

## STAND AND HOLD ON

1. Text: II Thessalonians 2:13-17
2. Verse 15 is the center of this section of Scripture, and it is practical or an exhortation to do. But it is sandwiched between two passages about what the Lord has done in saving us and will do in the future.
3. Let's tie them together.

### I. The Standing

1. Verse 15 is in the middle of the section.
2. "Stand fast." A place to stand. Not waver
3. "Hold on." These two together sound like a storm where you'd use hands and feet to keep your position.
4. Ephesians 4:14 We can be "tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine."
5. Traditions? Literally. "Something handed over." Can be used in bad way. (Matthew 15:6) But here of good, inspired, authoritative teaching. It's always good to ask what one means by traditions.
6. "By word or letter." Here's great help in showing us how revelation was given. In three steps: Orally, then orally and written, and then finally written (what we have today).

### II. The Salvation

1. See verses 13-14.
2. "God chose you." Nothing mysterious. Addressed to a congregation of the Lord's people. God chose in His plan to save those who obey the gospel. (See 2:14)
3. "Through sanctification of the spirit." How does He do it? John 17:17 Sanctified through the truth or word. John 16:13 When Spirit of truth comes He will guide you into all truth.
4. "Through belief in the truth." We must believe the truth to be saved. It will not be forced on us.
5. "Called by gospel." The instrument of God's calling.
6. To obtain or share in Christ's glory.

### III. The Support

1. See verses 16-17.
2. He saved us and continues to bless us.
3. Motivation: Love. Result: gave. See John 3:16.
4. "Eternal encouragement," and "good hope" like eternal life: now and beyond. Good in sense of better than false hopes of this life.
5. "Establish you." To fix firmly, establish, secure. We are not left alone, never.

Conclusion:

A Sermon preached by Monte Ginnings  
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