
TAKING THE **WHOLE WORD** TO THE **WHOLE WORLD**

WHEN WE UNDERSTAND GOD'S WORD,
OUR MINDS AND HEARTS WILL BE
STABLE AND CENTERED ON HIM.

WE WON'T BE SHAKEN.

DR. J. VERNON MCGEE



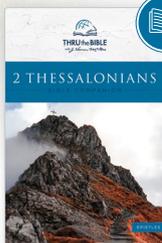


WHERE THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD

HOW DO WE LIVE NOW?



Dr. J. Vernon McGee
THRU the BIBLE Founder



This article is an excerpt from the **2 Thessalonians Bible Companion**. Download the full digital booklet [here](#).

How are we to live now that we know what's coming? When you see what the world will be like under Satan's control and the Antichrist's public leadership, it sobers your spirit, doesn't it? In light of these future events, Paul's second letter to the Thessalonians now tells us how we as believers should live, believing all that God's Word says will be coming next.

Paul gets very practical and gives us three different ways we demonstrate that we believe in the coming of Christ. It will impact our attitude toward the Word, our walk, and our work.



ESTABLISHED IN THE WORD

Paul sums up the news about things to come with a blessing over believers in Christ Jesus. *“Don’t forget,”* he says, *“that God loves you and gives you everlasting comfort and encouragement and well-founded hope in His salvation by grace. And remember His grace will keep your heart on course in every good work and word.”* How encouraging is that?! His blessing sums up the total spectrum of salvation. In other words, it describes your salvation all the way from the past, the present, and down into the future.

“God from the beginning chose you for salvation” (2 Thessalonians 2:13). (See Romans 8, and specifically verses 28-31.) That is exactly what Paul is writing here in 2 Thessalonians. This blessing looks back to the past. Yes, God chose us before we even got here. You don’t surprise God when you trust Christ. The other side of the coin is also true. “Whosoever will” may come to God (Revelation 22:17, KJV). The “whosoever wills” are the chosen ones, and the “whosoever won’ts” are the non-elect. Jesus said, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink” (John 7:37). That is a legitimate offer of salvation—a sincere, definite offer with no complications attached. If you don’t come, the reason is *not* because you’re not elected. The reason you don’t come is that you’re not thirsty; that is, you don’t think you need a Savior. If you are thirsty, then come to Christ.

God chose us in the past, but now our “sanctification by the Spirit” (2:13) looks to the present. You are sanctified both in position and in practice. When you accept Jesus Christ as your own Savior, you are *in Christ*—that is positional sanctification. Sanctification becomes practical when it describes your growing up in the faith—when your life changes to be more like Jesus’ life. This is growing in grace, and it happens as we study the Word of God and believe it and walk it out. We’ll continue doing this until we “obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus

Christ” (2:14) when He snatches us up to be with Him in the clouds. That looks forward to the future. What a glorious, wonderful view we have in front of us! (See 1 John 3:2 and Colossians 1:27.)

Read 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14 over again any time you need encouragement. They describe the full spectrum of salvation: We *have been saved*, we *are being saved*, we *will be saved*. It is all the work of God and the Word which enable the believer to stand and be stable.

His Word brings comfort and support to our hearts. It establishes us in every good word and work and will lead to the work of the Lord. Not only that, but when we understand God’s Word, we won’t be carried away by every wind of doctrine. Our minds and hearts will be stable and centered on Him. We need to stay in God’s Word and be established in the faith.

The Word of God leads you to do the work of God. If you really believe Christ is coming, you’ll be busy working for Him. You will give an account to Him someday of how you spent your life. If He is going to be here tomorrow, we want to be busy today. We shouldn’t have our noses pressed against the window looking for Him to come. Instead, we should be looking around doing the work of the Lord down here. That is the greatest proof that we believe He is coming.



The Word of God

LEADS YOU TO DO

the work of God.

DR. J. VERNON MCGEE

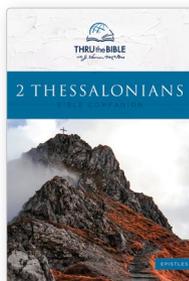
ESTABLISHED IN OUR WALK

As believers, we are responsible to “walk worthy of the calling with which you were called” (Ephesians 4:1). As Paul told Ephesian believers, now he says the same to Thessalonian believers (and also to New York believers and New Delhi believers and Moscow believers, etc.).

The Word of God helps us walk as “the called out ones” before a wicked world. The Word establishes a believer in his walk.

It is one thing to hold the truth of the coming of Christ, to love His appearing; but it is another thing to walk worthy of that great truth. If we really love His appearing, we will prove it by our relationship to the Word of God and by our walk through this life.

But we're not doing this in our own strength, Paul reminds us. *The Lord is faithful, and He will set you on a firm foundation and will protect and guard you from the evil one.* Christians should hold tenaciously to this truth in 2 Thessalonians 3:3. The Lord is faithful. He will establish you. How does He do it? By coming to the Word of God and letting it have its influence in your life. The Lord operates through His Word. The Word of God will keep you from evil.



For Dr. McGee's third point, *Established in our Work*, see the *2 Thessalonians Bible Companion*, lesson 3. **Download your free copy here.**

MY TURN

- ① **Why would Paul say that the things to come would be an encouragement for a believer, rather than causing fear?**
- ② **Sanctification, the process of growing to be more like Jesus, is accomplished in the life of a believer by the Holy Spirit. How can you cooperate today with His work in your life? Name one thing—and then go do it.**
- ③ **It's important for believers to understand the Word of God, but this can be a lot of work. What do you need to do to understand the Bible better?**
- ④ **In your own words, what does walking worthy of your calling look like in your life?**
- ⑤ **Imagine you had been one of the original recipients of the letter of 2 Thessalonians. What kind of impact would this message have on your life?**



FLINGING THE SEED



Gregg Harris
President, THRU the BIBLE

Every so often, I stop and take in the breadth and depth of the work being done through our efforts as partners in ministry. Every day of the year, people are being drawn closer to the written Word and the Living Word, the Lord Jesus Christ, through radio and TV broadcasts, TTB Home Groups, media players, dozens of TTB apps, WhatsApp groups and users, YouTube videos, YouVersion plans ... and many other digital platforms.

We are “flinging the seed” in more ways to more people than ever before! I don’t think Dr. McGee could have ever envisioned this kind of 24/7 access to his teaching.

And the responses continue to flow in! **While every word is precious, I never cease to be amazed at what God is doing in the Muslim world. Here are a couple of recent responses from our partnership with TWR’s Arabic digital ministry:**

“It’s been quite a while since I found the Thru the Bible program on the Facebook page. I’ve also been listening to your radio streaming. My name is Kamel, and I’m 27 years old. I work as a driver. I’m from a Muslim background, but I’ve come to believe in Jesus Christ through your program’s website.

*“I want to apologize because I faked my identity when I previously contacted you and asked questions. I was scared and uncertain. I kept listening to the Bible teaching on my cell phone while driving long distances delivering goods. **It’s strange how the words from [TTB’s voice in Arabic] touched my heart and my mind and started me questioning my inherited faith.***

*"I'm contacting you now with my details because I want to be with Christians since I am now a follower of Jesus. During the process of sending my questions from a fake account, you kept replying and answering every one of them. You never stopped sharing the truth of Jesus and His crucifixion and resurrection. **You shared that we are not alone when we accept Jesus and that the Holy Spirit resides in those who believe. When I heard that, I felt at peace knowing that I won't be alone in this world. I'm writing to confess my heart and to declare to you that I'm now a son of God. Thanking you is not enough. I would love to help you spread the good news in any way I can.**"*

In the past, many faithful missionaries labored in Muslim contexts and never saw a single person turn to Christ. How blessed are we to have a small part in such a great work of God!

Here is another thirsty Muslim soul, Mohammed from Egypt:

*"I've been listening regularly to your program and the words in the Holy Bible have had a personal impact, talking to both my mind and heart. The person who is speaking on the program does it well, giving good explanations. Don't be shocked that I am a Muslim contacting you and asking to become a Christian. **I am doing this because what I found in your Bible is much more soul quenching than what I know from the Quran. I want to learn more. I want my heart to be changed, and I want to live for Jesus Christ. Will you help me?"***

Our Lord clearly stated in Luke 19:10 that "the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost." We are now eternally connected to Kamel and Mohammed. We will know them as brothers in Christ forever and ever and ever and ever. Amen.

I want to thank each of you for helping make this another great year of ministering the whole Word to the whole world. Your investment in prayer and resources confirm God's provision and direction.

Speaking on behalf of the THRU the BIBLE team, we are grateful for you and honored to be serving alongside you in taking the whole Word to the whole world.



WorldPrayerToday
with THRU THE BIBLE



JUST PASSING THROUGH

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.
—Philippians 3:20-21

Many people think heaven is just a fairy tale, but the Bible tells us it's a real place. That's the good news Tendai, a listener in Zimbabwe, discovered. Here's his story:

"I am thankful for your programs. You have taught me how to read the Word of God, and I have learned that we all need to live in preparation for our death. We need to look to Jesus and live with eternity in mind. I didn't used to think this way. I only focused on each day at a time, without care or concern about the impact of my actions. I drank, I fought, I was mean. I have now accepted Him as my Savior and am living with a new purpose. Please pray for me."

What a great reminder that earth is not our real home. We really are just passing through (Hebrews 13:14). Today thank

God for Tendai and pray more people in Zimbabwe join us as citizens of high heaven! As we await the arrival of our Savior, Jesus Christ (who will transform our earthy bodies into glorious bodies like His own), ask Him to help us dedicate our lives to pursuing things that have eternal impact.

To Him be the glory for all we are able to do in His name.

This is an example of the email our World Prayer Team receives every weekday. Together, we travel the world on our knees, interceding for one country at a time. Join us in covering the entire earth with prayer every year.

**GO TO [TTB.ORG/PRAY](https://ttb.org/pray)
TO SIGN UP.**

WHY STUDY 1 THESSALONIANS?

Join in the studies on
THRU the BIBLE JUNE 3-20
or anytime online, by podcast,
or by mobile app.

When the new church gathering in Thessalonica around 50 A.D. read the letters Paul wrote them, they had only followed Jesus Christ as Savior for about a month. This first letter comforted them with solid teaching about Jesus' return.

“A lot of people today are curious about prophecy and want to argue about it. But 1 John 3:3 tells us that the hope of Jesus’ return should have a purifying effect in our lives. It doesn’t matter how enthusiastic and excited you get about the rapture of the church; how are you living? Does this hope get right down to where you are living, and change your life?”

—Dr. J. Vernon McGee

HE HAS CHOSEN YOU: For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. —1 Thessalonians 1:4 ESV

THE GREATEST SERMON YOU WILL EVER PREACH IS BY THE LIFE YOU LIVE.

1 THESSALONIANS AT A GLANCE

CHAPTER 1 You are loved and prayed for. Be comforted.

CHAPTER 2 Preach the gospel with your life. Use words if necessary.

CHAPTER 3 It’s obvious you are trusting God. Keep it up!

CHAPTER 4 Jesus is coming back; live like it!

CHAPTER 5 This is how a real Christian lives.

1 THESSALONIANS emphasizes us being caught up to meet the Lord in the air at the Rapture, when Jesus Christ takes His church out of the world.

KEY VERSE

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. —1 Thessalonians 4:16





Now Is the Time

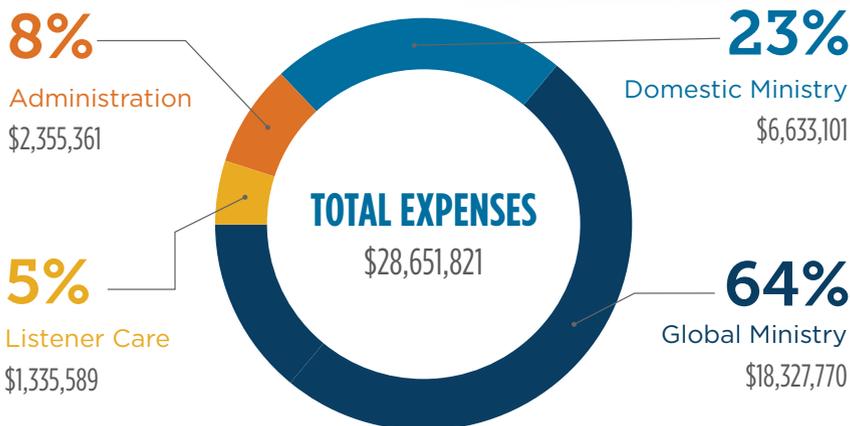
“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel...” (Mark 16:15) is the message for our age. This is the time for sowing the Word of God. My business and your business is just sowing the seed.” –Dr. J. Vernon McGee

We believe this with all our hearts, and we practice it every day, as this snapshot of 2023’s financial report demonstrates. Thank you for your partnership in our clear and continuing mission to take the whole Word to the whole world.

Grateful for your partnership in the gospel,

Gregg Harris
THRU the BIBLE, President

2023 ALLOCATIONS



WHY STUDY 2 THESSALONIANS?

Join in the studies on
THRU the BIBLE JUNE 21-28
or anytime online, by podcast,
or by mobile app.

Did Jesus already come back? Did we miss Him? That's what the Christians in Thessalonica were concerned about. Someone spread the rumor that Jesus had already gathered the church and they were living in the Great Tribulation. Paul wrote this letter to assure them that "our gathering together with Him" is yet future.

"Why did the Thessalonians need instruction about prophecy? Because they were suffering—persecuted for their new faith. They needed confidence in what God promised was to come. Don't we need the same today?" —Dr. J. Vernon McGee

KEY VERSE

... Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. —2 Thessalonians 2:1-2

JESUS IS COMING BACK. WHAT SHOULD WE DO IN THE MEANTIME?

- Don't let the world's hardships distract you from God's great future.
- As we wait for Jesus' return, let's stay busy getting His Word to the world.
- We're living in the "for sure, but not yet" (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).

2 THESSALONIANS AT A GLANCE

CHAPTER 1 God will judge rightly. Don't worry.

CHAPTER 2 The Lord hasn't come back yet. Stand firm.

CHAPTER 3 Get busy like He's coming back tomorrow.

SOMEDAY YOU WILL LIVE IN GOD'S PRESENCE— REMEMBERING THIS WILL GET YOU OVER THE ROUGH PATCHES IN LIFE.

2 THESSALONIANS focuses on the coming of Jesus Christ to the earth to establish His Kingdom.

I LOVE TO

TELL THE STORY



FROM  THE BIBLE BUS
IN LOS ANGELES, KKLA 99.5 FM

*“A friend of mine told me about Thru the Bible on KKLA and said I should listen. It airs at 6 a.m., so I had my alarm set to it. For many months, I woke to the sound of that old hymn and laid in bed, listening to Dr. McGee teach the Bible. **As time went on, I got up a bit before my alarm so to be ready with my Bible open. There have been times I listened on my knees because of the powerful work God was doing in my heart.**”* **From Robert | Garden Grove, CA**

*“My wife asked me a while ago why I love Thru the Bible so much. I think it’s because it’s about the Bible. When it’s all said and done, **it’s when I believe the Bible that God changes my heart. Nothing else does the job.... When we get our eyes off ourselves and back on Jesus, we heal up and grow up.** I know because it’s happening to me.”* **From Chuck | Anaheim, CA**

*“Most people swear at traffic and congested freeways and stalemates. I was reminded this week of how God uses traffic to slow me down and make me stop and listen. **I’ve been feeling the weight of the sin of this world. It made me think, What do people do without Jesus?** I was sitting on the 5, heading into L.A. thinking this when I turned on KKLA, my go-to station, and heard the host encourage us all to trust Jesus. It was the encouragement I needed. And that’s what Thru the Bible does every day, too. No matter what book we’re studying, you turn my attention to Jesus.... **Please keep telling the world about Jesus. He’s our only hope. Who knows who could be sitting next to me on the freeway, hearing about Jesus for the first time?**”* **From Stuart | Glendale, CA**



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