

STAND FIRM IN CHRIST

2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

I. SALVATION GUARANTEED (Verses 13,14)

God has chosen to save us from His wrath through faith in Christ, and guaranteed our future place in glory with Him by the seal of His Holy Spirit. (1 Th 5:19; Eph 1:13,14; Rom 8:18,29,30)

II. STAND FIRM (Verse 15)

We are called by God to not move from our position of faith in what we have been taught by His Word. (1 Cor 16:13; 2 Cor 1:24; Gal 5:1; Eph 6:10-18; Php 1:27; 4:1)

III. DIVINE COMFORT (Verses 16,17)

The knowledge of the truth, working in us by the power of the Holy Spirit, is a comfort and encouragement to us, particularly during troubling times. (Jn 14:26,27; 1 Th 4:18; 5:11; Rom 15:4,5; 2 Cor 1:3-7; 7:4)

21ST CENTURY APPLICATION

As Christians, it is not unusual for us to be shaken during troubling times. We may be persecuted because of our identification with Christ, or exposed to false teaching that may seem appealing in our immediate circumstances. We may even begin to doubt God's love for us, and wonder if we really have a secure future in Christ. During these times of spiritual attack, it is especially important for us to hold fast to what we have been taught by God's Word. No matter what the circumstances, we can be absolutely sure that God, in His love for us, has freely forgiven our sins in Jesus Christ, and that we have a secure and certain future as His children. When we cling to the truth tenaciously, we will experience inner peace, comfort and encouragement that only comes from the Spirit of Christ who indwells all who trust in Him. Let go of this world, and reach out to Christ!

"I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5b)