

2 Thessalonians 2:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

Analysis

Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?—

Paul's rhetorical question (οὐ μνημονεύετε, 'don't you remember?') appeals to prior teaching. During his brief Thessalonian ministry (perhaps 3 weeks, Acts 17:2), he taught end-times chronology. This shows eschatology was basic Christian catechism, not advanced speculation.

The question implies: 'You should know this already—why are you confused?' False teachers had erased or distorted Paul's foundational instruction. Forgetting apostolic doctrine opens believers to deception. The present confusion required returning to first principles, not new revelation.

Historical Context

New Testament Christianity included robust eschatological teaching from the start. Converts immediately learned Christ's return, resurrection, judgment, and kingdom. Modern churches often neglect these doctrines, producing similar confusion. Paul assumes what many contemporary Christians ignore.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What foundational Christian doctrines have you forgotten or never learned?
2. How does neglecting eschatology leave believers vulnerable to false teaching?
3. Why would Paul teach end-times details to brand-new converts—what does this reveal about its importance?

Interlinear Text

Οὐ	μνημονεύετε	ὅτι	ἔτι	ὢν	πρὸς	ὑμᾶς	ταῦτα
not	Remember ye	that	yet	when I was	with	you	these things
G3756	G3421	G3754	G2089	G5607	G4314	G5209	G5023

ἔλεγον	ὑμῖν
I told	you
G3004	G5213

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