

2 Thessalonians 3.6-13 Topic - WORK

IMPORTANCE of Topic - seen in length of treatment - 2nd to 2nd coming

1 Thess 4.11 “mind your own business, work with your hands”

1 Thess 5.14 “warn those who are idle” / PROBLEM CONTINUING

SOME WAITED FOR 2nd COMING -QUIT JOBS - LIVED OFF CHURCH

“idle time is the devil’s workshop”

UNSOLVED PROBLEMS GROW WORSE - small cavity in tooth - DEATH

BEGINS word of Confidence - vs. 4,5 / TRUE BELIEVERS WILL GROW Philip 1.6 - God will complete the work in them

v. 6 TONE - Military Commander - Soldiers are NOT DISCIPLINED

BASIS OF AUTHORITY - Name of the Lord Jesus Christ - HIGHEST

“brothers” - WARM AFFECTION - not a cold tyrant or dictator

BROTHERHOOD - we are responsible for one another / TAKE CARE

IDLENESS contradicts TRADITION - Example & Teaching HARD WORK - they clearly knew that what they were doing was wrong

KEEP AWAY - Danger of spoiling REPUTATION of Self, Church, Gospel Dangers 1) lack of love - ALL MEN DESERVE OUR LOVE

2) pride - You can be puffed up / “be careful else you’ll fall”

3) legalism - God must love me more because I am good

NOTHING YOU CAN DO TO MAKE GOD LOVE YOU MORE

NOTHING YOU CAN DO TO MAKE GOD LOVE YOU LESS

v. 7 - PAUL’S EXAMPLE - only basis for teaching in truth / “follow me”

EXACT MEANING - Failure to earn one’s living

REASON 1) Did not want to be a Burden

2) Show them a Model - what model for church in KZ? \$\$\$\$

Ex. 2 Pastors whose support ended stopped their ministry NEXT SUNDAY

v. 8 - PRINCIPLE - Do Not Force others to do what you should be doing

NOT MEAN - Never get a free meal / Ex. Saturday at Abdibek's house

HIS WORK WAS HARD - night & day, laboring & toiling

RESULT - Paul was not a burden to anyone - He was a BLESSING

v. 9 - PAUL HAD THE RIGHT TO BE PAID BY THEM

PRINCIPLE - Gal 6.6 student of Word must give to his teacher

WE COULD CHARGE YOU TO BE STUDENTS HERE IN SEMINARY
pleasure to operate in the spirit of grace and mercy - BUT WORK
HARDER

IF LEADER CANNOT POINT TO OWN EXAMPLE - no power in
ministry

EXAMPLE - 1) Encourage believers 2) Silence the Accusers - Paul only \$\$

v. 10 - Paul gave them EXAMPLE and RULE - "no work / no eat"

Jewish proverb / Ancient wisdom / Paul's idea / DIVINE REVELATION
"gave you this rule" - REPEATED THIS IDEA SEVERAL TIMES

Jews "If you don't teach your son to work, you're teaching him to be a
thief"

Matter of the WILL - NOT THE ABILITY - / not "cannot work"
AS FAR AS YOU CAN CONTROL YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES

IF SOMEONE CANNOT WORK - church should help them

v. 11 Paul was responding to a SPECIFIC SITUATION - “we keep hearing”

NOT WORKING - BUT WORKING to cause trouble for others

v. 12 BALANCE - “command” & “urge” / SOFTENS THE BLOW

1) “settle down” - busy with wrong things / 2) “earn bread” - work

EVERYONE HAS EQUAL TIME IN THEIR DAY - how will use?
no neutral use of time - EITHER GOOD OR BAD - Honor or Grieve God

v. 13 - FOCUS shifts from Lazy People to WHOLE CHURCH

SET GOOD EXAMPLE - DO NOT QUARREL - ALL ARE ONE
Lesson of Cain - You are your brother’s keeper

LET YOUR LIFE BE IN CONTRAST WITH THESE IDLE ONES

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES ABOUT WORK

1) CREATION GIFT - Gen 1.28 “rule” / 2.15 “keep the garden”

sweat and pain in work is Curse / WORK IS BLESSING, NOT CURSE

2) God CALLS people in Work -

Moses with sheep / Joshua was Moses ass’t / Gideon threshing wheat
David caring for father’s sheep / Paul tentmaker / Jesus carpenter - 30

FAITHFUL IN SMALL THINGS / GIVEN MORE RESPONSIBILITY

3) BIBLICAL PRINCIPLE - critiques cultural practices / KZ relatives
YOU WORK FOR YOURSELF // NOT SACRIFICE YOUR FAMILY

4) DO NOT BE IDLE - keep yourself busy / have structured schedule

Acts of Devotion / Works of Mercy / Service to Church & Society

Pastor Fyodor in Jhetsai - garden, animals, canning, music, traing kids

5) CREATIVE OBEDIENCE

some employers give finances in smaller amounts / so relatives don't take

SIT IN FRONT OF BAG OF SUNFLOWER SEEDS ALL DAY?

NEED FOR WISE BUSINESS PRINCIPLES - Lk 16.8 "world is shrewd"

NEED FOR FAITHFULNESS IN SMALL THINGS / will be more trusted

6) REALIZE GOD IS THE PROVIDER - James 1.17 "all gifts from God"

WORST SIN - "ungratefulness" / LIFE OF FAITH - look to God not man