

Bible Study – Outline

II Thessalonians

Encouragement and The Day of the Lord

Author Paul
Date Written Approx. 51 AD
Audience: The Church at Thessalonica

Major Theme(s)

Clearing up confusion regarding the 2nd coming of Christ
Persistence

Key People

Paul, Timothy, Silas

II Thessalonians

Paul's Encouragement for a time of trial	1
Paul's thankfulness for the Thessalonians	1:1-4
Encouragement for trials and persecutions	1:5-10
Paul's prayer for God's blessing	1:11-12
The Day of the Lord	2
Signs of the approaching Day of the Lord	2:1-7
The Second Coming of Christ	2:8-12
The Christians Hope in the Day of the Lord	2:13-17
The Conduct of Believers under Pressure	3
Patience; avoid the disorderly	3:1-5
Conclusion	3:16-18

Key Scriptures

II Thess. 1:4-7

⁴Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring.

⁵All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering. ⁶God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you⁷ and give relief to you

who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels.

II Thess. 1:11

With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith

II Thess. 2:1-2

Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers and sisters, not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by the teaching allegedly from us—whether by a prophecy or by word of mouth or by letter—asserting that the day of the Lord has already come.

II Thess. 2:3-4

³Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. ⁴He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

II Thess. 2:5-8

⁵Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things? ⁶And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time. ⁷For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. ⁸And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming.

II Thess. 2:8-12

⁸And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming. ⁹The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, ¹⁰and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. ¹¹For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie ¹²and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.

II Thess. 3:6

⁶In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers and sisters, to keep away from every believer who is idle and disruptive and does not live according to the teaching you received from us.

II Thess. 3:11-13

¹¹We hear that some among you are idle and disruptive. They are not busy; they are busybodies. ¹²Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus

Christ to settle down and earn the food they eat.¹³ And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good.

Discussion Questions

1. What does Paul offer as comfort for the sufferings the Thessalonians are going through?
2. What can we learn from Paul's prayer? (II Thess. 1:11-12)
3. What is your understanding and belief regarding the "Day of the Lord"?
4. What does Paul encourage the Thessalonians to do as described in II Thess. 2:13-17?
5. What is Paul's attitude towards idleness and why was it a problem in the church at that time?

Resources Used

Adventuring Through the Bible by Ray Stedman
Life Application Bible (NIV) - Zondervan and Tyndale House.
www.biblestudytools.com