



2 Thessalonians 1

2 Thessalonians 1 – The world is comforted by how they treat you now, but the churches comfort is in knowing Christ's returning for His Church... This Hope produces:

I. Greeting v1-2

II. How do we Patiently Wait v3-4

III. The Great Tribulation and its purpose of God's wrath to judge v5-6

IV. Christ Coming with His Angels to Judge v7-9

V. Jesus Admired v10

VI. God Completing His Good Pleasure in us who believe, Sanctification v11-12

Key Words: Ekklesia, Growth, Patience, Fitting, Judgement, Glorified, Prayer

2 Thessalonians 1:1-2

The Church, *Ekklesia*, has been called out of the practices and priority that this world places as its primary focus, and instead the Church has been called to be placed in the Grace and Peace which only the Lord can give and also which only the Lord can hold us in, but it's still a free choice to choose to have and walk in this.

2 Thessalonians 1:3-4 – Patiently Waiting

The Thessalonians Spiritual Condition: Stronger than it was in 1 Thessalonians (v3), their Physical and Outward Condition however had worsen (v4). Paul uses the word *Fitting*, it was fitting for Paul, Silas, and Timothy to thank the Lord because they had grown in the knowledge of God which corresponds with growing in God's Word. This growth in God's Word had produced 4 things; (1) their trust in God was continual and had grown exceedingly, (2) their love towards others had abounded, (3) there was fruit worth rejoicing and reporting to encourage other churches with, (4) their trials and persecution had produced patience, they knew God had a reason for what they were enduring.

2 Thessalonians 1:5-6 – Purpose in Waiting

God's Wrath and the Great Tribulation:

The time of Jacob's Trouble Jer 30:7; The Great Tribulation Matt 24:21

This time is a period of 7 years – Daniel 9:27, the Antichrist sitting in the Temple will occur during this time Matt 24:15

Daniel 12:1 – This time, Arch Angel Michael will deal out God's Wrath.

Rev 13:5-7 Beast will be given authority for 3.5 years

This is God's Wrath on those who had caused the church much persecution, not the World's wrath on the Church

Isaiah 2:6-22 (12); Joel 1; 1 Thessalonians 5:2

Conclusion from a complete Biblical examination and context is the 7 year tribulation is a period of time when God's wrath is poured out upon the earth, marked by great tribulation and His judgement. This is also referred to as Daniel's 70th week, Israel still has 1 last 7 year period of Judgement for forsaking God: Daniel 9:24-27... the Tribulation is not the final judgement, but it is very specifically Israel's 70th week of Judgement.

(God's Wrath/ Great Trib. : Rev6:17, Matt 24:21, Rev 15:1)

Because it is God's righteous judgement for the Christian to be worthy of His Kingdom because they obeyed and walked out their calling... it's also God's righteous judgement to give their enemies tribulation for causing the persecution, and the leading cause of the persecution to those in Thessalonica were the Judaizers.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 – Future Compensation

The yet future compensation on those who persecuted them and for the persecution they endured may have to wait until the end, until the final judgement of the Lord. At which time Jesus comes with His mighty angels in flaming fire... this is not the same description of Jesus coming for His Church in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. The complete context of all of Scripture is that Jesus' return for the Church and His second coming of His feet touching down on earth and judgement are two separate events separated by a period of events and time, 2 Thessalonians 1:10 in the original Greek explains this.

2 Thessalonians 1:10 – Christ Admired

When He comes, is better read when translated from the Greek as: When He shall have come – or... after He shall have come for His Saints, in that day

When/After He shall have come – Verb = subjective mood, 2nd aorist tense. Those who know Greek this is indisputable there are 2 completely different comings separated by a period of events and time.

Paul had already told them of the coming rest in 1 Thessalonians and reminded again in v7

Glorified in His Saints – He will be marveled at because of His great work in His Church. That the work He's completed will be so marvelous send the onlookers to be speechless. We marvel at Him, that we owe Him everything, and others marvel at Him that He's the only one who can do or complete any good work. All eyes are to always be on Jesus, that's how we know ministry is being done right.

2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

Goal: That God would count us worthy of “this” calling of His Lk21:36

How does He complete this?: fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power – sanctification – 1 Thessalonians 4-5

Our general Calling is?: the name of our Lord Jesus glorified in you – when someone looks at you and I, it causes them to look to Jesus.

Jesus is glorified through the witness of our lives and others looking on.

Our specific calling will never supersede or contradict this general calling, this is our purpose.

Why does He call us and complete His good work in us?: according to His grace, it happens only because He does it, and we allow Him only as we stay in relationship with Him.

That God would bless each and every one of us the way He wants to bless us.

This is all completed with a heavy dependance on prayer, from 1 Thessalonians we dove into this subject of prayer. That prayer is the realization of everything depends on Him and not on us and so we go in prayer seeking His leading, direction, and His desires.