

## Knowing You Are Loved And Chosen In Christ

We remember before our God and Father your work (can be seen) produced by faith (produce by inner), your labor (outside) prompted by love(inside), and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thessalonians 1:3 NIV)

- Faith hope and love come from a born again life, a regenerated life
- A complete holistic Christian life

For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. (1 Thessalonians 1:4-6 NIV)

And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath. (1 Thessalonians 1:7-10 NIV)

### **Salvational doctrines**

1. Salvation by grace through faith (in Christ)
  - For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— (Ephesians 2:8 NIV)
  - No humanly traits in you that can give God a consideration to save you - all men are sinners and fallen short of glory of God (grace - undeserving)
  - Out of his grace, he has given you the faith to respond to (believe) Jesus Christ
  - There is no way u can come to believe him except through his divine intervention thst he made known to you, in his supremacy
  - **Grace( work of HS) enables you to believe, and to accept (supernatural work of God)**
  - If he gives you faith, he will take absolute responsibility to **preserve the faith**
2. **Salvation is persevering to the end**
  - Just when you r Backslided doesn't mean you will lose the salvation , if you have received him genuinely before
  - He will intervene in your life, HS prompts and rebuke you, cause you trials and misery and make you discontented --> persevering love of God so that you **turn to Him**
3. Salvation is the basis for good works
  - You are never saved by works nor performance
  - When real genuine faith enters you, you will want to be selfless, to go church, to obey him and your parents
  - **Transformed life coming to you will bring about the transformed works**
  - Don't judge yourself by good works

- **You, having believed, holiness enters you and you have no choice to be holy, if you have sinned, there will be guilt and struggle, the holiness of God will want to resist it.**

## Evidence of being loved and chosen

- Are you loved? Forever chosen? (Forgotten: faith is from God)
  - For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our **gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction**. You know how we lived among you for your sake. (1 Thessalonians 1:4, 5 NIV)
1. Power that comes from Holy Spirit, with deep conviction (full assurance)
    - Supernatural work of God (can only be done with the HS)
      - Gospel made known to you, you live like a child of God, full of assurance
      - Living and thinking like **a child of God**
      - Even in your weakness, you come to God as a child
      - ***It just happened! Supernatural work of God coming upon one, compelling him to proclaim Christ is the one.***
  2. **Severe** suffering -> joy
    - You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. (1 Thessalonians 1:6 NIV)
    - When suffering comes, you not only give up, but count yourself as worthy of the suffering, and dwell in God's presence
    - Suffering (trying moments, inconvenience) = **litmus test that you truly believe**
    - Even when face with trials, what enables you to have joy? And willingness to suffer? Why are you reacting like this? ***It is the Holy Spirit in you!***
      - **\* confirm**
      - ***Look at what is happening inside you? Who has transformed you?***
      - ***Losing for the sake of gospel?*** (Eg not getting the promotion, good results etc)
      - Then when you confirm, you can be more assured that **you faith is genuine**
  3. **Consistent good works and endurance in Christ**
    - **HS is constant and consistent --> not a one moment charge up**
    - Consistency is the best evidence that you are born again
    - Yes one will still sin. But he will take no pleasure in sin, feels rebuked in the spirit. Emptiness will come (**works of HS**)
  4. Discipline
    - Why God doesn't give us what we want?
    - Bible says - God disciplines all He loves (allow hardships, failure, events that hurt your heart)
    - Prompt you to pray - demolish self and rebuild
    - You find assurance in his love
    - Maturity in Christ
  5. Not a knowledge, but a strength
    - Knowing you are loved, will give you strength to love unconditionally and with humility. **For he who is loved, love**
      - **Knowing you are greatly loved in Christ**

- Strength to pursue holiness and good works in Christ
  - for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose. (Philippians 2:13 NIV)
  - **God driven**
- **Strength to evangelize and testify**
  - Write
  - Spread
  - Are you convicted
- Grace and love are not works but **a living spirit**