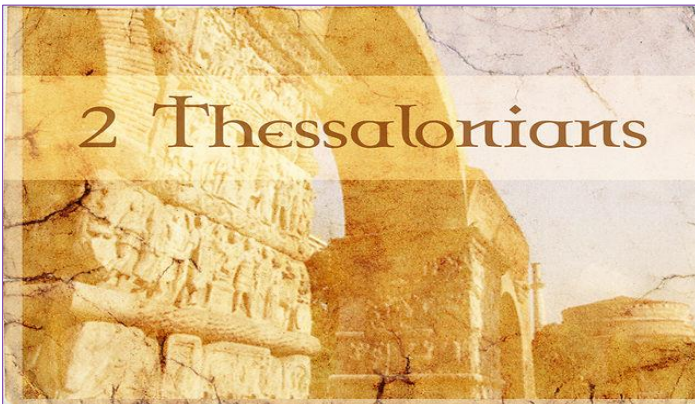




Paul praises the Thessalonians for their enduring faith in the midst of severe persecution. Their posture toward God is evidence that they are worthy of the coming kingdom of God. Their persecution should not be understood as evidence of God's disfavor. In addition, Paul tells the Thessalonians to take heart because Jesus is coming in power, to make all things right. There will be a role reversal at the Second Coming. The Thessalonians, who are now suffering, will be vindicated and elevated in status. The persecutors, who currently enjoy an upper hand, will be judged and destroyed by Christ. Finally, Paul prays that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ be glorified in them.

Outline

- Preview Introduction
- A Word Of Praise 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4
- A Word of Promise 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10
- A Word of Prayer 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12



We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing.

2 Thessalonians 1:3



Truths & Principles

- ✓ The church exists solely because of Christ and exclusively for His glory.
- ✓ Faith and love must continually increase in a believer's life.
- ✓ Though life in this present time may be full of injustice, a day will come when the ungodly will suffer punishment and those obedient to the gospel will experience God's eternal peace.
- ✓ Hell and heaven are real eternal places.

Applications

- ✓ We should never consider the church "ours" in a possessive, controlling sense. The church belongs to Christ.
- ✓ True spirituality is never static; we either progress or lose ground.
- ✓ Our life on earth proceeds for a short time and then we enter eternity. We should order our lives with a focus on the eternal.
- ✓ The realities of hell and heaven should motivate us to live our lives for Christ.



Test all things; hold fast what is good. 1 Thessalonians 5:21

1. Who are the authors of the letter to the church of the Thessalonians (1:1)? _
2. Paul states that grace and peace are from who (1:2)? _____
3. Why does Paul thank God for Thessalonians (1:3)? _____
4. Why do Paul and his team boast about the Thessalonians (1:4)? _____
5. Why are the Thessalonians counted worthy of the kingdom of God (1:5)? _
6. What is the righteous thing with God referenced here (1:6-7)? _____
7. When, and on whom, will the righteous retribution occur (1:7-8)? _____
8. How long is the punishment (1:9)? _____
9. What happens in “that Day” (1:10)? _____
10. What do Paul and his team always pray for the Thessalonians (1:11)? _____
11. What is the purpose of the constant prayers for the Thessalonians (1:12)? _

Study Questions

1. Consider Paul’s praise for the Thessalonians in VERSES 3-4.
 - ❖ What qualities do you appreciate in a believer you know personally?
 - ❖ For what qualities are you best known?
 - ❖ Do they elicit thanks from others?
 - ❖ What are some practical ways you can improve your “report card” in this area?
2. Reflect on Paul’s comforting words regarding “endurance” in VERSES 4-8.
 - ❖ What are some of the hardships you are experiencing?
 - ❖ How is God using them to grow your patience? To fortify your faith?
3. What does Paul mean by the phrase, “WORTHY OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD”, in VERSE 5?
4. Reflect on Paul’s presentation of the return of Christ in VERSES 9-10.
 - ❖ How does this section help us with the timing of the Rapture of the church?
 - ❖ What is the reward for the saved at the coming of Christ?
 - ❖ What are you doing to prepare for Jesus’ return?
 - ❖ Does Christ’s return affect your priorities? If so, then how?
 - ❖ How should you live today, knowing what God is going to do in the future?
5. Ponder Paul’s prayer at the end of the chapter in VERSES 11-12.
 - ❖ What does it mean to be “COUNTED WORTHY OF THIS CALLING”?
 - ❖ How is the “NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST”, ultimately glorified?
 - ❖ What does it mean for the saint to be glorified, and how is that done?