

1 & 2 THESSALONIANS

I N ★ T H E
T W I N K L I N G
O F A N
E Y E

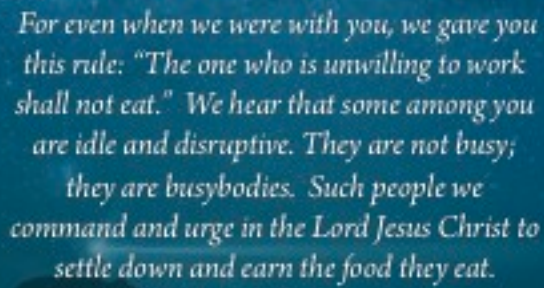
INVEST IN THE THINGS
THAT MATTER IN LIGHT
OF HIS COMING

PART 17:
IN THE MEANTIME

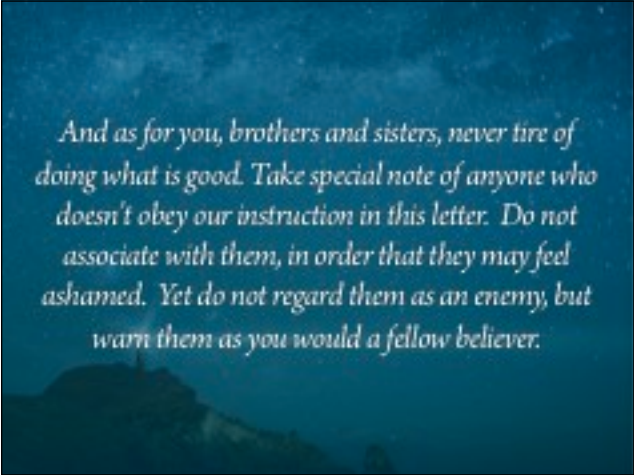
II THESSALONIANS 3:6-18

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, to keep away from every believer who is idle and disruptive and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it.

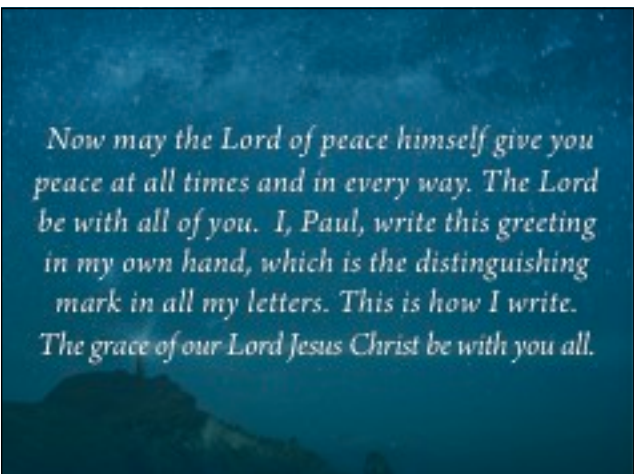
On the contrary, we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you to imitate.



For even when we were with you, we gave you this riddle: "The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat." We hear that some among you are idle and disruptive. They are not busy; they are busybodies. Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the food they eat.



And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good. Take special note of anyone who doesn't obey our instruction in this letter. Do not associate with them, in order that they may feel ashamed. Yet do not regard them as an enemy, but warn them as you would a fellow believer.



Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you. I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand, which is the distinguishing mark in all my letters. This is how I write. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

JESUS IS
COMING...

BUT

IN THE
MEANTIME...

IN THE **MEANTIME...**

There's the
Christian life to be lived

There's the
Gospel to be proclaimed

There's a
Kingdom to be expanded

1

IMMATURITY

is the number one hindrance
to God's kingdom thriving
in my life.

God's tool for *my* maturity:

**THE ADMINISTRATION
OF CHURCH DISCIPLINE**

"Put to shame any believer who refuses to obey what we've written here by isolating them. But don't consider them your enemies; speak kindly to them as you would a fellow follower." 2 Thess 3:14-15

2

TEACHING

that encourages me to disobey another Biblical teaching is heretical, and thus destructive.

**SCRIPTURE NEVER
DISAGREES WITH ITSELF!**



Something that is culturally popular
does not make it **God pleasing!**

**SCRIPTURE ALONE MUST INFORM
MY BELIEFS AND GUIDE
MY PRACTICES.**



God's tool for *my* maturity:

**THE AUTHORITY OF
GOD'S WORD.**

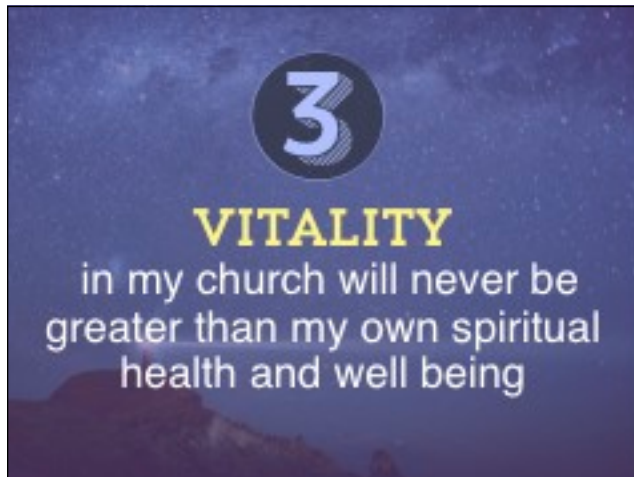
*"Keep away from every believer who is idle and disruptive
and does not live according to the teaching you
received from us." 2 Thess 3:6*



3

VITALITY

in my church will never be
greater than my own spiritual
health and well being



"We were not idle when we were with you, we didn't eat what we didn't pay for, we worked tirelessly so that instead of being a burden, we'd set a standard."

2 Thess 3:7-9

**IF EVERYBODY DID
AS I DO...
HOW HEALTHY WOULD
MY CHURCH BE?**

God's tool for *my* maturity:

**THE ACCEPTANCE OF
PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY**

"For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example."

2 Thess 3:7



IMAGINE

the kind of church we could be if each of us would accept **personal responsibility** for the kind of church we want to have.



IN THE **MEANTIME...** WE CAN EXPECT

God's uninterrupted **peace**

*"May the Lord of peace himself give you **peace** at all times and in every way."*

II THESS 3:16



IN THE **MEANTIME...** WE CAN EXPECT

God's unbreakable **presence**

"The Lord be with all of you."

II THESS 3:16

IN THE **MEANTIME...**
WE CAN EXPECT

God's unconditional **grace**

*"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
be with you all."*

II THESS 3:18

JESUS IS
COMING...

SO

IN THE
MEANTIME...

IN ★ THE
TWINKLING
OF AN
EYE

INVEST IN THE THINGS
THAT MATTER IN LIGHT
OF HIS COMING