

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan**II THESSALONIANS 3*****II Thessalonians 3***

Paul ends his statements concerning the rise of the antichrist and the initiation of the **Day of the LORD** by giving a word of encouragement. The Lord Jesus will appear at the end of the Great Tribulation and destroy the antichrist. He will set up His Kingdom and restore the Kingdom to Israel, just as He promised to His beloved King David. He gives a final admonition to close this section and a prayer for his beloved.

*"But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, brethren, **stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught**, whether by word or our epistle. **Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work** (II Thessalonians 2:13-17)*

Paul begins chapter three hopeful for the members of the Body of Christ in Thessalonica. He asked them to pray for the Word of God to **be spread swiftly**, Greek,

τρέχω, trechó, pronounced (*trekh'-o*), which means **to run** or **make a trek**. Paul wants the same response that these believers in Thessalonica had to be repeated with even more effectiveness. He then asks God to *establish them, enable them* to take deep root, and that God would *guard them*, that is, *set up a garrison around them to protect them from evil and the evil one*.

After requesting prayer for himself and his fellow servants and asking God for his enablement and protection for the disciples, he begins a series of warnings and instructions to finish the letter. Paul warned of those who had taken the wrong track and had the possibility of leading others astray. He told the leadership to warn those who were lazy, not working and becoming wards of the church and mooching off the rest of the fellow believers who were working hard and supporting others. He finally gave this instruction, **"For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat."** (v.10) They were to warn those who failed to obey Paul's admonition but not to treat them as a lost person, but rather as a brother, seeking to win them back to proper believing and living.

ON THE WAY

Prayer and Action Steps

Father, thank You for providing hope for the future and great assurance for today. Thank You for teaching me Your truth. Please help me to have discernment and to live my life in obedience to Your plan for my life and so much more as the end of days in this age approach. Amen