

**“Peace in every circumstance”**

**2 Thessalonians 3**

**May 18, 2025**

Hartford Bible Church

Dan Hummel 2024-2025 Series “David & the 5 T’s”

**1. Prayer partner**

- a. Word spread and glorified. (Eph. 6:19; Col. 4:3)
- b. Safe from perverse and evil men. (Rom. 15:30-31; John 17:14-15)
- c. Part of the ministry

**2. How to continue to do what Paul commands:**

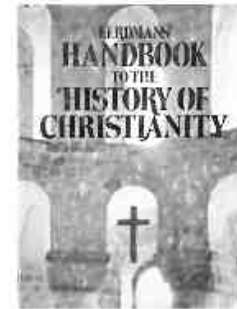
- a. Encouragement from church leaders. (Gal. 5:10)
- b. Hearts directed into the love of God and into the steadfastness of Christ. (1 Chron. 29:18)
- c. Keep Godly company, admonish unruly brothers. (Rom. 16:17-18; 1 Cor. 5:11-13; Deut. 13:5, 17:7, 22:21-24)

**3. Godly people have disciplined lives.**

- a. Paul’s example. (1 Cor. 4:16, 11:1; Phil. 3:17, 4:9; 1 Thes. 1:6-7.)
- b. Labor and hardship.
- c. Don’t burden others. (Acts 18:3, 20:34; 2 Cor. 11:9)
- d. Get to eat.
- e. Not a busybody. (1 Pet. 4:15-16)
- f. Do not grow weary of doing good. (Gal. 6:9-10)
- g. Peace in every circumstance

# The History of Christianity

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(taken from  
Eerdmans'  
Handbook  
to the  
History of  
Christianity)

Decades ago, I took a class at the “Elmbrook Study Center” on Church History using this book which is no longer published. I realized then that knowing about the history of the Church is of great importance, perhaps most important after knowing the Bible. These inserts are an attempt to learn that history again in small increments. I hope they help us grow in our faith.

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To write the full story of the rise of the Christian faith in one volume is almost an impossible task. Our aim has been to draw a rounded picture of the worldwide development of Christianity, focusing on the key movements, the outstanding Christian leaders, crucial turning points, revolutionary breakthroughs.

It is objective history? Yes—if we mean that it is written by experts, well-informed on their subjects and abreast of modern views. Yes—if we mean that it claims to be accurate, scholarly and balanced. But no history can be detached. It is also written by scholars who are themselves Christians. They write with a sympathetic understanding which breathes life into their accounts.

They have not disguised or avoided the darker, the depressing or the disgraceful sides of the varied story of Christianity. But they can offer the bonus of insights into the people and movements they describe. We must let the facts speak for themselves. Christians today will be able to see the direction in which previous movements have gone, and perhaps learn from the past.

The story of Christianity should be a help to faith, not a hindrance. Until the climax of all things in the ‘new heaven and the new earth,’ the story of any activity of humankind will be a sorry one. The wonder is that life-giving faith in Christ has transformed so many people and societies over the centuries; that it has remade not only the lives of individuals, but their attitudes, their values, their culture, their daily work within society. And grouped into churches and movements, they have become a force, which has ‘turned the world upside down’ not only in the ancient world, but in the world ever since.