



# 2 Thessalonians Intro

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## **Outline:**

I. Greeting 1:1-2

II. Comfort 2:3-12

A. How do we Patiently wait v3-4

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

i. Present Consolation

C. Christ coming with His Angels to Judge v7-9

i. Future Compensation

D. Christ Admired v10

E. The Lord Completing His Good Pleasure v11-12

i. Sanctification – 1 Thessalonians

III. Caution and Correction 2:1-12

A. The Beginning of the Day of the Lord v1-5

i. Coming of Jesus Christ and Being Gathered to Him v1

ii. A Sound Mind is Required v2

iii. Prior to the Coming of Jesus v3-4

iv. Importance of Teaching the Whole Bible v5

B. The Mystery of the Lawless One v6-12

i. Restraining v6-7

a. Lawlessness is already at work

ii. The Time of the Lawless One v8-12

IV. Standing Firm 2:13-3:5

A. In Our Calling v13-15

B. In Prayer 2:16-3:5

V. Disorderly Christian Conduct considering The Day of the Lord 3:6-13

A. Response to those Who are misbehaving because of Jesus' Immanent Return v6-10

i. This was the response to those misbehaving ignoring correction 1 Thess 5:14

ii. The Example the apostle's had given v7-10

B. Commands to those Who are Idle & the specific problems that had arisen v11-13

C. How the Church was to Relate to Those Idle, if They Refuse After Correction v14-15

## **Central teaching:**

2 Thessalonians 1 – Comfort in Waiting

2 Thessalonians 2 – Caution and Correction in Watching

2 Thessalonians 3 – Command in Working

## **Comparing 1 & 2 Thessalonians:**

Paul describes two major eschatological events in 1 & 2

Thessalonians: The Rapture of the church and the Day of the Lord.

### **1 Thessalonians**

1) Christ returns in the air

2) Christ comes secretly for the Church

3) Believers escape the time of tribulation

4) The Rapture happens at an undisclosed time

### **2 Thessalonians**

1) Christ returns to the earth

2) Christ comes openly with the Church

3) Unbelievers will experience the tribulation and judgment

4) The Day of the Lord occurs at the end of the Tribulation, 7 yr

# **The Purpose then of the Letter:**

In Paul's absence many false teachers were creating confusion among the Thessalonian believers. They had gone so far as to send letters (written in the name of Paul) that supported their doctrines. Their false teachings affected the way the church viewed the return of Christ and practical Christian living. Second Thessalonians was written to correct these errors.

- To clarify end times things
- Misbehavior in the Church

The letter written to Paul in-between 1&2 Thessalonians, he Learned:

- Present evils mentioned in 1 Thessalonians had persisted and further developed.
- Some misunderstanding had arisen & even misrepresentation of Paul and false teaching regarding end times had entered the Church
- That they were living in the judgement of God
- 2 Thess 2:2 Some had become “shaken in their mind”
  - How? Spirit, Word, false letters

This shaken and agitation showed itself in some by fanatical tendencies which then brought unnecessary burdens on the fellowship, some quit their jobs since the end is shortly behind.

- 2 Thess 3:2 some even becoming busy bodies and by which the peace of the brotherhood was being impaired and threatened 3:6-16

1 Thessalonians had gentle correction, 2 Thessalonians because of these things gives a more stern correction.

### **Simple Summary:**

False teaching created a fear in the lives of the church members that they had missed the rapture of the church and were facing the judgment of God. Paul wrote to correct this teaching and to call the church to godly living amid increasing tribulation. The book reminds them of Paul's teaching regarding the coming of Christ and then calls them to stand fast in the Lord as they await His return.

### **Key Themes:**

The essential theme of Paul's first letter to the Thessalonian Believers = the relation of Christ's return for the Church to the Christian experience.

Key Term: The Day of the Lord; The Restrainer 2 Thessalonians 2:6-7;  
The Lawless one

Major Themes: Practical Christian Living; Imminent Return of Jesus

Key Verses: 1:3, 1:6, 2:1-2, 2:3, 2:15, 3:10, 3:13

What must happen before the day of Jesus Return to the earth

## 1 Thess 2

1<sup>st</sup> the Church will be *harpazio* 1 Thess 4:15-18

2<sup>nd</sup> the Anti-Christ will begin rise to power in a peaceful way – Daniel 9, Rev 6

3<sup>rd</sup> a 7 year covenant, Daniel 9 –

4<sup>th</sup> after 3.5 years he's going to break this covenant with Israel

5<sup>th</sup> he is going to abolish every religious system, stand in the rebuilt temple in Jerusalem and demands to be worshiped as God. 2 Thess 2:4 – he opposes and exalts himself against every other religion and takes his seat in the rebuilt temple of God.

## 2 Thess 1 – is their comfort

1:3-4 they are suffering, and what's suffering about.

1:4-6 Trials and Tribulation have purpose to draw us to Jesus and to develop character traits of Jesus. And our life becomes a testimony to others.

1:9 When Jesus returns to the earth with the church, after the Great Tribulation, to judge a wicked world.

2 Thess 2 why they can be certain they were not in the Great tribulation and why they will not go through it.

2Thess 2:5 – Within 3 weeks as believers and Paul taught them all of this:

Daniel 9:27

Matthew 24:15

Revelation 13

2 Thess 2:7 Satan is restrained

2 Thess 2:6 neuter gender, 2:7 masculine gender – there is a who and a what acting to restrain the work of Satan

**A distinctive** here at CCF is that we believe this is the Holy Spirit and the Church.

An important but overlooked truth here is that Satan is currently restrained, so there is no extinction of the Church.

2 Thess 2:8 – Rev19:11

2 Thess 2:15 in light of all of this stand firm and hold to the teachings that you have been taught

2 Thess 3 Our appropriate response

2 Thess 3:1-5 Continue praying / 3:6

2 Thess 3:6-15 Don't grow idle / 3:13