

Series "Fixed On 66"
"2 Thessalonians"
Book-53

Key Passage: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-2

1 Thessalonians: "*The Authentic Christian*" Paul describes a church that came out of extreme paganism and persecution, came to salvation, grew in salvation, and was on the path to maturity in the Christian faith!

2 Thessalonians: "*Encouraging the Authentic Christian*" Paul is giving Comfort and Correction. False teachers had crept in and said that Jesus had already come, and it upset the believers, and some had stopped working and were waiting for His return.

The suffering in the church of Thessalonica came from 2 sources.

1. Persecutors on the outside!
2. False teachers on the inside!

The Author: Paul 2 Thessalonians 1:1 Paul Though his name only appears twice, first-person pronouns are used **five times**.

When Written: Written about 51 AD. That means one of Paul's earlier letters, **Galatians**, was probably the first. This was written just a few months after the **1 Thessalonians** letter. Around 51 AD, during Paul's second Missionary Journey, and about three months after the 1st Letter.

Where It Was Written: From Corinth **Acts 18:5**

Written To: Thessalonians - **2 Thessalonians 1:1 Paul and Silvanus and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians**

Background: 2 Thessalonians was the third Epistle written by Paul. The messenger who had delivered 1st Thessalonians had obviously returned to Paul with a report on the conditions of the Church. Paul writes this second Letter to them without delay to address the concerns the Brethren had with the doctrine of the Second Coming.

Purpose:

1. To encourage them by expressing thanks **(1:1-4)**
2. To explain to them what would happen at the return of Christ **(1:5-12)**
3. To warn them about false teachers **(2:2)**
4. To calm their fears that the day of the Lord had already come **(2:1-2)**
5. To appeal for their obedience **(2:13 - 3:5)**
6. To instruct them on how to deal with a disorderly brother **(3:6-15)**
7. To certify that the Letter was from him **(3:16-18)**

Paul wrote to encourage them and educate them as to His return. This false letter contradicted Paul's teaching of **1 Thessalonians 5**

Theme: "Encouraging the Authentic Christian" Comfort, Correction, and Reassurance.

Key Words: Lord 21 times, Jesus Christ 13 times, Lord Jesus Christ 12 times, Day 5 times.

Key Chapter: 2 Thessalonians 2 This chapter corrects a false view that had entered the Church that the Day of the Lord had already come.

Key Passage: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-2

Outline:

2 Thessalonians 1 Encourage The Suffering
2 Thessalonians 2 Enlighten The Confused
2 Thessalonians 3 Warn The Careless

2 Thessalonians 1 Encourage The Suffering

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4 Encouragement of Praise:
2 Thessalonians 1:1

In **Acts 9**, Paul had previously been called **Saul** - "desired" and "Proud." He was a Pharisee of Pharisee. His name after his conversion was changed to **Paul** - "Small." He was very zealous for the Lord but was not in the Lord.

and Silvanus or **Silas** - "Woody," a Roman citizen, the companion of the apostle Paul on several of his missionary journeys

and Timothy - Had come to faith as a youth on Paul's first visit to Lystra. His mother instructed him. (Mix marriage Father Greek, Mother Jewish) On Paul's second journey, he was considered ready to come with Paul after seven years. Paul, later on awaiting his death, writes to Timothy a second letter.

in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: In Paul's writings he uses this phrase and similar. "In Christ Jesus 48 times" "In Christ 34 times" "In the Lord 50 times."

2 Thessalonians 1:2-3

Thankful for 3 Things:

1. Thankful for Your Faith: as is only fitting, because your faith is greatly enlarged, - This is the fulfillment of a prayer of Paul.

1 Thessalonians 3:10 may complete what is lacking in your faith?

2. Thankful For Your Love: and the love of each one of you toward one another grows ever greater; - This was an answer to Paul's prayer. **1 Thessalonians 3:12**

2 Thessalonians 1:4

3. Thankful For Your Witness: your perseverance and faith in the midst of all your persecutions and afflictions which you endure.

2 Thessalonians 1:5-10 Encouragement of Promise:

2 Thessalonians 1:5-6

God's Promise To Judge The Wicked: God to repay with affliction those who afflict you,

2 Thessalonians 1:7

God's Promise of Rest: and to give relief (Rest) to you who are afflicted and to us as well - When we are serving God and yielding ourselves to Him as our Heavenly Father, He will fight our battles for us.

God's Promise To Return: when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, - This will be the second coming of Jesus Christ. **Revelation 19** is the glorious appearance of Jesus.

2 Thessalonians 1:8

God's Promise Of Justice: dealing out retribution *"meeting out of justice; doing justice to all parties. The word also has the sense of acquittal and carries the sense of vindication."*

to those who do not know God - Those who don't know the Lord will receive the justice of God.

2 Thessalonians 1:9-10

2 Thessalonians 1:11-12 Encouragement of Prayer: 2 Thessalonians 1:11

What does Paul mean by worthy? Worthy - *"Having the weight of another thing of like value, worth as much."*

worthy of your calling, - That we would live out our calling. **We would balance our position in Christ with our practice in Christ!**

and fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power, - The mark of a Christian that is walking with God is the desire of matching position and practice.

2 Thessalonians 1:12

2 Thessalonians 2 Enlighten The Confused

2 Thessalonians 2:1-3 The Error Of The False Teachers:

2 Thessalonians 2:1 we request – *"to ask to beg, to entreat"* **you, brethren,** - Paul wants to call to himself the believers of Thessalonica to "Enlighten them out of their Confusion."

with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, coming – Greek word **parousia** "revealing, presence the coming, arrival, advent the future visible return from heaven of Jesus" This word speaks of the Rapture and the Second Coming.

and our gathering together to Him, - Here I believe it is the Rapture. He spoke of it in **1 Thessalonians 1:10**

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Rapture.

2 Thessalonians 2:2 either by a spirit - That someone is giving a prophecy stating, *"The Holy Spirit is saying that we are in the tribulation."*

or a message - They might refer to some Bible study, preaching or some study that had been revealed to them.

or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. This letter that was a contradiction of what Paul had clearly taught. **2 Thessalonians 3:17**

2 Thessalonians 2:3-5, 8 The Revelation of The Anti-Christ:
2 Thessalonians 2:3

for it will not come - What? **"The Day of The Lord"** - The judgment of the tribulation of God (7 Years) Starting with the rapture to the Millennium.

There are 3 Things That Must Happen:

- 1. Verse 3 Apostasy**
- 2. Verse 3 Anti-Christ**
- 3. Verses 6-8 Restrainer**

1. Verse 3 Apostasy: unless the apostasy comes first, - The term **apostasy** – *"Falling away, a departure from the faith"* **1 Timothy 4:1-3**

- 2. Verse 3 Anti-Christ: and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction,** - This man is what we refer to as "The Anti-Christ" Anti- "*against, or opposite of*" beast (Anti-Christ); "That Wicked" – **2 Thessalonians 2:3-8**

"Anti-Christ" - **1 John 2:18**

"The Assyrian." - **Isa. 10:5-6; 30:27-33**

"King of Babylon." - **Isa. 14:4**

"The Little Horn" - **Daniel 7:8; 8:9-12**

"A King of Fierce Countenance" - **Daniel 8:23**

"The prince that shall come" - **Daniel 9:26**

"The Willful King" - **Daniel 11:36**

man of lawlessness (sin) Against Moral Laws, Against Civil Laws! is revealed,

the son of destruction - "*waste, damnable*" Speaks of total loss.

2 Thessalonians 2:4

Anti-Christ Will Be Worshipped: who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, - Satan has always followed this pattern. In **Genesis 3**, Satan came to Eve as the truth and God.

Revelation 13:4

2 Thessalonians 2:5

- 3. Verses 6-8 Restrainer: And you know what restrains him now,** The Holy Spirit through the Church. **Genesis 6:3 Days of Noah:**

2 Thessalonians 2:6 so that in his time he will be revealed.

When the church is raptured, that is when the anti-Christ will be revealed. The church is not mentioned after **Revelation 3**.

2 Thessalonians 2:7

2 Thessalonians 2:8-12 The Return of Jesus:

2 Thessalonians 2:8-11

God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false (The Lie),

2 Thessalonians 2:12

2 Thessalonians 2:13-15 The Readiness of Believers:

2 Thessalonians 2:13

because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation - This is what we call "**The Doctrine of Divine Election.**" God chooses us to salvation. **John 15:16**

The Bible does not teach "**Double Election.**" No place in the Bible does it say that God chooses some for heaven and some for hell.

2 Thessalonians 2:14-15

1. Don't Move From The Truth: stand firm - "*to persevere, to persist to keep one's standing.*" We are speaking about planting one's feet firmly on the ground.

2. Don't Let Go of the Truth: and hold to - The Bible is the Word of God. Not containing the Word, but is the Word.

the traditions mean Literally "*Giving up or giving over, that which is handed down from one person to another.*" This is how people were instructed, verbally passing on past events.

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 God's Comfort And Strength For Believers: 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

2 Thessalonians 3 Warn The Careless

2 Thessalonians 3:1-5 Wait: 2 Thessalonians 3:1

1. Pray For Proclamation: pray for us that the word of the Lord may spread rapidly and be glorified, just as it did also with you;

2 Thessalonians 3:2

2. Pray For Protection: that we will be rescued from perverse and evil men; perverse "*Unreasonable, harmful.*"

2 Thessalonians 3:3

2 Timothy 2:13; Revelation 19:11

2 Thessalonians 3:4-5

2 Thessalonians 3:6-7 Walk: 2 Thessalonians 3:6 that you keep away "*Avoid, Withdraw.*" There is a time when withdrawing from another is the right thing to do!

from every brother who leads an unruly life - Some of the saints were "undisciplined," literally, "*out of order*" or "*out of rank.*" This family of words was used for soldiers who were out of step or moving in disarray.

and not according to the tradition which you received from us.
Paul's teaching and his letters. **1 Thessalonians 5:14**

2 Thessalonians 3:7

2 Thessalonians 3:8-18 Work: 2 Thessalonians 3:8 nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, - Paul through his example was saying, "We were not Moocher's!"

A Sign of Conversion Is Giving! The old nature is ever wanting.
Acts 20:35

2 Thessalonians 3:9-11

but acting like busybodies. The term *"idle hands are the devil's tools."*

- 1. Idleness:** The extreme of depending upon others to provide for us.
Proverbs 6:9-11
- 2. Worship Our Work:** Attempting to find life's meaning in our work rather than bringing meaning to work. Success, recognition, and advancement become the basis of our worth. **Do you see your job as an avenue to promote the purposes of God?**

2 Thessalonians 3:12-13

Galatians 6:9

Hebrews 12:3; Revelation 2:3

2 Thessalonians 3:14-18

Application:

- 1. Waiting:** Considering The Lord's Return, Our Witness Must Be In Both Word And Deed. The Message Applies To Me.
- 2. Working:** Working Is A Privilege. As God's Children, We Are Partakers Of His Nature, Which Means We Are Givers, Not Merely Takers.
- 3. Well-Doing:** Means Loving God, And Others, So Much That We Are Willing To Correct Others, And Even Withdraw From Fellowship With Believers Because Of Our Love For God.
- 4. Wellbeing:** God's Peace, Presence And Grace.