

2 Thessalonians

Translated by Gary Shogren

1:1-10

1 Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians, which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 We are under obligation to give thanks to God all the time because of you, brothers and sisters, just as it is worthy [before God]. That is because your faith has flourished and your love has grown abundantly, [the love] that each one of you all has, one for the other.

4 As a result, we ourselves boast about you among the churches of God about your endurance and faith during all your persecutions and all the tribulations that you are suffering.

5 [All of this gives] evidence that God will pronounce a right verdict, which will result in you being considered worthy of God's kingdom, for which you are also suffering.

6 For it is indeed right with God to repay with tribulation those who cause you tribulation,

7 and to you who are undergoing tribulation, relief, along with us, at the revealing of the Lord Jesus from heaven with his powerful angels, **with flaming fire**.

8 [The Lord Jesus] **will dispense retaliation** to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

9 These are the very ones who will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, separated **from the presence of the Lord and his glorious might**,

10 when he comes **to be glorified among his saints** and to be worshiped among all who have believed, because our message to you was believed – [he will be glorified and marveled at] **on that Day**.

11 That is why we pray all the time for you, that our God might consider you worthy of [his] calling and powerfully bring to completion his whole will, to accomplish goodness [through you] and [to complete] the work that comes from [your] believing.

12 [We keep praying] **in order that the name of our Lord Jesus might be glorified among you**, and you [be glorified] in [him], according to the grace of our God and of the Lord Jesus Christ.

2:1-12

- 1 And now we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, with respect to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, when [God] gathers us together to [Christ],
- 2 that you not be quickly shaken or disturbed, whether “through the Spirit” or through a message or through an epistle coming, supposedly, from us, [through anything which says] that the Day of the Lord has come.
- 3 Let no-one deceive you in any way, because [it will not come] if there has not first come the Apostasy and the Man of Lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction.
- 4 He is the one who opposes and **exalts himself over any so-called god** or religious object, so that he installs himself in the sanctuary of God, proclaiming himself to be a god.
- 5 Do you not remember that when I was with you I told you these things?
- 6 And as it is you know what it is that restrains [him], in order that he be revealed in his right time.
- 7 For the hidden force of lawlessness is already at work; only the one who restrains it [will do so] until he is taken away.
- 8 And then the Man of Lawlessness will be revealed, whom the Lord [Jesus] will kill by the breath of his mouth and destroy by the glorious appearance of his coming.
- 9 The coming [of the Man of Lawlessness] is by the powerful influence of Satan, with all power and signs and wonders that mislead
- 10 and in every [kind of] unrighteous deception for those who are perishing.[This is] because they did not receive the love for the truth, so that they might be saved.
- 11 And so God will send them a powerful influence of deception so that they believe a lie
- 12 in order that all might be judged, [all who] do not believe the truth but take pleasure in wickedness.

2:13-17

- 13 But for our part, we are under obligation to give thanks to God all the time for you, brothers and sisters, whom the Lord loves, because God has chosen you to be the first fruits of people who would receive salvation by means of the sanctifying work of the Spirit and faith in the truth.
- 14 God called you unto [this saving work] through the gospel we preached, to obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 15 Consequently, brothers and sisters, be firmly committed and hold tight to the traditions which you were taught, whether through a message or epistle from us.

*16 Now may our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal encouragement and good hope by [his] grace,
17 encourage your whole person and strengthen you with respect to every good work and word.*

3:1-5

1 Beyond that, pray for us, brothers and sisters, that the Word of the Lord might run [well] and be glorified [by its hearers], just as it was with you, 2 and that we might be delivered from wicked and evil people; for not everyone possesses faith.

3 But the Lord is faithful, who will strengthen you and guard you from evil. 4 And we are persuaded in the Lord concerning you, that whatever we command, you are already doing [it] and will continue to do.

5 Now may the Lord direct your entire person unto [living] in the love that comes from God and the endurance that comes from Christ.

3:6-15

6 And now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep aloof from every brother or sister who lives in a disorderly fashion, rather than according to the tradition which they received from us.

7 Because you know how [you] must imitate our ways, in that we did not act in a disorderly manner among you.

8 Nor did we eat food [taken] from anyone [without payment], but rather in labor and toil, night and day, we worked in order not to be a burden to anyone of you.

9 Not that we lacked the authority to do so; but [we lived this way] in order that we might provide you a model so that you might imitate us.

10 And when we were with you, even then we commanded you that, if someone does not wish to work, he or she shouldn't be given leave to eat.

11 [We say this now] because we hear that some among you are living in a disorderly manner, not working, but rather meddling in matters where they should not.

12 So, such people we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ, that they work quietly and eat their own food.

13 And as for you, brothers and sisters, do not lose enthusiasm for doing good.

14 Now, if people do not obey the message we give through this epistle, take note [of them] to not associate with them, in order that they might be shamed.

15 But do not treat them as enemies, rather, admonish them as a brother or sister.

3:16-18

16 Now may the Lord himself, the Lord of peace, bestow on you peace at all times and in every way. May the Lord be with you all.

17 The greeting by my own hand, PAUL, which is the sign in every epistle of mine: this is how I write [it].

18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.