

# The Thessalonians Church

## All Scripture is KJV: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12

### INTRODUCTION: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE HAVE TO SAY

#### What does the 2 books of Thessalonians tell us? – it teaches on

1. Jesus return, and his timing for his return? – (2 Thessalonians 2:4)
  2. How Jesus will return, and in what way or manner?,
  3. Who are the elect, and how can we know who the elect are?,
  4. How Thessalonians fits in with other scriptures on the return of Christ?
- ✓ So the book of 1 Thessalonians is majored on the Holy living of the believer at the coming of the Lord, which is the rapture of all believers at that point.
- ✚ This is the second coming of Jesus, the day of the Lord and the rapture all in one.

These two books of 1 & 2 Thessalonians were amongst the first letters that the Apostle Paul ever wrote, and they were written to the church at Thessalonica.

- ✓ The time of these letters were between 51-52 A.D.
- ✓ Paul wrote these letters to correct some of the misunderstanding amongst the believers especially concerning the return of Jesus.

You will notice that in the first opening words and greetings from Paul, he starts out in exactly the same manner as the greeting in 1 Thessalonians.

In the first 2 verses Paul introduces himself as well as Silvanus, and Timotheus as he did in his first letter.

- ✚ With these men at his side and as witnesses Paul begins to establish and confirm the doctrine again for those at Thessalonica who had misinterpreted what Paul had taught them when he was with them.
- ✚ And as a follow up to his first letter, Paul now again puts them at ease with regards to the second coming of Jesus.

#### 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12

#### <sup>1</sup> Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

1. What I want to say about his verse is that we can see that the church was taught correctly about believing in God.
2. Unlike the Jews, the Jews did not believe in Jesus, but only believed in the Father as being God.
3. This is also the fault of many church ecumenical movements even today where they acknowledge only Jesus but not the Father, or they associate Jesus as

being the Father. They combine the personalities of God into the same person which is also wrong.

4. The bible says in 1 John 5:7 that there are three that bear record in heaven.

**1 John 5:7** <sup>7</sup> For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

5. The Jews were also rebuked by Jesus in John 5 because they did not acknowledge him as being God. And He told them that because they have not the son they have not the Father.

**John 5: 23-27** <sup>23</sup> That **all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father.** He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.

<sup>24</sup> **Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.**

<sup>25</sup> Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.

<sup>26</sup> For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; <sup>27</sup> **And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.**

- ✓ Also.....the Jews do not believe Jesus.

**John 3:36** He **that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life:** and he **that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.**

- ✓ So the Thessalonian church was a good church, and as the scriptures says they were both in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. As we see from verse 2.

**<sup>2</sup> Grace unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.**

**<sup>3</sup> We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth;**

1. It is evident that from these 3 verses that these people were still following Jesus and still had a love for each other in the Lord.
2. Not only that, but their faith was strong, and even growing stronger, despite them being under much persecution and tribulation by the Roman government as well as the Jews.

**<sup>4</sup> So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure:**

1. In verse 4 Paul says “we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God”.

2. In other words what he is saying is that we like to “boast” about you to the other churches, because you have so much patience and faith when you all are in such persecution, that you are an inspiration to the other churches and other brethren who suffer similar things as you.
3. So we are going to encourage others to be like you he is saying in that regard.

**5 Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer:**

1. You know the scripture in James where it says show me your faith and I will show you my faith by my works.
  2. Well here is a classic example of the outworking of that faith.
  3. These people were in much persecution, but still they showed the works of a righteous person who was living for Jesus.
  4. So Paul says, that because of the way in which you have showed your faith, that it will be counted and noted by God, when he finally pours out his judgement upon the unsaved.
  5. Because these were people standing up for God, being persecuted for God, and perhaps even being martyred for Jesus as they called him God.
  6. Paul says that they will be **counted worthy of the kingdom of God.**
- ✓ Remember they were waiting just as we are waiting today for the return of Jesus.

**6 Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you;**

1. In the book of Revelation 8 we see God pouring out his righteous anger upon the wicked, just as was told here in verse 6.
2. God will one day punish all evil.

**Hebrews 10:30** For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.

**7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,**

1. It is impossible to get through any of the chapters in Thessalonians with Paul making mention of Jesus return, because these 2 books are based on that subject of his return.
  2. So this verse 7 is no exception.
  3. So when we look at this verse again we are reminded of several facts as mentioned previously elsewhere in the messages.
- ✓ It is a promise of Jesus **“shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels”**
4. Bearing in mind that we are still on the subject of the rapture, of being caught up to be with the Lord. And everyone because that is what 1 Thessalonians 4 said.
  5. When we get to the second letter of Thessalonians we are still on that subject.

- ✓ So here is the question: Is this verse 7 talking about the rapture still? **when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels?**
- ✓ Remember its saying he shall be revealed from heaven, and he is coming with his angels.
- ✓ It definitely says he “he shall be revealed”.
- ✓ Is says in Revelation 1 that every eye shall see him.
  
- ✓ This is what Paul was correcting in the church. He wrote these letters to confirm for the people that even if they died Jesus would still come and get them one day.
  
- ✚ What we need to remember is that Jesus comes after the tribulation to rapture the church. He is coming as Matthew 24:29 says.
  
- ✓ This by the way this is both the rapture and the second coming of Jesus, and what the bible says is the day of the Lord.

What this is not.

- ✚ It is not the marriage feast of the Lamb. As erroneously taught by others.
- ✚ The marriage feast of the Lamb only comes later in Revelation 19.
- ✚ Everything before the sun and moon are darkened is the tribulation.
- ✚ By the time that the sun and moon are darkened the tribulation is over.
- ✚ The whole 70 weeks of Daniel is not classed as the tribulation.
  

  1. If it was classed as the 7 year period of the tribulation, that would mean that Jesus would be coming on a white horse in Revelation 19.
  2. And it would not make any sense since both Revelation 1:7 and 1 Thessalonians 4 and Matthew 24 and many other passages say that he is coming in the clouds? – So where’s the horse?
  3. Not only that but Revelation 19 does not even mention once the word coming? – except when the birds are supposed to come and feed off the flesh of the slain.
  4. It also does not mention anything about Jesus gathering his elect?
  5. Yet those who say Jesus comes before the tribulation takes place, will say that Matthew 24 is talking about revelation 19. But it does not match.

No.....the bible is clear.

**Revelation 1:7** Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

6. So when Jesus is revealed from heaven every eye shall see him – right?
7. So this is not going to be a secret rapture? – because very eye shall see him.

**<sup>8</sup> In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:**

1. God is going to pour out his wrath but only after the church has been raptured.

2. And he will come in flaming fire, and he will come with vengeance upon those that have not he gospel of Jesus.
3. To obey the gospel is to believe the gospel. The belief of the death burial and resurrection of Jesus.

**<sup>9</sup> Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;**

1. What people often say is that when the wicked are judged they will be cast out away from God. That they will be separated from God.
2. The truth is that when people go to hell they are not separated from God. Contrary to the popular belief by the atheist.
3. What the scripture here in verse 2 is talking about is not the physical casting away of those who will be punished. No. It is speaking that the punishment is coming or emanating from the fact that they are in the presence of the Lord and the punishment is being carried out or coming **from the presence of the Lord**.

- ✚ Let me explain from scripture why that is so.
- ✚ Why it means that the destruction is coming from the Lord, and that it does not mean that the wicked are being cast away from the Lord.

**Acts 3:19** Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, **when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord**.

**Again I can prove it from Revelation 15:** <sup>8</sup> And the temple was filled with smoke **from the glory of God, and from his power**; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.

- ✚ That means that in Revelation 15:8 the smoke is coming from the glory of God, and from his power. Its speaking about the source from which it comes.
- ✓ But, people will try and use this scripture in 2 Thessalonians 1:9 to teach that when the wicked are simply separated from the presence of God.
- ✓ That is why the NIV gets it wrong.
- ✓ This is an act of Satan tampering with the word of God to down play the horrors of hell and destruction.
- ✚ They will say that God will cast them away into the hell and the lake of fire and God will not see them again. He will shut them out of his presence.
- ✚ That's the perfect message for the atheist to hear and the Satan worshipper. But that not the truth.

So it is false my friend.

4. If you have a NIV which is the non inspired version then you will be mislead. Because the NIV says that...2 Thessalonians 1:<sup>9</sup> They will be punished with everlasting destruction and **shut out from the presence of the Lord** and **from the glory of his might**

5. So the NIV is teaching that when the wicked are judged they will be shut out from the presence of God and his power. If that were the case it would give Satan free range in Hell. But its false my friend.

- ✓ Well that the reason why you need a KJV bible. Here is a sobering thought.
- ✓ Concerning the wicked in Hell.

**Revelation 14:9-11**<sup>9</sup> And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, <sup>10</sup> **The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:** <sup>11</sup> **And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever:** and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

6. So the King James Bible rightfully teaches that he wicked will always be in the presence of God being tormented. Not shut out as the NIV teaches.
7. Jesus has the keys to hell and to death. (Rev 20)
8. Isaiah 30:33 tells us that hell is prepared by God. It is not a place for Satan to rule and rein and play there. ( the breath of the LORD, like a stream of brimstone, doth kindle it.)

**<sup>10</sup> When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.**

1. This is in fact is just a continuation of what has just been alluded to in verse 9, that when Jesus comes he will all wickedness under his feet.
2. So these are the people who obeyed not the gospel.
3. But.... Those that obeyed the gospel....those who believed the gospel.....which is the death burial and resurrection of Jesus, will be glorified by them.
4. Because as Paul said..... **because our testimony among you was believed.**
5. And the time period of that glorification is described again as **“in that day”.**
6. **Admired in “all them” that believed.**

**<sup>11</sup> Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power:**

**<sup>12</sup> That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.**

1. The calling is in response to the good works that we should do for God.
2. That God would work in you.
3. By the work of Faith.
4. That the name of Jesus would be glorified.
5. We need to bring God glory now that we are saved was Pauls prayer for them.

**2 Timothy 2:** <sup>19</sup> **Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal,** The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

<sup>20</sup> But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.

<sup>21</sup> If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

6. This is not for salvation but it is our calling. We are to walk in the grace of God that saved us.
7. Not everyone brings honour to the Lord, but it does not mean that; that person is not saved.

CLOSE IN PRAYER.....