

2 Thessalonians Chapter 1

1. Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

A. **Paul**- means *little*

B. **Silvanus**- means *of wood*

1. Silas replaced Barnabas on Paul's second missionary journey. [Acts 15:22](#) He felt led to stay in Antioch after he was sent there by the Jerusalem church. [Acts 15:34](#) He was in the right place and the right time to be used by God. It is important we be led by the Spirit of God and follow the inward witness of the Spirit in our heart.

C. **Timothy**- means *one who honors God*

1. Timothy was led to the Lord by Paul. Paul was his spiritual father. He served him as a son with a father in the gospel. He got Paul's DNA and therefore Paul could trust him above all others. [Phil. 2:19-22](#)

D. to the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

1. **church**- Gr. *ekklesia*- *called out ones*

2. **Thessalonians**

a. Paul came to Thessalonica after he left Philippi.

3. **In God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ**

a. A Christian is double wrapped with the Holy Spirit inside them! We are in God the Father and in Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit inside us!

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

A. **Grace**- Gr. *charis*- *unmerited favor, strength, power, ability*

1. This verse is the most repeated verse in the NT. It is not just a nice greeting, but the very resource that we are to live out the Christian life and do everything written hereafter.

B. **peace**- Gr. *eirene*- *harmony, oneness, unity*

1. Peace is a direct by-product of grace. If you lack peace you are not drawing upon God's grace.

3. We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other,

A. We are bound to thank God always for you,

1. **bound-** Gr. **opheilo-** *ought*

2. **thank-**Gr. **eucharisteo-** *to give good grace*

a. Thanksgiving is processed grace in the heart and returned to God.

B. brethren- Gr. **adelphos-** *sharing the same womb*

C. as it is fitting,

1. **fitting-** Gr. **axios-** *equal weight to, worthy of, deserving*

a. We should give God thanks because it is fitting to do so. He has done so much for us, it is fitting to thank Him always. He is so worthy!

D. because your faith grows exceedingly,

1. **faith-** Gr. **pistis-** *firm persuasion that comes from hearing*

a. When we heard the gospel, faith came. Now when the Word is heard faith is stimulated in us. We don't get new faith.

2. **grows exceedingly-** Gr. **huperauxano-** *to grow above or beyond*

a. You can't and don't need to get more faith beyond the measure of faith given to you when you got saved, but that measure can grow with use! [Rom. 12:3](#)

E. and the love of every one of you abounds toward each other

1. **love-** Gr. **agape**

a. When we got saved, faith and love were included in the package! [1 Tim. 1:14](#) We received the measure of faith and the love of God was shed abroad abundantly in our heart by the Holy Spirit. [Rom. 5:5](#)

b. Both love and faith are fruit of the Spirit. They are grace gifts, not something a Christian produces themselves. They however must choose to exercise what has been given to them.

2. **abounds-** Gr. **pleonazo**

a. You don't need more love! You need to use the love you

already have in your heart through the new birth. It will abound towards others.

4. so that we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure,

A. boast- Gr. **kauchaomai**

1. There is a good kind of pride that we have in other people in our lives. Paul boasted about those he loved. However, it is not appropriate to boast in personal accomplishments.

B. churches- Gr. **ekklesia**

C. patience- Gr. **hupomone-** *to remain under*

1. This is another fruit of the Spirit.
2. Patience used in a trial produces character. [Rom. 5:4](#)

D. faith- Gr. **pistis**

1. Again, this is a fruit of the Spirit. We bear the fruit of patience and faith by abiding in the vine of Christ.

E. persecutions- Gr. **diogmos**

1. Almost all references to suffering in the NT are connected to persecution. We are redeemed from sickness and poverty, but not persecution.

F. tribulations- Gr. **thlipsis-** *pressure*

1. The Spirit will provide greater pressure on the inside of us pushing out against our tribulations, than tribulations can put on us from the outside. [1 John 4:4](#)

G. endure- Gr. **anechomai** *-to hold up*

5. which is manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer;

A. which is manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God,

1. **manifest evidence-** Gr. **endeigma-** *token, evidence, proof*
 - a. Paul says something very similar to this in the book of Philippians and will help us understand what Paul is saying here.
 - b. [Php 1:28](#) *and not in any way terrified by your adversaries,*

which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that from God.

c. Paul is saying in Philippians that the fact the saints are standing strong and unafraid of their adversaries this showed that God was for them and were on their side. The fact that God was sustaining them was proof that they would be saved, and those who were their adversaries would enter into perdition.

d. That is what Paul is saying here. The fact that these saints were filled with patience and faith in the midst of their tribulations, was proof that God had ruled in their favor and fighting for them, and that He had ruled against their adversaries.

2. **righteous-** Gr. **dikaios**

3. **judgment-** Gr. **krisis**

B. that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God,

1. **counted worthy-** Gr. **kataxioo-** *to think or countworthy, fit*

a. We are counted worthy of the kingdom of God through faith.

b. The fact that these saints were standing in the midst of pressures showed they had true faith and were seen as those worthy of the kingdom- those possessing faith!

c. True bible faith has works that validates that it has genuine. [James 2:17](#)

d. We are saved by grace alone by faith alone, but not by a faith that is alone. Bible faith has works that comes with it!

2. **kingdom-** Gr. **basileia**

C. for which you also suffer

1. **suffer-** Gr. **pascho**

a. This is the suffering of persecution not the suffering of sickness, poverty, calamity, and defeat.

6. since *it is* a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you,

A. **righteous**- Gr. **dikaios**

B. **repay**- Gr. **antapodidomi**- *to repay, requite*

1. This happens presently through God's law of sowing and reaping He has put into all of creation. What is sown is what is reaped. [Gal. 6:7](#) This can work for you, or against you! It is important what you sow, because that is what you will reap in greater measure.

2. Ultimately, this will be fulfilled at the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ when He treads out the grapes of His wrath upon the unbelievers who have spurned him during the Tribulation period. This context is seen in the next verse which shows God's deliverance to those believers still alive when He comes back to set up His Millennial kingdom.

C. **tribulation**- Gr. **thlipsis**

D. **trouble**- Gr. **thlibo**- *pressure*

7. and to *give* you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels,

A. **troubled**- Gr. **thlibo**

B. **rest**- Gr. **anesis**- *a loosening, relaxing*

1. The Tribulation period will be a great time of stress and intense pressure upon believers to conform to the Anti-Christ and his kingdom.

2. True believers will never bow their knee nor take the mark of the Anti-Christ, even if it costs them their lives.

C. **revealed**- Gr. **apokalupto**- *to uncover, take the lid off*

1. This is the physical return of the Lord at His Second Advent.

D. **heaven**- Gr. **ouranos**

1. As Jesus was taken up into heaven, in like manner, He will return. [Acts 1:11](#)

E. **mighty**- Gr. **dunamis**- *power*

1. Jesus is coming back with His power angels!

F. **angels**- Gr. **aggelos**- *messengers*

1. Satan can't make any more angels to help his cause. If God needs more He knows how and can make more of them! Praise God!

8. in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A. in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God,

1. **flaming-** Gr. **phlox-** *a blaze*

2. **fire-** Gr. **pur**

a. This present earth will be destroyed by fire at Jesus' second advent. [2Pe 3:7](#), [2Pe 3:10](#)

b. All unbelievers will be thrown into the Lake of Fire at the end of the Millennium.

3. **vengeance-** Gr. **ekdikesis-** *to execute justice*

4. **know-** Gr. **eido**

a. There will be some on that day that will proclaim to have done works in the Lord's name, but Jesus will say, "Depart from me, I never knew you." Many have misinterpreted the words of Jesus to mean that believers that get off the straight path will end up lost. This is false interpretation. Jesus said he **NEVER** knew them. These were never saved to start with!

b. Jesus knows the sheep that are His.

B. and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

1. **obey-** Gr. **hupakouo**

a. In the NT obedience is equivalent to believing. [Rom 1:5](#); [Rom 2:8](#); [Rom 10:16](#); [Rom 15:18](#); [Rom 16:26](#), [Gal 3:1](#); [Gal 5:7](#), [Heb. 3:18-19](#), [Heb 5:9](#); [Heb 11:8](#), [1Pe 1:2](#); [1Pe 4:17](#)

b. How do we obey the gospel? It is by believing it.

2. **gospel-** Gr. **euaggelion-** *good news*

a. Those who willfully reject the gospel are disobedient to it.

9. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

A. punished- Gr. **tino dike-** *to pay a just penalty*

B. everlasting- Gr. **aionios-** *without end, perpetual*

1. This is in direct opposition to Universalist teaching that teaches there is no hell or it is just temporary. There is everlasting life in

heaven and there is everlasting death in the Lake of Fire.

C. **destruction-** Gr. **olethros**

D. **presence-** Gr. **prosopon**

1. This is what makes hell just that- hell. God's presence is missing.

2. If you are saved you will enjoy God's everlasting presence!

E. **glory-** Gr. **doxa**

F. **power-** Gr. **ischus-** *ability, force, strength, might*

1. If you are saved you will experience God's everlasting glory and power!

10. when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.

A. **when he comes,**

1. **comes-** Gr. **erchomai**

B. **in that Day,**

1. **Day-** Gr. **hemera**

C. **to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among those who believe,**

1. **glorified-** Gr. **endoxazo**

2. **saints-** Gr. **hagios-** *holy ones*

a. These are Christians that got saved during the church age which will receive glorified bodies. The glory of God will radiate out through our new glorified bodies.

3. **admired-** Gr. **thaumazo-** *wonder at, marvel, be amazed by*

4. **believe-** Gr. **pisteuo-** *to be persuaded*

a. These are the people who are alive at the end of the Tribulation that believed upon the Lord. These will enter into the Millennium to repopulate the new earth. They will admire the Lord in His resurrected saints who had believed upon Him.

D. **because our testimony among you was believed.**

1. **testimony-** Gr. **marturion**

a. God's testimony is the Gospel.

2. **believed-** Gr. **pistueo**

a. In other words it was obeyed.

11. Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of *this* calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of *His* goodness and the work of faith with power,

A. Therefore we also pray always for you you that our God would count you worthy of this calling,

1. pray- Gr. **proseuchomai**

2. count you worthy- Gr. **axioo**

a. Those who have accepted Christ by faith and continue in that faith are counted worthy of the calling. Those who answer the call by faith are the ones worthy of the calling. This verse does not teach that a Christian after salvation must attain to a certain level of holiness before they can go to heaven. That would be salvation by works.

3. calling- Gr. **klesis**

B. and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power

1. fulfill- Gr. **pleroo-** *to fill up, complete*

2. good pleasure- Gr. **eudokia-** *well-pleasing*

3. goodness- Gr. **agathosone-** *divine goodness*

a. A born again Christian wants to do good from the core of their being - their spirit. However, this can only be carried out by the power of the Spirit and not by willpower. If we try to bring forth the good we want to do by the strength of our flesh we will find out we cannot, but actually bring forth the opposite. Paul found this to be the case in his personal testimony in [Rom. 7:14-24](#)

b. As we walk in the Spirit- or in other words set our mind on the things of the Spirit- the Spirit will manifest the goodness we want to do by His power. [Rom. 8:4-5](#), [Gal. 5:16](#) It is not by our effort, but by the Spirit of God. It is by grace through faith.

c. This verse is also stated in other words in Philippians. By grace God works in us both to will and to do of his good pleasure. [Phil. 2:13](#)

4. work- Gr. ergon

a. There are works of the law which come from our self-righteous flesh and there are good works that come from faith. The second kind are what Paul is talking about here.

b. Faith without works is dead.

5. faith- Gr. pistis

6. power- Gr. dunamis

a. This is the power of the Holy Spirit.

12. that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

A. that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you,

1. name- Gr. onoma

2. glorified- Gr. endoxazo

3. in you

a. Religion is based on trying to glorify God by our works. Grace is where God is glorified in us by working in and through us by His Spirit. The first is seeking for praise, the second gives all the praise to God.

B. and you in Him,

1. God is glorified in us, but we are also glorified by God's grace.

C. according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ

1. grace- Gr. charis