

2 THESSALONIANS CHAPTER 1

LESSON 5

LOVE FOR GOD: THE CHRISTIAN'S MOTIVATION FOR HOLY LIVING

28 February 2014

2 Thess. 1:11-12 A call to holy living; to live lives that God would consider worthy of His blessings; to fulfill God's pleasure with our lives; to live lives that will glorify the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The New Testament teaches salvation by grace in every book.

The New Testament teaches that you should seek every way possible to live above sin.

Advantages of living in this age:

1. The Holy Spirit of God dwells within you to lead and guide you to the truth.
 2. We have God's Holy Scriptures: purified and preserved (Psalm 12:6-7), complete (Rev. 22:18), alive (1 Pet. 1:23, Heb. 4:12, John 6:63), confirmed (Mark 16:20).
 3. We have freedom to practice our faith.
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Disadvantages of living in this age:

1. It's easy to disregard God's commandments because there are no penalties to fear.
 2. We can preach against sin, but we can't enforce what we preach. It's easy to ignore the preaching.
 3. There's nothing to fear today that would make you do right, even though you don't want to.
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It takes Love! The only reason you will ever live a life that God considers worthy, fulfills His good pleasure, and that glorifies Jesus Christ, is if you Love Him (John 14:15).

Romans 6:13-17 If you've got a heart for God, you won't serve sin any longer. Bible knowledge won't do it. People who sin know what the Bible says about it. They can sin because they've got no heart for God. Your actions reveal what kind of heart you have.

1 Cor. 8:12-13

Love for the brethren also compels us to do right. We have many liberties as Christians, but we ought to avoid any actions that might offend or stumble a brother in Christ, even though it is lawful to do it.

James 1:12-14

Temptation is not about the act of sin. It's about proving your love for God. It pleases God when you choose to be faithful to Him when there's a temptation to sin. It's about love (John 21:15-17).

2 Cor. 5:10-15

The love of Christ constraineth us (vs. 14). We don't do right because we're being forced to. We do right because we love Christ. We figure that since Christ died for us, we should no longer live for ourselves, but for Him (vs. 15).
