

II Thessalonians

(7) Living, Until He Returns

2 Thess 3:6-15

6 In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers, to keep away from every brother who is idle and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. 7 For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, 8 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. 9 We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to make ourselves a model for you to follow. 10 For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat."

11 We hear that some among you are idle. They are not busy; they are busybodies. 12 Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the bread they eat. 13 And as for you, brothers, never tire of doing what is right.

14 If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of him. Do not associate with him, in order that he may feel ashamed. 15 Yet do not regard him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother. NIV

Paul's 'living' example...3:6-11

What was obviously happening with some of the Thessalonians? 3:11-13, 6-7

What were some possible reasons for this behavior? 3:11; Acts 17:16-21; Titus 1:10-14

In Christian circles, what's sometimes the attitude toward 'menial' work? ICor.10:31; Eph.4:6-8

What does the Scripture teach about working? Exodus 20:9; ICor.10:31; Eph.6:5-7

What was Paul's example (of how to work hard)? 3:7-8; Acts 20:34; ICor.4:12; IICor.11:9

What is Paul's clear commentary re his motive in this? 3:9; Mt.10:10; ICor.9:9-14; Gal.6:6

And from this example, what is his instruction? 3:10; Gen.3:19; Prov.24:30-34; IThess.4:11

And why was he issuing this set of instructions? 3:11-13; ITim.5:13; Eph.4:28, 6:5-7

In closing...3:14-18

What action is to be taken regarding those who refuse to obey Paul's instructions? 3:14; 3:6

But, guard **your** attitude! What should be your attitude (and prayer)? 3:15; Gal.6:1; IThess.5:14

To confirm the authenticity of his letter, what's his confirmation? 3:17, 2:2; Gal.4:15; Col.4:18

And what are his closing words to this young church? 3:16, 18; Phil.4:7-9; Rom.16:20-24

AMEN...

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Paul's 'living' example...3:6-11

What was obviously happening with some of the Thessalonians? 3:11-13, 6-7

They were 'idle' and not working. Probably living off the hard work of others.

What were some possible reasons for this behavior? 3:11; Acts 17:16-21; Titus 1:10-14

Perhaps cultural (look down on work), perhaps just lazy, perhaps 'waiting' for the Lord!

In Christian circles, what's sometimes the attitude toward 'menial' work? ICor.10:31; Eph.4:6-8

It's just not as important as real 'spiritual work'. The Church often even promotes this!

What does the Scripture teach about working? Exodus 20:9; ICor.10:31; Eph.6:5-7

All work can be honorable and fit. Do it as unto the Lord and always with excellence!

What was Paul's example (of how to work hard)? 3:7-8; Acts 20:34; ICor.4:12; IICor.11:9

He was the example! He worked hard night and day so as not to burden any of them.

What is Paul's clear commentary re his motive in this? 3:9; Mt.10:10; ICor.9:9-14; Gal.6:6

As an Apostle, pastor of their church, he had a 'right' to 'not work'. Rather be example!

And from this example, what is his instruction? 3:10; Gen.3:19; Prov.24:30-34; IThess.4:11

He repeats it: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat." Certainly addresses some issues!

And why was he issuing this set of instructions? 3:11-13; ITim.5:13; Eph.4:28, 6:5-7

He heard that some were busybodies. We command / urge, in Christ, settle down / work!

In closing...3:14-18

What action is to be taken regarding those who refuse to obey Paul's instructions? 3:14; 3:6

Take special note of him. Don't associate w/him, in order that he may feel ashamed...

But, guard *your* attitude! What should be your attitude (and prayer)? 3:15; Gal.6:1; IThess.5:14

Don't regard him as an enemy! But warn him as a brother. Often very difficult.

To confirm the authenticity of his letter, what's his confirmation? 3:17, 2:2; Gal.4:15; Col.4:18

I, Paul, personally write this greeting, the distinguishing mark in all my letters. It's me!

And what are his closing words to this young church? 3:16, 18; Phil.4:7-9; Rom.16:20-24

May the Lord of peace give you peace! The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you all!!

AMEN...