

Embrace
Holy
Living

RE- FLECTING GOD

05/26/17 - Stand Firm

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2 Thessalonians 2:9-17

Parents remember clearly the first unstable steps of a young child and the anticipation of watching the child grow more and more steady on their feet. Paul, as a spiritual parent, was concerned for the believers in Thessalonica. He wrote to them so that he could provide counsel and direction. They were besieged by outside persecution and confused from within by false ideas concerning the day of the Lord.

The church of today can so easily be tempted to chase after the latest teaching or controversy simply because it is new. Our tendency is to focus on the temporal "here and now" rather than the eternal hope of heaven. Paul exhorted believers to stand firm on the foundation of Christ, to become recipients of the good news, and to "share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Thessalonians 2:14).

There is nothing wrong with new expressions of faith and how we "do church" as long as we remember to "stand firm and hold fast to the teachings" that ground us firmly in Jesus Christ (2 Thessalonians 2:15).

Author: Paul Martinez