

## Stand Firm | 2 Thessalonians 2:13-15

But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter.

### The Assurance of God

#### 1. Loved by God

### The Character of God

#### 1. Chosen by God in eternity past

- a. "...even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him..." (Ephesians 1:4)

#### 2. Sanctified by God in truth

- a. "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come." (John 14:13)

#### 3. Loved by God for glory

- a. "He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." (Colossians 1:13-14)

### Our Response

#### 1. Stand Firm

#### 2. Hold to the Tradition

- a. "And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us..." (Acts 17:26-27)

## Benediction | 1 Peter 2:9-10

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.