



Go for God!

“OUR LORD IS FAITHFUL!”

2 Thessalonians Chapter 3

> **Key #1 – OUR LORD IS FAITHFUL TO BLESS OUR PRAYERS! (v1-5)**

- **Let's observe the PRAYER request:**

(v1) **Pray for the Word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified!**

(v2) **Pray for deliverance from the wicked men**

(v3) **Pray for protection from the evil one!**

(v4-5) **Pray for obedience in the will of God, to grow in God's love and to be patient for the rapture of the church!**

~ **Insight into the WORD OF GOD from verse 1:**

- Someone once said, “**BIBLE** is: *Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth.*” (Soooo true!)

- **Paul wrote to Timothy the young Pastor and said, 2 Timothy 3:16-17 - All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine (to teach us what is right), for reproof (to teach us what is not right), for correction (to teach us how to get right), for instruction in righteousness (to teach us how to stay right), that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

- **Charles Spurgeon once said,** “The Bible does not need to be defended any more than a caged lion needs to be defended. All we need to do is let it out of its cage, and it will defend itself.”

- **The Word *Bible*** (Gr. *Biblia* is “books” from *biblos* - **written document**) refers to a number of books considered sacred and canonical among Christians.

- ***Holy Scripture*** is declared to be **infallible** in the sense of being unfailingly accurate.

- ***Holy Scripture*** is also declared to be **inerrant**, meaning that the Bible does not contain any error as statement of fact.

- ***Holy Scripture*** is **authoritative**, delivered from God!

- ***Holy Scripture*** is **all sufficient**, for every aspect of life and eternity!

- **Peter encourages us in 2 Peter 1:16-21 - For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. And so we have the **prophetic** word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a **light** that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy **Spirit**.**

- **Jesus confirmed the authenticity of the Old Testament when He said, "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to **fulfill**. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called **great** in the**

kingdom of heaven. For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. (Matt 5:17-20)

- In John 1:1 we are told, ***"In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God."*** In the New Testament especially, Jesus Christ is revealed as the Incarnate Word (the **personification** of the Word), the physical embodiment of what God is, and a revelation of the nature and being of God. In Christ are revealed all the attributes that belong to God, especially ***His wisdom, power, holiness, and love.*** Jesus Christ is the Word, the expression of what God is. Through Jesus Christ, men can come to know God in a more accurate and detailed way than in any other means of divine revelation.

> ***Take Peter's Prescription for spiritual maturity:***

- 1 Peter 1:23 - ***having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,***

- 2 Peter 3:18 - ***but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.***

> ***Embrace Paul's exhortations for an excellent Christian life:***

- Colossians 2:6-7 - ***As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.***

- Ephesians 4:14-15 - ***that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head – Christ.***

- 2 Timothy 2:15 - ***Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.***

Warren Wiersbe, the Bible commentator writes, "The Word of God: Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be right."

- ***Ten great promises for your life through the Word of God:***

#1 - **God's Word produces God's WILL** - Isaiah 55:11 - ***So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.***

#2 - **His Word brings FREEDOM** - John 8:31-32 - ***"If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."***

#3 - **The Word is our GUIDE** - Ps 119:105- ***Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.***

#4 - **The Word is our DAILY SUSTENANCE** - 1 Peter 2:2 - ***as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.***

#5 - **The Word CONVICTS OUR LIFE** - Hebrews 4:12 - ***For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart***

#6 - **The Word is our WEAPON** against the devil - Ephesians 6:17- ***the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God***

#7 - **His Word brings ANSWERS TO PRAYER** - John 15:7- ***If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.***

#8 - His Word SANCTIFIES us - John 17:17-18 - Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

#9 - The Word produces SALVATION - Acts 4:4- However, many of those who heard the word believed; and the number of the men came to be about five thousand.

#10 - His Word produces God's LOVE - 1 John 2:5 - But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him

- Also in Psalm 19:7-11-

*The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul;
The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;
The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;
The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;
The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold,
Yea, than much fine gold;
Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.
Moreover by them Your servant is warned,
And in keeping them there is **great reward.***

> KEY #2 - OUR LORD IS FAITHFUL TO BLESS OUR PRODUCTIVITY (v6-15)

(v6-7) Paul teaches how to deal with the disorderly in the church, withdraw from them, speak to them regarding their sin, but don't fellowship with them. Jesus addresses this in **Matthew 18:15-17.** (Warren Wiersbe writes, "The heart of every problem is the problem of the heart, and only God's Spirit and God's Word can change and control the heart.")

(v8-9) God uses WORKING people – Moses was caring for the sheep (Ex. 3); Joshua was Moses' servant before he became Moses' successor (Ex 33:11); Gideon was threshing wheat when God called him (Judges 6:11); David was caring for his father's sheep (1 Sam 16:11); our Lord called four fishermen to serve as His disciples; He Himself had worked as a carpenter; Paul was a tentmaker (Acts 18:1-3) and used his trade to support his ministry.

(v10-11) Verse 10 is talking about someone who doesn't want to work, not someone who has lost a job and is looking for work, or someone who is disabled, retired, etc.

- Let's gain some wisdom from Proverbs 6:6-11 - Go to the ant, you sluggard! Consider her ways and be wise, which, having no captain, overseer or ruler, provides her supplies in the summer, and gathers her food in the harvest. How long will you slumber, O sluggard? When will you rise from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep so shall your poverty come on you like a prowler, and your need like an armed man. (Helen Keller said- "I thank God for my handicaps, for, through them, I have found myself, my work, and my God.")

- What is a "busybody?" – A gossipy, meddling person; one who pries into the affairs of others. This type of behavior is not appropriate for Christians. Truly idle hands are the devil's workshop!

(v13) Hey Christians "Do not grow weary in doing good!" - Let's GO4GOD! The Greek word for "**WEARY**" is *egkakeo*; which is to be afraid, to become discouraged, to become tired, to despair, to lose heart, to tire of. The Greek word for "**GOOD**" looks Hawaiian, *kalopoieo*; which is **to do well, to live virtuously.**

(v14-15) Dealing with DISOBEDIENCE – Sometimes with deep sorrow and prayer we must dis-fellowship an individual because of unrepentant sin; they know what is right, they've been confronted several times in regards to the wrong, but they will not change. They are not our enemy, but we must admonish them and continue to pray for them.

> **Key #3 – OUR LORD IS FAITHFUL TO BLESS US WITH PEACE! (v16-18)**

(v16) “Now may the Lord of peace give you peace” - Insight: The word “PEACE” is found 250 times in the Bible – Our God is a God of PEACE.

- **Observe three PEACE TREATIES:**

(1) There is PERSONAL PEACE – Romans 5:1-3 - *Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*

(2) There is PEACE WITH OTHERS – James 3:18 - *Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.*

(3) There is DIVINE PEACE – John 16:33 - *These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."*

Philippians 4:6-7 - *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*