
BOB LENDERMAN

2 THESSALONIANS:

68 Questions and Answers



2 THESSALONIANS, CHAPTER 1

I. Authors, Recipients, and Greeting (Vv. 1-2)

1. Who are the authors listed at the beginning of this letter?

The authors are Paul, Silas, and Timothy.

2. To whom is this letter addressed?

It is addressed “to the church of the Thessalonians.”

3. What two sources are listed for their relationship with the church?

The church is in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4. What specific blessings do the authors wish upon the church?

They wish for grace and peace.

5. Where do grace and peace originate?

They come from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

II. Thanksgiving and Praise (Vv. 3-4)

6. Why do the authors feel obligated to thank God for the Thessalonians?

They thank God because the Thessalonians' faith is growing abundantly.

7. Besides faith, what attribute of the Thessalonians is noted for its abundance?

The love of every one of them abounds toward each other.

8. Where are the authors boasting about the Thessalonians?

They boast about the Thessalonians in "the churches of God."

9. What two primary virtues are the Thessalonians praised for while suffering?

They are praised for their patience and faith.

10. What are the Thessalonians currently enduring?

They are enduring persecutions and tribulations.

III. Suffering, Judgment, and Worthiness (Vv. 5-7)

11. What does the act of enduring suffering demonstrate, according to verse 5?

It is evidence that God's judgment is righteous.

12. What spiritual reward will God count the suffering believers worthy of?

They will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God.

13. Is it fair for God to allow suffering?

Yes, the text states it is a righteous matter with God to allow suffering in this life.

14. What is God's righteous plan for those who trouble (or persecute) the believers?

God will repay those who trouble them.

15. What will God give to those believers who are troubled?

He will give them rest.

16. When will the troubled believers receive this rest?

They will receive rest when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven.

IV. The Revelation of Christ and Punishment (Vv. 7-10)

17. How will Jesus be revealed from heaven?

He will be revealed with His mighty angels and in flaming fire.

18. Who specifically will face the vengeance of Christ upon His return?

Those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel will face vengeance.

19. What is the ultimate punishment described for those who are disobedient?

They shall be punished with eternal destruction.

20. What does being "isolated" from the Lord mean in this context?

It means being cut off from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power.

21. When Christ returns, what is the purpose of His revelation regarding His saints?

He comes to be glorified in His saints and to be marveled at by all those who believe.

22. Why did the Thessalonians originally believe the message they received?

They believed because the testimony shared among them was believed.

V. Prayer and Purpose (Vv. 11-12)

23. Because of their faith, what constant action do the authors take for the Thessalonians?

They always pray for them.

24. What is the main content of the authors' prayer for the Thessalonians?

They pray that God would count them worthy of their calling and fulfill their good desires and works done by faith.

25. What is the ultimate goal of the believers' worthy lives and works?

The ultimate goal is that the name of the Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified.

26. How is this glorification made possible?

It is made possible according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 THESSALONIANS, CHAPTER 2

Q1: When will the second coming of Jesus Christ occur?

A1: The exact time of Jesus' return is unknown and not specified in the Bible, but it will happen after a great apostasy and the appearance of the Antichrist.

Q2: What is the "man of sin" or "lawless one" referred to in the passage?

A2: The Antichrist, a future world leader who will reject God and exalt himself above all worshipped deities, ultimately claiming to be God.

Q3: What restrains the Antichrist from appearing immediately?

A3: According to the text, an unnamed person or entity is currently preventing the Antichrist's emergence, but this restraint will be removed before his revelation.

Q4: How will the Antichrist be defeated?

A4: Jesus will destroy him with the "breath of His mouth" and the "brightness of His presence" at His second coming.

Q5: Will everyone be deceived by the Antichrist's signs and wonders?

A5: No, only those who reject God's truth and have pleasure in unrighteousness will be deceived and condemned.

Q6: What is the purpose of God sending a strong delusion to those who don't believe the truth?

A6: To condemn them for rejecting the truth and enjoying wickedness, as a consequence of their choice.

Q7: What are believers to do while waiting for Christ's return?

A7: Stand firm in the traditions and gospel teachings they received, and continue living in every good word and work.

Q8: Why were the Thessalonians called to salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth?

A8: To obtain the glory of Jesus Christ, reflecting His character and nature in their lives.

Q9: Who has called the Thessalonians to this salvation?

A9: God, through the apostle Paul and his message (gospel) about Jesus Christ.

Q10: How will believers be comforted and established in their faith?

A10: Directly by Jesus Christ and God the Father, through the eternal consolation and good hope that comes by grace.

Q11: What tradition should believers hold fast to while awaiting Christ's return?

A11: The gospel message and teachings they received, whether by word or written letters, about Jesus Christ and His salvation.

Q12: Why are believers called to give thanks to God for the Thessalonians?

A12: Because God chose them from the beginning for salvation, and their faith is an example and blessing to other believers.

Q13: What is the nature of God's love and grace shown to His people, including the Thessalonians?

A13: God has given His people eternal consolation and good hope through His grace, demonstrating His enduring, compassionate love.

Q14: How should believers respond to false teachings or letters that claim the second coming is imminent?

A14: They should not let these words quickly shake or trouble their faith, recognizing that such claims could be part of the Antichrist's deception.

Q15: What is the "mystery of lawlessness" referred to in 2 Thessalonians 2:7?

A15: The gradual, subtle spread of sin and rebellion against God that will intensify before the Antichrist appears.

Q16: Who will be the one to finally restrain the Antichrist until he is removed?

A16: An unnamed person or entity, currently holding back the Antichrist's emergence, but this restraint will be removed before his revelation.

Q17: When will the restraint on the Antichrist be removed?

A17: Before the Antichrist is revealed, suggesting that this restraint is still in effect in the time leading up to his appearance.

Q18: How will the beloved brethren in Thessalonica be comforted and established in their faith?

A18: Directly by Jesus Christ and God the Father, through the eternal consolation and good hope that comes by grace, as mentioned in 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17.

Q19: What hope is believers to have while waiting for Christ's return?

A19: Eternal comfort and good hope that comes through God's grace, giving them confidence and perseverance.

Q20: Why is it important for believers to stand firm in the traditions and gospel they received?

A20: To maintain their spiritual health, resist false teaching, and continue living in obedience to Christ and His Word until His return.

2 THESSALONIANS, CHAPTER 3

Prayer Requests & God's Character

1. What are the main things Paul asks the believers to pray for?

Paul asks them to pray for the swift spread and glorification of the Lord's word, and for his deliverance from unreasonable and wicked men.

2. Why does Paul mention "unreasonable and wicked men"?

He notes that not all men have faith, implying these individuals might cause opposition or trouble for the gospel message.

3. What does the passage say about God's faithfulness?

It states that the Lord is faithful, and He will establish (strengthen) and guard believers from the evil one.

4. What confidence does Paul express about the Thessalonian believers?

He has confidence in the Lord that they are

actively doing and will continue to do what he commands them.

5. What does Paul pray for regarding the believers' hearts?

He prays that the Lord will direct their hearts towards the love of God and the steadfastness (perseverance) of Christ.

Guidelines on Idleness and Work

6. What specific command does Paul give regarding idle brothers?

He commands them to withdraw from any brother who lives in idleness and does not follow the traditions they received.

7. How did Paul and his companions set an example regarding work?

They were not idle but worked hard day and night, not eating anyone's food without paying, to avoid being a burden.

8. Did Paul have the right to be supported by the believers?

Yes, he clarifies that they had this right, but

chose not to exercise it to provide an example for others to follow.

9. What principle did Paul teach about work when he was with them?

He commanded, "if any will not work, neither shall he eat."

10. What specific problem had Paul heard about among the Thessalonians?

He heard that some were living in idleness, being mere busybodies, and not working at all.

11. How should those who are idle and busybodies behave?

They are commanded and exhorted to quietly work and eat their own bread.

12. What general encouragement does Paul give to all believers regarding good deeds?

He tells them, "do not be weary in doing good."

13. What does it mean to "withdraw yourselves from every brother who walks in

idleness"?

It means to distance oneself from their close fellowship, not to engage with them as usual, to encourage a change in behavior.

14. Why is being a "busybodies" linked with idleness?

Often, those who are idle have too much free time, which they use to meddle in others' affairs instead of focusing on their own responsibilities.

Discipline and Admonition

15. How should the community respond to someone who disobeys the letter's instructions?

They should take note of that person and not socialize with them, so that they may feel ashamed.

16. Should a disobedient brother be treated as an enemy?

No, Paul instructs them not to count him as

an enemy, but to admonish (lovingly warn or instruct) him as a brother.

17. What is the purpose of not socializing with a disobedient brother?

The primary purpose is for the disobedient brother to feel shame, hoping it leads them to repentance and correction.

18. What does "admonish him as a brother" imply about how to approach someone who disobeys?

It implies that the correction should be done with love, concern, and the goal of restoring the person, not condemning them.

Closing & Paul's Mark

19. What final blessing does Paul offer concerning peace?

He prays that the Lord of peace Himself will give them peace always and in every way.

20. How does Paul verify the authenticity of his letters?

He writes the greeting with his own hand,

stating it is the distinguishing mark in every letter.

21. What is the ultimate final blessing Paul gives to all of them?

He concludes the letter with "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."

22. What "tradition" is being referred to that the idle brother is not following?

This refers to the teachings and examples of diligent work and responsible living that Paul and his companions established among them.