

2 Thessalonians 3 Church Discipline

2 Thess 3:1 *Finally,
brethren..*

Paul uses “Finally” at the conclusion of several of his letters. (2 Cor 13:11; Eph 6:10; Phil 4:8; 1 Thes 4:1) and here.

2 Thess 3:1 *Pray for us*

*Paul asks believers to pray for him.
What are your prayers for the
preachers and elders?*

2 Thess 3:1 That the word of the Lord *may spread rapidly* and be glorified, just as it did with you.

1 Thess 1:8 “The word of the Lord has sounded forth from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, *but also in every place your faith toward God has gone forth.”*



2 Thess 3:2 “And pray.. that we may be delivered from perverse and evil men.”

“Perverse”
Dangerous.
Harmful. Louw

Acts 17:5 , [In Thessalonica]
“Jews becoming jealous and taking along some wicked men from the market place, formed a mob and set the city in an uproar.”

**Acts 18:12
[In Corinth]**
“The Jews with one accord rose up against Paul and brought him before the judgment seat.”

2 Thess 3:3 “But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.”

1 Cor 10:13 “No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; & *God is faithful*, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able.”

Jude 24 “Now *to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling*, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy.”

Ps 121:7 “*The Lord will protect you from all evil*; He will keep your soul. 8 The Lord will guard your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forever.”



FAITH

*Knowing God will
keep you from
the wolves.*

2 Thessalonians 3 Church Discipline

*2 Thess 3:4 And we **have confidence** in the Lord concerning you,
that you are doing and will continue to do what we command.*

*2 Cor 7:16 I rejoice that
in everything I have
confidence
in you.*

*Phil 1:6 I **am confident** of this very thing,
that He who began a good work in you will
perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.*

*Philem 21-22 **Having confidence** in your
obedience, I write to you, since I know that
you will do even more than what I say.*

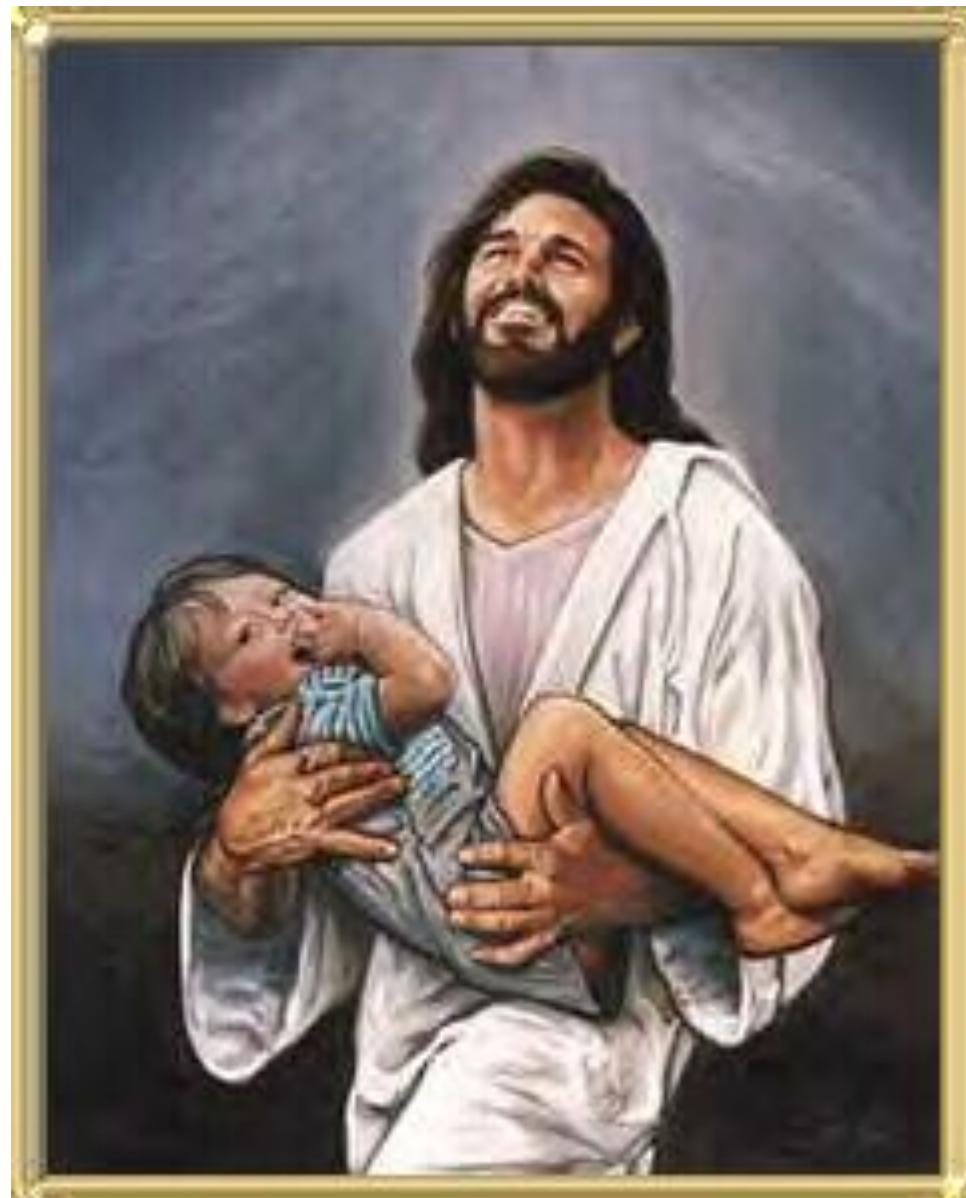
2 Thessalonians 3 Church Discipline

2 Thess 3:5a “And may the Lord direct your hearts into the *love of God*...”

A continued and growing **LOVE for God** (Rom 8:28)

2 Thess 3:5b [And may the Lord direct your hearts] .. “into the *steadfastness* [shown by] Christ.”

Be STEADFAST
Unmovable, always
abounding in the work
of the Lord. (1 Cor 15:58)



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Discipline Guidelines

Mat 18

v.15 Go privately first. (if it's private)

v.16 Return with 1-2 witnesses

v.17 Tell issue to the church

v.18 If unrepentant– '**Reject** him'

Titus 3:10 **Reject** a Factious Man
after a first & second warning.

Three Strikes – You're Out!

1. If he were **dividing** the group, must be warned & he must repent.
2. If found **dividing** the group a 2nd time, might be warned 2nd time.
3. Then if **dividing** the group a 3rd time— he is to be removed for good.

2 Thess 3:6 Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep aloof from every brother who leads an unruly life and not according to the tradition which you received from us.

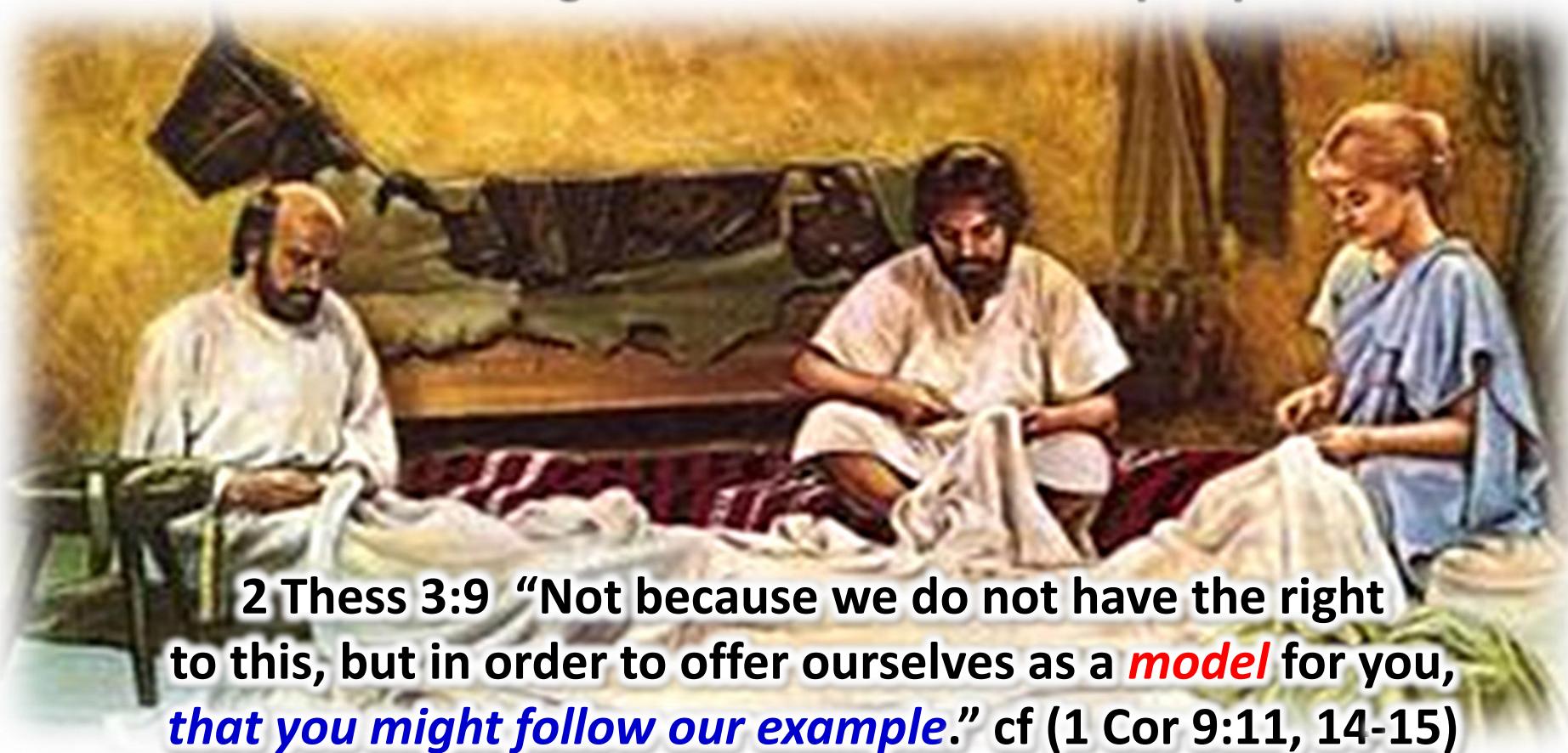
2 Thess 3:10 Even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone will not work, neither let him eat.



¹¹ “For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing NO work at all, but acting like busybodies. ¹² Now such persons We Command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread.”

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2 Thess 3:7 “For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example, because we did not act in an undisciplined manner among you, **8** nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but ***with labor and hardship we kept working night and day*** so that we might not be a burden to any of you.”



2 Thess 3:9 “Not because we do not have the right to this, but in order to offer ourselves as a ***model*** for you, ***that you might follow our example.***” cf (1 Cor 9:11, 14-15)

*2 Thes 3:13 But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary of doing good.
(Compare Gal 6:10)*



*Our faithfulness is NOT
measured by plants
harvested but by
seeds sown !*

2 Thess 3:14 “And if anyone does **not obey our instruction
in this letter, take [special] note of that man and ...”**

v. 14b “And **do not
associate with him,
so that he may be
put to shame.”**

1 Cor 5:9 Not Associate

1 Cor 5:11 Not Eat With

Rom 16:17 Turn Away

How can you Admonish one
already withdrawn from?

Does this say write
him a **LETTER** ?

**2 Thess 3:15 And yet do not
regard him as an enemy, but
admonish him as a brother.**

2 Thess 3:16 Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance. The Lord be with you all !

A scenic landscape featuring a calm lake in the foreground, a dense forest of green coniferous trees along the shore, and a range of majestic mountains in the background under a blue sky with scattered white clouds.

Matt 28:20 “*I am with you always, even to the end of the age.*”

Let us have peace.

*Have I not
commanded you
Be strong and
courageous.
Do not be
afraid; do not
be discouraged,
for the Lord your
God will be with
you wherever you go.*

JOSHUA 1:9



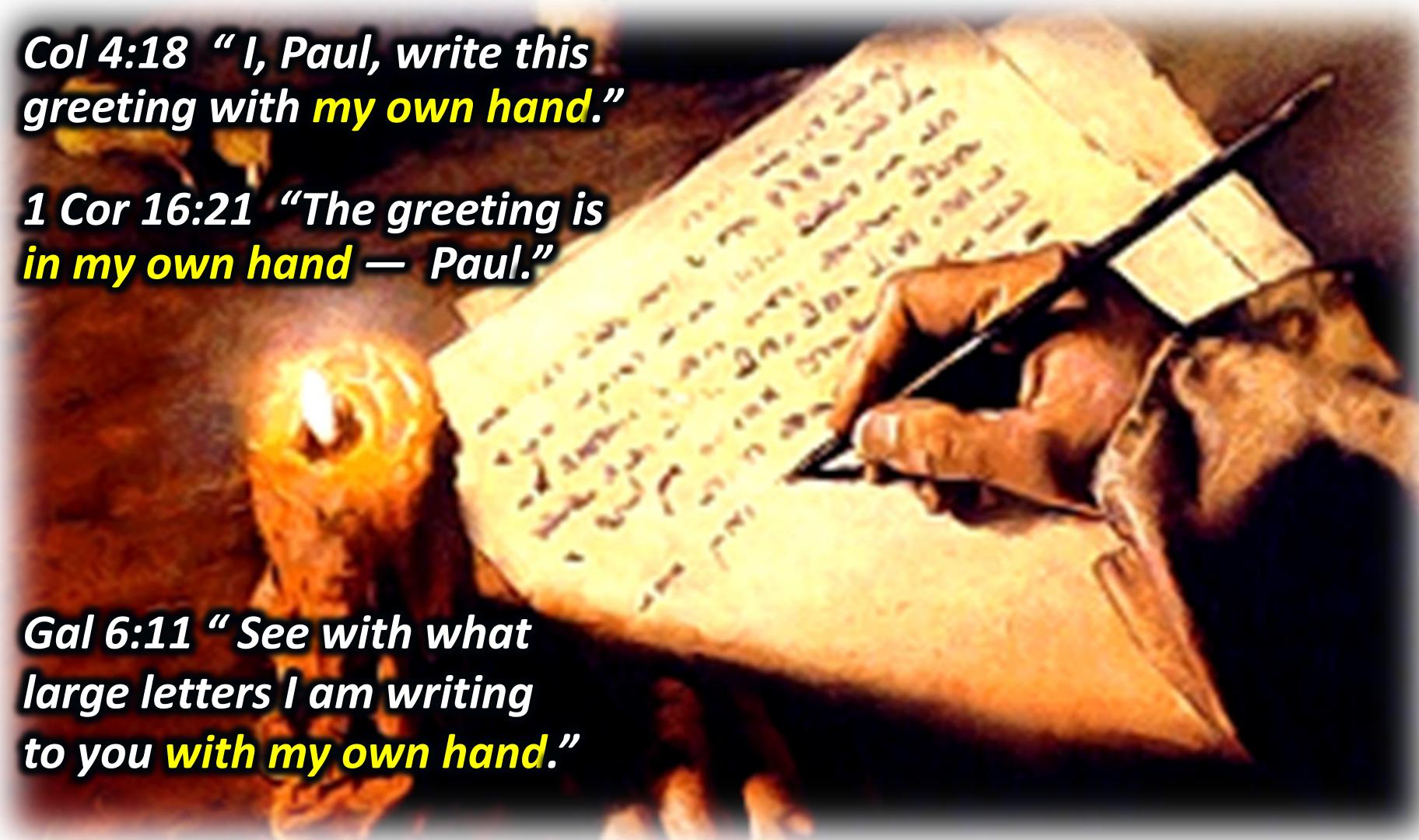
2 Thessalonians 3 Church Discipline

2 Thess 3:17 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand, and this is a distinguishing mark in every letter; this is the way I write.

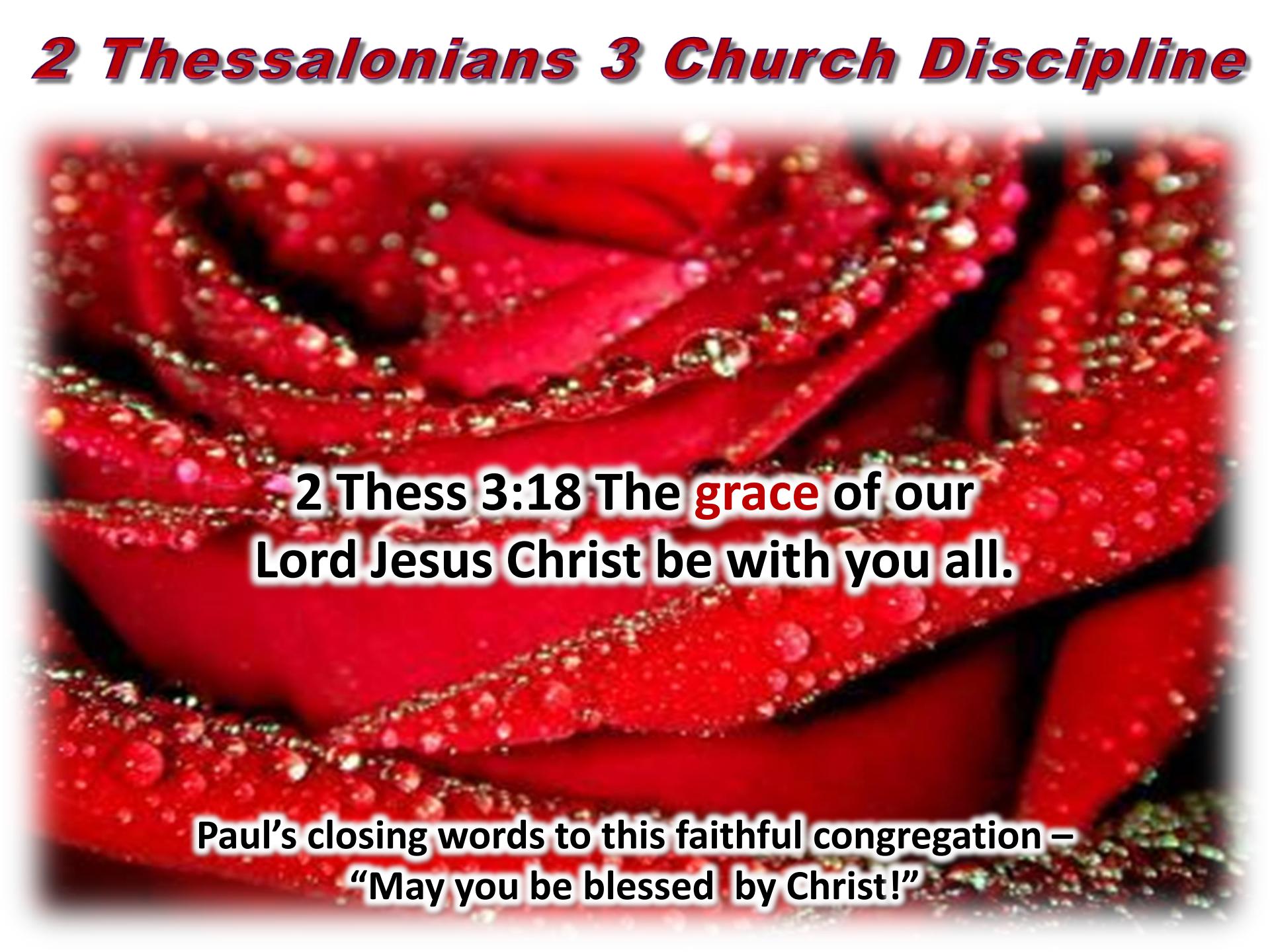
Col 4:18 “I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand.”

1 Cor 16:21 “The greeting is in my own hand — Paul.”

Gal 6:11 “See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand.”



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**2 Thess 3:18 The *grace* of our
Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.**

**Paul's closing words to this faithful congregation –
“May you be blessed by Christ!”**