Why Are People Not Obeying the Gospel?
2 Thess. 1:7-9

Introduction:
A. All need to obey.
   1. Aliens to receive salvation.
   2. Backsliders restore salvation.
   3. Faithful to maintain salvation (cf. Phil. 2:12)
B. Sad but true, not all obey. (Rom. 10:16; Gal. 3:1; 5:17).
   1. Hard to understand, given our text.
   2. Notice five major reasons:

Discussion:
I. Ignorance.
   A. Of true condition.
      1. Alien sinner (Eph. 2:12).
      2. Backslider (2 Pet. 2:20-22)
      3. Lukewarm (Rev. 3:15-18).
   B. Of greatest need.
      1. Think in material, temporal and social terms.
      2. Think of health, wealth and happiness.
      3. Think little of being saved and going to heaven.
   C. Of God’s will.
      2. May not listen/read. (Acts 17:11)
      3. May be deceived (Gal. 3:1).

II. Indifference.
   A. Know condition, but could care less.
   B. Know need, but could care less.
   C. Know God’s will, but could care less.

III. Ingratitude.
   A. For the riches of the goodness of God (Rom. 2:4,5).
   B. For the unsearchable riches of Christ (Eph. 3:8-11)

IV. Indecisiveness.
   A. Easier to study than to stand. (Cf. 2 Tim. 3:7).
   B. Easier to holdup a decision than to uphold a decision . (Cf. 1 Kings 18:21; Josh 24:15; Acts 24:25).

V. Involvements.
   A. Sinful habits — hard to break. (Lying, cursing, drinking, drugs, etc.)
   B. Sinful pleasures — hard to forsake. (Heb. 11:25)
   C. Sinful attachments — hard to abandon. (Cf. Matt. 19:22)
   D. Sinful relationships — hard to sever.
      1. Sinful Occupations (cf. Phil. 3:7,9).

Conclusion:
A. Must not allow anything to keep us from obeying.
B. Nothing or nobody worth losing our soul over (Mark 8:36-37; 9:43-47).