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. **15** So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter. **16** Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, **17** comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

