



A "REMOTE" Study Submission for the:

**Men's Monday Nite  
Bible Study Lesson Topic**

On: **11.06.23**

**By: Online Member, Bill Landman**

## **2 Thessalonians 2:13-17**

### **Outline / Study**

#### **1.) Read/Write an outline concerning tonight's scriptural subject passage.**

##### **I. Introduction**

- A.** Context of the passage
- B.** Addressed to the Thessalonian believers

##### **II. Verse 13**

- A.** Thanksgiving for God's choice
  - 1. Paul expresses gratitude to God
  - 2. God's choice of the Thessalonian believers
  - 3. Chosen for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth
- B.** Emphasis on salvation and sanctification
  - 1. Salvation through faith and sanctification by the Spirit
  - 2. Belief in the truth as a central component of God's choice
  - 3. God's sovereign role in salvation

##### **III. Verse 14**

- A.** The purpose of God's call

1. Called to obtain the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ
  2. Implication of future glorification
- B. Connection to the previous verse**
1. Continuation of the theme of God's choice and salvation
  2. The ultimate goal of a believers' calling

#### **IV. Verse 15**

- A. Encouragement to stand firm**
1. Therefore, stand firm and hold to the traditions
  2. Traditions received from the apostles, possibly referring to their teachings
- B. Exhortation to stand firm in word or letter**
1. Word of mouth or written letter
  2. Affirming the importance of their teachings

#### **V. Verse 16**

- A. Prayer for comfort and strength**
1. May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father
  2. Comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word
- B. Paul's desire for the Thessalonians**
1. Seeking God's comfort and strength for the believers
  2. A prayer for their hearts to be established in good works and words

## **VI. Verse 17**

### **A. Closing blessing**

1. Final words of encouragement and prayer
2. Peace and encouragement through grace and hope

### **B. The source of comfort and hope**

1. God's grace and hope provided to believers
2. A benediction to conclude the passage

## **2.) Define for me what you think the lovingkindness of God means.**

The lovingkindness of God is a concept that finds its roots in various religious traditions, particularly within Christianity and Judaism, where it's often referred to with the Hebrew word "Chesed" in the Old Testament. It encapsulates the idea of a divine love that is steadfast, merciful, generous, and enduring. This kind of love is not based on merit or worthiness, but is seen as an aspect of God's character - an unconditional grace that is given to all of creation.

In Christianity, the lovingkindness of God is demonstrated most profoundly in the narrative of Jesus Christ, whose life and sacrificial death are seen as the ultimate expression of God's love for humanity. It's a love that

forgives, redeems, and restores, often depicted as a fatherly love that is patient and compassionate.

In Judaism, God's lovingkindness is integral to His covenant with Israel, and it is characterized by mercy, grace, and a commitment to the well-being of His people. It is both a reason for praise and a quality that the faithful are encouraged to emulate in their own lives.

This concept goes beyond mere emotion or affection; it is an active love that manifests in deeds and actions. It is about God seeking the best for His creation, working towards the redemption and healing of the brokenness in the world. It's a theme that encourages believers to trust in God's good intentions towards them, even in the face of suffering or hardship.

In a broader spiritual sense, the lovingkindness of God can be seen as a universal, benevolent force that nourishes and sustains life, guiding beings towards moral goodness and spiritual fulfillment. It is often associated with a deep sense of peace and the assurance that one is cared for deeply by a higher power.

### **3.) How do you interpret that God has chosen you as first fruits.**

The concept of being chosen by God as "first fruits" has its roots in the Abrahamic religious traditions and carries a rich tapestry of spiritual and theological meaning.

In a historical context, the term "first fruits" refers to the early produce of the harvest which was offered to God as a thanksgiving and recognition of His provision. It symbolizes the best, the first, and the beginning of a greater harvest.

In the Jewish tradition, the concept is linked to the offering of the first fruits as a sign of gratitude and acknowledgment of God's blessings. It's also a reminder of God's deliverance of Israel from Egypt, celebrated during the festival of Shavuot.

In the Christian New Testament, the term takes on an additional layer of meaning. For instance, in the Epistle of Interpreting the idea that God has chosen someone as "first fruits" today can mean a sense of being called to live a life that is dedicated to God, exemplifying godly qualities, and being an agent of His love and grace in the world. It can denote a special responsibility to embody and reflect divine principles, such as love, justice, and mercy, in one's actions. It's also a calling to be a part of a larger spiritual harvest, contributing to the growth and spiritual well-being of others.

Spiritually, being considered "first fruits" might be perceived as an encouragement to engage in self-examination, to ensure one's life aligns with the values and virtues that are esteemed in one's faith, and to commit to a path of spiritual growth and service. It's a concept that conveys both honor and obligation, reflecting a deep

relationship with the divine and a purposeful role in the divine plan.

#### **4.) Explain how we are saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit.**

**A.** The concept of being saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit is deeply rooted in Christian theology and is primarily associated with the role of the Holy Spirit in the process of salvation and sanctification. The concept of being saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit is deeply rooted in Christian theology and is primarily associated with the role of the Holy Spirit in the process of salvation and sanctification.

Salvation in Christian belief is the deliverance from sin and its consequences, believed by many to be brought about by faith in Christ. The Holy Spirit is considered an agent in this process in several ways:

1. **\*\*Conviction of Sin\*\***: The Holy Spirit is believed to work in individuals' hearts to make them aware of their need for salvation, convicting them of their sins and the truth of the gospel.
2. **\*\*Regeneration\*\***: This is the concept of being "born again" through the Spirit. It's the idea that the Holy Spirit imparts new life to the believer, transforming the inner nature of the person who places their faith in Christ.
3. **\*\*Baptism in the Spirit\*\***: Many Christian traditions hold that the Holy Spirit baptizes the believer into

the Body of Christ, which is the church, signifying their entrance into the community of faith.

4. **\*\*Indwelling\*\***: The Holy Spirit is said to dwell within believers, continually working within them to accomplish God's will and purposes, guiding and empowering them to live lives that are pleasing to God.
5. **\*\*Sanctification\*\***: This is a progressive work of God and the believer that makes the Christian more free from sin and more like Christ in their actual lives. The Holy Spirit plays a critical role in sanctification, which is often understood as the process by which believers become more holy, more separated from sin, and more dedicated to God. It involves the believer's active role in surrendering to the Holy Spirit's transforming power.
6. **\*\*Assurance of Salvation\*\***: The Holy Spirit also serves as a seal or guarantee of the believer's salvation, reassuring them of their relationship with God and their eternal life.
7. **\*\*Spiritual Growth\*\***: Through the fruits of the Spirit (such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control), the believer is said to grow in character and become more Christ-like.
8. **\*\*Gifts of the Spirit\*\***: The Holy Spirit bestows spiritual gifts upon believers for the building up of the church, the body of Christ, which enables them to

serve and edify one another in their Christian walk and witness.

In essence, the sanctifying work of the Spirit is an ongoing process that begins at the moment of salvation and continues throughout the believer's life. It is not a work of human effort but is dependent on the believer's response to the Spirit's leading and empowerment. The ultimate goal of this sanctification process is to be conformed to the image of Christ, to the glory of God the Father.

**B.** In Christian theology, the concept of salvation through the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit involves a process by which individuals are set apart and made holy, aligning them with God's will and character. Here's a detailed look at this process:

1. **Regeneration**: The work of the Holy Spirit begins with regeneration, which is a spiritual rebirth. The Spirit imparts new life to the believer, enabling them to respond to God in faith and repentance. This is the inception of the believer's salvation.
2. **Sanctification**: Following regeneration, the sanctifying work of the Spirit is a progressive journey. Sanctification is the process by which the Holy Spirit gradually shapes believers to resemble Christ. It involves the transformation of the believer's character and conduct as they grow in faith and obedience to God's word.



3. **\*\*Renewal of the Mind\*\***: The Holy Spirit works to renew the mind of believers, changing their thought patterns to align with Godly wisdom and values. This is essential for discerning God's will and resisting sinful tendencies.
4. **\*\*Fruit of the Spirit\*\***: As mentioned in Galatians 5:22-23, the Spirit produces virtues in the life of the believer such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. These qualities are signs of the Spirit's active presence and work in a person's life.
5. **\*\*Spiritual Gifts\*\***: The Spirit also endows believers with various gifts intended for the edification of the church and to equip them for service. These gifts are diverse and are meant to be used in love and service to others.
6. **\*\*Empowerment for Holiness\*\***: The Spirit empowers believers to live holy lives, providing the strength to resist sin and pursue righteousness. Sanctification is not achieved by human effort alone but through the Spirit's power.
7. **\*\*Assurance and Witness\*\***: The Holy Spirit serves as a seal or guarantee of the believer's salvation, bearing witness with their spirit that they are children of God, as stated in Romans 8:16.
8. **\*\*Intercession\*\***: The Spirit also helps believers in their weaknesses and intercedes for them, often in ways that are beyond human understanding or articulation.
9. **\*\*Covenant Relationship\*\***: The sanctifying work of the Spirit is part of the new covenant, where God

promises to put His laws in the hearts and minds of believers, enabling them to live in a way that pleases Him.

10. **\*\*Culmination in Glorification\*\***: Ultimately, the sanctifying work of the Spirit leads to glorification, which is the completion of salvation in the presence of God. It is when the believer is fully conformed to the image of Christ and freed from the presence of sin.

Salvation through the Spirit is, therefore, not a single event but a dynamic and ongoing process that begins with God's initiative and unfolds throughout the believer's life, leading toward ultimate redemption and transformation.

## **5.) What is Paul suggesting in the text when he calls it “our gospel”.**

When Paul refers to "our gospel" in his letters, he is conveying several layers of meaning:

1. **\*\*Personal Testimony\*\***: Paul emphasizes that the gospel he preaches is not a secondhand tale but a message he has personally received and experienced. By calling it "our gospel," he includes himself in the narrative of the gospel, indicating his own transformation and calling as an apostle.

2. **\*\*Community of Believers\*\***: The use of "our" reflects a collective ownership among the community of believers. It's not just Paul's gospel; it's the shared truth and good news that binds the Christian community together.
3. **\*\*Apostolic Authority\*\***: In using "our," Paul asserts the authority and authenticity of the gospel he preaches as coming from God. He, along with the other apostles, has been commissioned to share this gospel, which is rooted in the teachings and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
4. **\*\*Contrast with Other Messages\*\***: The term distinguishes the true gospel from other teachings that may have been circulating at the time. "Our gospel" refers specifically to the message about Jesus Christ as Lord, His death, and resurrection for the salvation of humanity, as opposed to any "different gospel" which is not the apostolic teaching. In embracing "our gospel," they are joining in the shared faith and mission of the Christian church.
6. **\*\*Stewardship and Responsibility\*\***: Lastly, by saying "our gospel," Paul indicates a sense of stewardship. He and his fellow workers are responsible for preserving the integrity of the gospel message and faithfully passing it on as they received it.

In essence, Paul's reference to "our gospel" is a multifaceted expression that underscores the personal,

communal, authoritative, and invitational aspects of the message he is devoted to proclaiming.

## 6.) How do we obtain Gods Glory?

In Christian theology, the glory of God generally refers to the manifestation of God's presence, as well as the honor and praise that is due to Him. It's understood as both something that God inherently possesses and something that can be reflected in or shared with His creation, particularly human beings. Here's how one might obtain or participate in God's glory according to Christian teachings:

1. **\*\*Faith in Christ\*\***: The New Testament presents faith in Jesus Christ as the cornerstone for salvation and the beginning of a relationship with God. Through faith, believers are justified and reconciled to God, which is the starting point of sharing in His glory.
2. **\*\*Sanctification by the Spirit\*\***: As believers live their lives in obedience to God and under the influence of the Holy Spirit, they are sanctified - made holy and set apart for God's purposes. This process of sanctification is seen as part of participating in God's glory, as it transforms believers into the image of Christ.
3. **\*\*Suffering\*\***: The Apostle Paul, in particular, speaks about sharing in Christ's sufferings as a way to share in his glory (Romans 8:17). The idea is that

enduring hardship and remaining faithful through trials can result in a greater experience of God's glory.

4. **\*\*Worship and Praise\*\***: Engaging in worship and giving God praise is seen as giving Him glory. This is more than a verbal or external act; it's an expression of the heart that recognizes and honors God's divine nature and works.
5. **\*\*Spiritual Growth and Fruitfulness\*\***: As believers grow in spiritual maturity and produce the fruit of the Spirit, they reflect God's character to the world. In this way, they bring Him glory by living in a manner that is consistent with His nature.
6. **\*\*Good Works\*\***: Jesus teaches that by doing good works, believers can cause others to give glory to God (Matthew 5:16). This suggests that living out one's faith in tangible ways can direct attention to God and reflect His glory.
7. **\*\*Eschatological Hope\*\***: Christians also look forward to the return of Christ, when they believe God's glory will be fully revealed and they will share in it in a complete and eternal way.
8. **\*\*Union with Christ\*\***: Throughout the New Testament, there's an emphasis on the believer's union with Christ. It is through this spiritual union that... .. believers are said to share in Christ's inheritance, which includes glory.

In summary, obtaining God's glory is not about achieving a personal status but is about entering into a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ, being transformed by His Spirit, and living in a way that reflects His character and purposes. It is both a present reality and a future hope for believers.

## 6.) How do we obtain Gods Glory?

1. **\*\*Service to Others\*\***: Many people find comfort in God through acts of service. Helping those in need, offering support to the downtrodden, and volunteering in the community are seen as reflections of God's love and often provide a sense of spiritual fulfillment.
2. **\*\*Compassionate Speech\*\***: Speaking kindly, offering words of encouragement, and sharing messages of hope can be comforting both to the speaker and the listener. Such words can be seen as echoing the compassion and love that God has for all people.
3. **\*\*Prayer and Meditation\*\***: Engaging in prayer and meditation can be comforting, as it allows individuals to connect with God, express their concerns, and seek guidance and peace.
4. **\*\*Forgiveness\*\***: Offering forgiveness to those who have wronged them and seeking forgiveness for their own mistakes can be a powerful source of comfort, as it is often understood as embodying the grace that God extends to humans.

5. **\*\*Stewardship\*\***: Taking care of the environment and being responsible with resources can be seen as fulfilling a God-given role as stewards of creation, providing a sense of purpose and comfort.
6. **\*\*Teaching and Mentoring\*\***: Sharing knowledge and wisdom, mentoring the young, and guiding others on their spiritual journey can lead to a sense of participation in God's work, which can be deeply comforting.
7. **\*\*Artistic Expression\*\***: Creating music, art, or literature that uplifts others, expresses the beauty of creation, or explores spiritual themes can be a source of comfort and a means of connecting with God.
8. **\*\*Faithful Witness\*\***: Living out one's faith authentically and sharing one's spiritual journey with others can reinforce a sense of God's presence and action in one's life.
9. **\*\*Studying Scripture\*\***: Many find comfort in reading and studying religious texts, which they believe contain divine wisdom and guidance.
10. **\*\*Community Participation\*\***: Being part of a faith community and engaging in communal worship can bring comfort through a sense of belonging and shared belief.

These are just examples of how individuals might engage in good works and words that bring them comfort in their relationship with God. Each person's experience and expression of faith are unique.

---

*If you wish to comment on this Remote Submission by Bill Landman or to submit your own Bible Study: Notes, Research or essay just contact:*

Bernard “Pappy” Molek or Phil Cecchini at:  
**Skip’s Bible Study**





**Note:** Please “SUBSCRIBE” to our new online ROSTER Listing to continue to receive Bible Study notifications, Preview Outlines and Study Lessons as we will be moving away from individual text notifications soon.



*...phone-photo the QR code below with to visit:*

## **Skip's Bible Study**

*Website for more Bible Study Lessons like this one.*



*...or visit this url address @:*

[www.OneMoreFish.net/skip](http://www.OneMoreFish.net/skip)