

## 2 Thessalonians Chapter 1

### I. GREETING (v. 1-2)

- Traditional Pauline greeting
- Almost word-for-word for 1 Thess

### II. GUIDANCE (v. 3-12)

#### 1. ENDURANCE of their faith (v. 3-4)

- "Bound", obligated, indebted
  - To give thanks to God always
  - For the Thessalonians
- (v. 3) "As it is fitting"
  - Balances of weight, idea of scales
  - Measuring out 2 comparable things
- Paul's prayers/thanks are directly proportional to the Thessalonians' actions
  - Faith grows, Gr. = exceedingly flourished
  - Love abounds, Gr. = to have much
- (v. 4) Paul is boasting to the churches
  - Patience & faith, THE Patience
  - Patience on the Lord leading to the strengthening of faith
  - Patience accompanies faith hand-in-hand
  - "All persecutions & tribulations"
  - Persecutions, lit. being followed/pursued by the enemy
  - Tribulations, crushing, squeezing, compressed
  - "Endure", holding up under the conditions

#### 2. EVIDENCE of God's righteousness (v. 5-10)

- "Manifest evidence"
  - Due to patience and faith
  - During trials/tribulations (persecutions)
- Righteous judgement of God

- Allows trials so we are counted worthy
- The specific purpose is for the kingdom, refining process
- Suffering now and in the future
- Romans 8:18 "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."
- Paul emphasizes the repayment of evil & persecution to the righteous
- (v.6) God dispenses righteous judgement upon those that trouble
  - Gr. root of tribulation
  - To press up against someone
  - Rom 12:17-21, Hot coals on head
  - Proverbs 25:21-22 "If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink; for so you will heap coals of fire on his head, and the Lord will reward you."
- (v.7) Final result is rest from trouble
  - Jesus is "revealed", a grander term
  - Lit. to remove the veil and expose something hidden
  - Not just to see a thing, but to understand the thing
- (v. 8) Revealed from heaven with flaming fire, taking vengeance
  - 2 Peter 3:1-13, Earth reserved for judgment with fire
  - Taking vengeance on the disobedient
- (v.9) "Everlasting destruction"
  - Separated from his presence
  - Separated from the glory of his power
  - Matt 13:24-30, 36-43, 47-50, Wheat and the tares, (separation and judgement)
- (v.10) Jesus revealed in glory, in that Day
  - Part of the revealing, glorification process
  - Idea of self-glorification, used only here & v.12
- Glorified in His saints, admired by His saints
- "Admired", Gr. = wondered, worshipped

### 3. ENCOURAGEMENT in distress (v. 11-12)

- Paul & friends always praying for them
  - Count you worthy of the calling
  - Fulfill all good pleasure, be filled up
  - Col 1:9-14, Walking in the strength of God
- Filled with God's goodness, work of faith w/power
- Active power, using God's goodness to a work of faith
- (v.12) Name of the Lord is glorified
  - His name, reputation, title, character
  - We are glorified in Him, Him in us
- "According to grace", not our work
- Nothing to do with us
- He empowers our faith through grace
- We glorify Him through faith, empowers Him to do more in us