

2 Thessalonians

I. Introduction. 1:1,2.

- A. Authors. 1:1a
- B. Recipients. 1:1b
- C. Blessing. 1:2

II. Encouragement in Persecution. 1:3-12.

- A. Commendation for steadfastness. 1:3,4 — Suffering helps us to grow (1:3-5)
- B. Explanation of the purpose of persecution. 1:5-10 — Suffering prepares us for glory (1:6-10)
- C. Intercession for continued spiritual growth. 1:11,12 — Suffering glorifies Christ (1:11-12)

III. Instruction Concerning the Day of the Lord. 2:1-12.

- A. The apostasy must take place in the future (2:1-3)
- B. Will be preceded by definite signs (2:3-12)
 - 1. The temple must be rebuilt (2:4-5)
 - 2. The Restrainer must be removed (2:6-12)
 - 3. The church must be completed (2:13-17)

IV. Thanksgiving and Exhortation. 2:13-17.

- A. Praise for their calling. 2:13-15.
- B. Prayer for their comfort and stability. 2:16,17.

V. Confession of Confidence. 3:1-5.

- A. Request for prayer. 3:1,2.
- B. Reminder of God's faithfulness. 3:3-5.

VI. Commandments to Work. 3:6-15.

- A. Shun the idle. 3:6.
- B. Imitate us. 3:7-9.
- C. Work or do not eat. 3:10.
- D. Exhort the idle. 3:11-13.
- E. Warn and discipline the disobedient. 3:14,15.

VII. Conclusion

- A. Blessing. 3:16.
- B. Paul's signature. 3:17.
- C. Benediction. 3:18.

2 THESSALONIANS

	Affirmation Amidst Affliction <i>"We ought always to give thanks to God for you." (1:3)</i> <i>"We . . . speak proudly of you . . . for your perseverance and faith." (1:4)</i> <i>"We pray for you always." (1:11)</i> CHAPTER 1	Explanation of Prophecy <i>"Let no one in any way deceive you." (2:3)</i> <u>Secret power of lawlessness</u> <u>Restraint removed</u> <u>Man of lawlessness</u> <i>"So then . . . stand firm." (2:15)</i> CHAPTER 2	Clarification regarding Response <i>"We command you." (3:6)</i> <i>"If anyone does not obey . . ." (3:14)</i> <i>"May the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace." (3:16)</i> CHAPTER 3
Question	Why are we suffering?	What will occur?	How do I respond?
Contrasts	Peace amidst pain	Lawlessness versus restraint	Work while waiting
Statement	The Lord knows!	The "day of the Lord" has not yet come!	"Do not grow weary of doing good." (3:13)
Emphasis	Commendation	Correction	Clarification
Main Theme	The hope of Christ's return encourages us in our suffering and motivates us to live responsibly for Him.		
Key Verses	1:11–12; 2:13–15		