

Text Outline 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12

- I. (Address & Greeting)**
- A. ¹ Paul, Silas and Timothy,
 - B. To the church of the Thessalonians in
 - 1. **God our Father**
 - 2. **and the Lord Jesus Christ:**
 - C. ² Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- II. ³ We ought always to thank God for you, brothers, and rightly so,**
- A. because your faith is growing more and more,
 - B. and the love every one of you has for each other is increasing.
 - C. ⁴ Therefore, among God's churches we boast about
 - 1. **your perseverance**
 - 2. **and faith in all**
 - a) *the persecutions*
 - b) *and trials you are enduring.*
- III. ⁵ All this is evidence that God's judgment is right,**
- A. and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering.
 - B. ⁶ God is just:
 - 1. **He will**
 - a) *pay back trouble to those who trouble you*
 - b) ⁷ *and give relief*
 - (1) to you who are troubled,
 - (2) and to us as well.
 - 2. **This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven**
 - a) *in blazing fire with his powerful angels.*
 - b) ⁸ *He will punish those who*
 - (1) do not know God
 - (2) and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.
 - c) ⁹ *They will be punished with*
 - (1) everlasting destruction
 - (2) and shut out
 - (a) *from the presence of the Lord*
 - (b) *and from the majesty of his power*
 - (3) ¹⁰ on the day he comes
 - (a) *to be glorified in his holy people*
 - (b) *and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you.*

- IV. ¹¹ With this in mind, we constantly pray for you,**
- A. that our God may count you worthy of his calling,**
 - B. and that by his power he may fulfill**
 - 1. every good purpose of yours**
 - 2. and every act prompted by your faith.**
 - C. ¹² We pray this so that**
 - 1. the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you,**
 - 2. and you in him,**
 - 3. according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.**

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Conceptual Outline 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12

- I. Address & Greeting**
- II. Apostles thank God**
 - A. Faith growing more & more
 - B. Love increasing
 - C. perseverance & faith in persecutions & trials
- III. Evidence of God's righteous judgment**
 - A. Suffering result in being counted as worthy of the kingdom
 - B. God's justice proven by
 - 1. will pay back trouble to troublers
 - 2. give relief to the believing troubled
 - C. Timing is when Jesus is revealed from heaven
 - D. Whom will be punished?
 - 1. who don't know God
 - 2. and do not obey the gospel
 - E. What is the punishment?
 - 1. everlasting destruction
 - 2. shut out from God's presence
 - F. What will happen to the believers?
 - 1. Christ will be glorified in his holy people
 - 2. He'll be marveled among them
- IV. Apostles constant prayer because of His righteous judgment**
 - A. believers may be counted as worthy of his calling
 - B. God's power may fulfill believers' purpose & work
 - C. Jesus may be glorified in them and they in him according to God's grace

Theme: God's righteous judgment gives us hope as we endure hardship & live worth of his call.

Study Questions 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12

- 1) How would you define faith, love, & hope? Are they static terms - you either have it or you don't?
- 2) In II Thess 1:1-4, what are some of the things Paul is thankful for the believers? How are these praises similar/different from I Thess 1:3? What is Paul trying to emphasize here? What dimensions of these virtues are being described by the clauses: "growing more and more" and "every one of you has for each other is increasing"?

We remember before our God and Father

your work produced by faith,

your labor prompted by love,

and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

- faith growing more & more, love for each other increasing, enduring in suffering
 - 3 virtues going hand in hand together, I Thess - productivity of virtues, II Thess - dynamic aspect of relationship. Growth in depth and pervasiveness.
- 3) From vs 5-10, Paul argues that the Thessalonians' faith, love, and endurance prove that God's judgment is right. How does he prove that? What are his arguments? How is suffering evidence that God's judgment is right?
 - Suffering proves faith genuine resulting in being counted as worthy (becoming more like the condition Christ redeemed us to become). Then, when God judges, He'll be proven righteous.
 - suffering → faith genuine, growing stronger → counted worthy → God is righteous
 - -Not just NOW but look at FUTURE
-We don't see what God sees but still need to trust?
-In God's hand, we do not need to give payback
 - 4) There are 2 groups of people being contrasted? Who are they? How are they different? Let's list them out in a table.

Troublers	Troubled
Will be paid back with trouble	Given relief
Will be punished	Us
Do not know God	Holy People
Do not Obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus	Glorified in
Will be punished with everlasting destruction	Will marvel at Lord's
Will be shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power on the day he comes	Believer of Testimony

5) When will this happen? How is this description of Christ's return similar/different from I Thess 4:16?

For the Lord himself will come down from heaven,

with a loud command,
with the voice of the archangel
and with the trumpet call of God,

- When Jesus returns.
 - From heaven, universal, visible to all, involving angels, & powerful/grand vs. fire (purifying, judging, fearful)
- 6) Whom will Jesus punish? Why do you think Paul emphasize both of the conditions? How will they be punished? What will happen to believers?
- Those who do not know/do not obey, mutually inclusive
 - eternal destruction & separation from God (Though created in His image for the purpose of worshipping Him, they'll be eternally separated from Him.)
 - glorifying Christ, marvel with all believers in His presence
- 7) With Christ's return in mind, Paul prayed for the believers. What does his prayer contain? Why are these prayers important as we keep in mind about Jesus' return? What do "be counted worthy" v.5 & "may count you worthy" v.11 mean? Paul's 2nd prayer item was that believers' purpose & act of faith will be fulfilled by God's power? What does he mean by that? Can you share an experience of how God's power fulfill your act of faith? Paul's 3rd prayer item is that Jesus may be glorified in us and we in Him. In what ways can Jesus be glorified in us? On what bases can we share this glory with Him?
- Count worthy of his calling, good purpose & act fulfilled by his power, Jesus be glorified in us and us in Him
 - Until His return, we are to live in light of his return with eternal perspective, to grow so that our lives can be more & more like what God has redeemed us to be "saints," so that we'll be counted as worthy
 - Not worthy but considered worthy, not worthy but working at it.
 - By ourselves we can have intent for good and work for good but it'll be God's power to accomplish the work. Prov 16:3, 16:9, 21:30
 - As we let Him have control of our lives and live in obedience. We're not capable, unworthy by ourselves.
 - Grace is what grant us this great privilege to share in His suffering and then, in His glory. Rom 8:17
- 8) **[Application]**
- How will you develop good purposes and acts of faith to help you become worthy of his calling?
 - What area of your life can you work on to glorify God's name?
 - What area of your life do you need to turn over to God to find your worth in him?
 - **Pair up with a partner and pray over these areas of your life.**