

**Series "Encouraging the Authentic Christian"**  
**"Standing Firm"**  
**2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5**  
**Part-3**

- 1. Verses 13-14 – Believe The Truth**
- 2. Verse 15 – Guard The Truth**
- 3. Verses 16-17 – Practice The Truth**
- 4. Verses 1-5 – Share The Truth**

**1. Verses 13-14 – Believe The Truth:**

2 Thess. 2:10-11

(1 Thess. 1:2; 2:13; 3:9; 2 Thess. 1:3; 2:13)

"The Doctrine of Divine Election" It simply means that God chooses us to salvation.

John 15:16

The Bible does not teach "Double Election". No place in the Bible does it say that God chooses some for heaven and some for hell.

Calvinism - founded by John Calvin 1509-1564 who was French and a Catholic who turned reformer. His teaching is referred to as "Calvinism", or "Reformed Theology." His followers, not Calvin himself, came up with 5 points of teaching that they say were his logical conclusions.

They also go by the name of "Tulip" taking the first letter of the 5 points:

T- Total Depravity  
U- Unconditional election  
L- Limited atonement  
I- Irresistible grace  
P- Perseverance of the saints.

- Ignore or even oppose evangelism.
- Calvinism leads to division.
- They speak frequently about love and grace but display very little.

Arminianism - founded by Jacobus (James) Arminius. A Dutch Theologian 1560-1609. Taught that man is not guilty for Adam's sin, only guilty when he chooses to sin. Charismatic Churches hold to this.

- This can produce a Christian that is always unsure.
- Some convince themselves that they are in a state of sinless perfection.
- Living by feelings.

The problem arises when it seems that what God has revealed contradicts something else revealed by God. How can man be absolutely free and God absolutely sovereign? How can salvation be all God's work but yet require the cooperation of man?

D.L Moody said, "The whosoever wills are the elect, and the whosoever won't are the non-elect"

Penalty of sin - Pardoned of all past sins.

Power of sin - Power to live a holy life.

Presence of sin - glorification in the future.

Through sanctification – "to set apart for a special purpose, to be holy"

John 16:8 convict – "It is a legal word that means "to bring to light, to expose, to refute, to convict and convince." It could be translated "pronounce the verdict."

Romans 10:17

1 John 3:1-3

## **2. Verse 15 – Guard The Truth:**

- Don't Move From The Truth: stand firm
- Don't Let Go of the Truth: and hold to

The "traditions" means literally "Giving up or giving over; that which is handed down from one person to another."

Deut. 6:4-9

### **3. Verses 16-17 – Practice The Truth:**

Hope is a “sure expectation of a future event.”

Notice how practical a relationship with God is. What we say and what we do!

### **4. Verses 1-5 – Share The Truth:**

- Pray for Proclamation: pray for us that the word of the Lord may spread rapidly and be glorified, just as it did also with you;
- Pray for Protection: and that we may be delivered from perverse “Unreasonable, harmful”

2 Tim 2:13

Rev. 19:11

“And into the steadfastness of Christ”. The description of a man who is not swerved from his deliberate purpose and his loyalty to faith and piety by even the greatest trials and sufferings

### **Application:**

1. Believe The Truth: It is the Holy Spirit that has drawn us and brought us to the truth, He will also lead us to glory.
2. Guard The Truth: Hold to the truth and not wavier, guard the truth.
3. Practice The Truth: Word and Work go together.
4. Share The Truth: The God who made salvation has also made the means to salvation, the gospel.