

# **SECOND THESSALONIANS**

Message No. 01

**“WHEN THE LORD IS REVEALED”**

*2 Thessalonians 1:1-12*

GREETINGS: *2 Thessalonians 1:1-2* - cf. *2 Thess. 1:1*

(1) He refers to their relationship to God as a church  
*“unto the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”*

(2) He refers to their resources from God  
*“Grace unto you and peace, from God our (omitted in NIV)*

*“Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”*

1A. PAUL **PRAISES** THEM FOR THEIR GROWTH IN THE MIDST OF DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES - 3-5

1B. The **EXCELLENCE** of that growth - 3

1C. In terms of **Faith**  
*“groweth exceedingly”*

NASB - *“greatly enlarged”*

Greek: *huperauxano*

2C. In terms of **Love**  
*“the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth”*

NIV - *“is increasing”* - cf. *1 Thess. 3:12*

2B. The **ENDURANCE** in that growth - 4  
Cf. *Hebrews 12:1-2; James 1:2-4, 12*

*“endure”* - Greek: *anechomai* - *“to bear up”*

3B. The **EVIDENCE** of that growth - 5  
NASB - *“plain indication”* - refers to their patience and faith

*“counted worthy”* - Greek: *kataxioo* - fitness, not merit

"WHEN THE LORD IS REVEALED"  
Message No. 1 - 1 Thessalonians 1:1-12

- 2A. PAUL **PROMISES** THEM THAT ALL THINGS WILL ONE DAY BE MADE RIGHT - 6-10
- 1B. The **RIGHTEOUSNESS** of God will see to it - 6  
*"seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you"*
- Cf. *Galatians 6:7* - cf. *Psalm 74:22-23; 79:10-12; 94:20-23; Revelation 6:9-10; 11:18; 15:4; 16:5-6; 18:20; 19:2*
- 2B. The **REST** of God will come to the believers - 7a  
*"And to you who are troubled - rest with us" - Revelation 14:13*
- 3B. The **REVELATION** of our Lord will come - 7b  
*"when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels"*  
Cf. *Matt. 16:27; 25:31* - cf. *Jude 14-15; Rev. 1:7*
- 4B. The **REVENGE** of God will come upon those who don't obey the gospel - 8-9  
*"In flaming fire taking vengeance"*
- 1C. The **People** who will experience this "*vengeance*" of God  
*"them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ"* (word "*Christ*" omitted in NIV & NASB)
- 2C. The **Punishment** will last forever - 9a  
*"Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord"* Greek: *olethros* - used 5 times - cf. *1 Thess. 5:3*
- "everlasting"* - Greek: *aionios*  
*Matt. 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Rev. 14:10-11; 20:10*
- 3C. The **Power** of the Lord will accomplish this - 9b  
*"and from the glory of His power"*
- Cf. *Matt. 24:30; Mark 13:26; Luke 21:27*
- 5B. The **REWARD** of God will come upon all who believe - 10  
*"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"*.

*“WHEN THE LORD IS REVEALED”  
Message No. 1 - 1 Thessalonians 1:1-12*

3A. PAUL **PRAYS** FOR THEM AS THEY SEEK TO GLORIFY GOD - 11-12

1B. God's **PLAN** - “*calling*” - 11a

*“that our God would count you worthy of this calling”*

*Cf. 2 Timothy 1:9-10; 2 Thess. 2:14*

2B. God's **PLEASURE** - 11b

*“and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness”*

*Cf. Lk. 12:32; Eph. 1:5, 9; Phil. 2:13*

3B. God's **POWER** - 11c

*“and the work of faith with power”*

*Cf. John 6:27-29; Eph. 1:19-20; 1 Thess. 2:13*

4B. God's **PURPOSE** - 12a

*“that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in Him” - cf. 1 Cor. 10:31*

5B. God's **PROVISION** - 12b

*“according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ”*

# **SECOND THESSALONIANS**

Message No. 2

**“WHEN THE ANTICHRIST IS REVEALED”**

*2 Thessalonians 2:1-12*

Introduction: 1 John 2:18 - “*ye have heard that antichrist shall come*” - *Revelation 11:7* calls him “*the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit*” and often with the simple words “*the beast*” - whose final destiny according to *Rev. 19:20* is “*the lake of fire burning with brimstone.*”

*Daniel 7:8* refers to him as a “*little horn*” with “*eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.*”

*Daniel 8:23* calls him “*a king of fierce countenance.*” *Daniel 9:26* refers to him as “*the prince that shall come.*”

*Daniel 11:36ff* refers to him as “*the king*” that “*shall do according to his will, and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvelous things against the God of gods...*”

*Zechariah 11:15* calls him a “*foolish shepherd*” and “*the idol shepherd that leaveth the flock*” in v. 17.

The word “*anti*” in English means “*against*” but in Greek it means “*in the stead of*” - the Antichrist is a counterfeit Christ - meaning will accept him as the Messiah and be greatly deceived!

Notice the following facts about the coming of this world deceiver:

1A. THE **DAY** OF THE LORD IS THE TIME OF HIS REVELATION - 1-2

1B. The **RAPTURE** is the basis for this word of exhortation from Paul - 1  
“*by the coming (Greek: *parousia*) of our Lord Jesus Christ, and our gathering together unto Him.*”

2B. The immediate **REASON** was the reaction of these believers to reports that the day of the Lord was already here - 2

“*that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us*”

"WHEN THE ANTICHRIST IS REVEALED"

*Message No. 2 - 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12*

- 2A. THE **DEPARTURE** OF CHURCH-AGE BELIEVERS WILL COME FIRST - 3  
"a falling away first" - Greek: *apostasia* - used twice in its noun form (cf. *Acts 21:21*), and 15 times in its verb form, *aphistemi*. It is translated "depart" in 11 places.

Once in *Luke 8:13* it is translated "fall away"; it is found in *Acts 5:37* where it is translated *drew away*," and in *5:38* as "Refrain from these men."

It is used in *1 Timothy 4:1* as a religious apostasy or departure from the faith.

The very qualifying words "*from the faith*" are needed to describe what kind of "departure" it is - nothing like this is in our text. The definite article is used with the word which implies a specific departure, just mentioned in *2 Thess. 2:1*, and in *1 Thess. 4:13-18*.

The Antichrist will not be known until after the "departure" or the Rapture of the Church.

- 3A. THE **DESCRIPTION** OF THE ANTICHRIST THAT REVEALS HIS REAL IDENTITY - 3-4

"that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition" - modern translations follow the MSS evidence that reads "lawlessness" instead of "sin" (primarily in Vaticanus & Sinaiticus - not in the majority of texts).

- 1B. His **DEPRAVITY** will go unchecked  
"man of sin" - cf. *Daniel 11:37-38*

- 2B. His **DESTINY** is already settled  
"son of perdition" - cf. *Rev. 19:20; 20:10*  
Cf. *John 17:12* - Judas: "son of perdition"

- 3B. His **DETERMINATION** to be honored above every one and every thing - 4a  
"Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped." - cf. *Daniel 7:8, 11, 20, 25; 11:36-37*

- 4B. His **DECISION** to sit in the temple of God will be the final evidence of his real identity - 4b

"so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God" - cf. *Matthew 24:15*

*“WHEN THE ANTICHRIST IS REVEALED”*

*Message No. 2 - 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12*

- 4A. THE **DAY** OF HIS REVELATION IS IMPOSSIBLE UNTIL THE RESTRAINT IS REMOVED - 5-8A

*v. 6 - “that he might be revealed in his time”*

*v. 7-8 - “until HE be taken out of the way...and then shall that Wicked be revealed”*

All Greek MSS read “*lawless One*” not “*Wicked.*”

- 5A. HIS **DESTRUCTION** WILL COME WHEN OUR LORD RETURNS IN ALL HIS GLORY – 8

*“whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming” - cf. Rev. 19:19-20*

- 6A. HIS **DEEDS** WILL BE INSPIRED BY SATAN HIMSELF – 9

*“whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders” - NIV - “displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles”*

*Cf. Rev. 13:4, 12-14*

- 7A. HIS **DECEPTION** WILL AFFECT THOSE THAT PERISH – 10

*“with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish”*

*Cf. Rev. 13:8; 17:8 - cf. 1 Timothy 4:1-3; 2 Timothy 3:1-5, 13*

- 8A. THE **DELUSION** WILL COME FROM GOD HIMSELF – 11

*“and for this cause (cf. v. 10b) God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a (literally - “the”) lie.”*

- 9A. THE **DAMNATION** OF ALL THOSE WHO ARE DECEIVED WILL COME - 12

*“that they all might be damned”*

two reasons:

1B. Because they did not believe the truth!

2B. Because they delighted in unrighteousness!

# **SECOND THESSALONIANS**

Message No. 3

**“STAND FAST!”**

*2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5*

**“Stand fast”** - Greek word *steko* - cf. *1 Cor. 16:13; Galatians 5:1; Philippians 1:27; 4:1; 1 Thess. 3:8*

## 1A. THE **REASONS** FOR THIS EXHORTATION - 13-17

**“But”** - Greek: *de* - in contrast to those who will believe the lie of the Antichrist.

**“brethren beloved of the Lord”** – tremendous encouragement from Paul to these new converts!

**“because”** - Greek: *hoti* - he gives the reasons why he feels so compelled to thank God for them.

## 1B. The **CHOICE** of God - 13

Greek: *heilato* - aorist middle - **“to take for one’s self”**

### 1C. **When** He chose us

**“from the beginning”** cf. *Eph. 1:4; 2 Tim. 1:9*

### 2C. **Why** He chose us

**“to salvation”** Greek: *eis*

### 3C. **How** He chose us

**“through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth”**

Cf. *1 Peter 1:2, 18-25*

Cf. *Acts 13:48*

## 2B. The **CALLING** of God - 14

*Romans 8:28-30; 1 Cor. 1:9*

Cf. *John 17:22, 24; Romans 8:17-18*

## 3B. The **COMMANDMENTS** of God - 15

**“hold the traditions which ye have been taught”**

Greek: *paradosis* and *paradidomi*

Cf. *1 Cor. 11:2* (**“keep the ordinances as I delivered them, to you”**), *11:23*

- **“that which also I delivered unto you”** - cf. *2 Thess. 3:6* - **“tradition”**

**"STAND FAST"**

*Message No. 3 - 2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5*

4B. The **COMFORT** of God - 16-17

1C. The **Explanation** of this comfort  
*"which hath loved us"*

2C. The **Extent** of this comfort  
*"everlasting consolation"*

3C. The **Essence** of this comfort  
*"good hope through grace"*

We all need hope, but good hope

It through or by God's grace, giving us what we do not deserve!

4C. The **Effect** of this comfort  
*"stablish you in every good word and work"*

Greek: *sterizo* - used 14 times – in *2 Thess. 3:3* as well as *1 Peter 5:10*

2A. THE **RESPONSE** TO THIS EXHORTATION - 3:1-5

1B. To **PRAY** for God's servants - 1-2

1C. For the **Spread** of God's Word - 1  
*"free course"* - NIV/NASB - *"spread rapidly"*

Cf. *Acts 12:24; 13:49; 19:20;*

*2 Tim. 2:9* - cf. *1 Thess. 1:5; 2:13*

2C. For the **Safety** of God's workers - 2  
*1 Cor. 16:9; 2 Cor. 1:8-10* – cf. *2 Tim. 4:17-18*

2B. To **TRUST** in God's faithfulness - 3  
*1 Cor. 1:9; 10:13* - *"God is faithful"* - cf. *1 Thess. 5:24*

1C. For personal **Stability**  
*"who shall stablish you"* - cf. *2 Thess. 2:17*

**"STAND FAST"**

*Message No. 3 - 2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5*

2C. For spiritual **Security**

*"and keep you from evil (the evil one)" - cf. Psalm 121:7;*

*Matt. 6:13; John 17:15; Jude 24*

3B. To **OBEY** God's commandments - 4

*Romans 1:5; 15:18; 16:26; 2 Cor. 2:9; Philippians 2:13; 1 Thess. 4:1-2*

4B. To **PURSUE** God's love - 5a

*"the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God" - cf. 1 Cor. 14:1*

5B. To **WAIT** patiently for His return - 5b

*"and into the patient waiting for Christ NIV - "Christ's perseverance"*

*NASB - "steadfastness of Christ" - cf. 1 Thess. 1:10 and Romans 8:24-25*

# **SECOND THESSALONIANS**

Message No. 4

**“BE NOT WEARY IN WELL DOING!”**

**2 Thessalonians 3:6-18**

Cf. *Gal. 6:9* - *2 Cor. 4:1, 16-18*

1A. THE **PROBLEM** WHICH EXISTED AMONG THE THESSALONIAN BELIEVERS - 6, 7, 11

*walketh disorderly*” - Greek: *ataktos* – combines the word “*to set in order*” with the negative “*not*” - comes to mean “*neglectful of duties*”.

The verb *atakteo* means “*to break the ranks* (soldiers)” or to “*behave irregularly*” antonyms are “*to obey*” or “*to submit to authority.*” Translated “*unruly*” *1 Thess. 5:14*. AMPLIFIED - “*slack in the performance of duty*” or “*living as a shirker*”.

NIV - “*idle*” NASB - “*leads an unruly life*” or as in verses *7&11* - “*undisciplined life*” Not working because the Lord is coming soon!

2A. THE **PRINCIPLE** THAT AFFECTS THIS PROBLEM – 10

“*that if any would not work, neither should he eat*” - the issue is willingness, not ability! cf. *Deut. 15:7-8; James 2:15-17; 1 John 3:17-18 - Ecc. 2:24-26; 5:18-19. Exodus 20:9* - “*Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work*”.

3A. THE **PRACTICE** OF OTHER BELIEVERS TOWARD THOSE WITH THIS PROBLEM – 6

“*that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly*”  
*v. 14* - “*note that man, and have no company with him*”

Greek word *stellesthai* from the verb *stello* means “*to set in place*” or “*appoint to a position.*” When used in the middle voice as our text, followed by the preposition *apo* it means “*to avoid*” or “*withdraw yourself*” - cf. *2 Cor. 8:20*.

WHEN DO WE WITHDRAW?

1B. In the case of **DOCTRINAL** errors - *Rom. 16:17-18*

2B. In the case of **DIVISIVE** attitudes - *Titus 3:9-11*

3B. In the case of **DELIBERATE** immorality - *1 Cor. 5:9-13*  
The caution of *Galatians 6:1-2*.

*“BE NOT WEARY IN WELL DOING”*  
*Message No. 4 - 2 Thessalonians 3:6-18*

- 4B. In the case of determined rebellion - *Matt. 18:15-17*
- 5B. In the case of **DISORDERLY** conduct - *2 Thess. 3:6*  
clear refusal to respond to authority and the command of the Lord!
- 4A. THE **PURPOSE** OF THIS PRACTICE - 14-15  
*“that he may be ashamed - Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother”.*
- 1B. Your **REASON** for withdrawing is to restore him  
*“that he may be ashamed”*
- 2B. Your **RELATIONSHIP** to him must not change  
*“not as an enemy...but...as a brother”*
- 3B. Your **RESPONSE** to him is critical  
*“admonish” - cf. Romans 15:14; 1 Cor. 4:14-16; Col. 1:28.*
- 5A. THE **PEACE** THAT IS NEEDED - 16  
*“Now the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all.”*
- 1B. The **SOURCE** of peace in the body of Christ  
*“the Lord of peace Himself”*
- 2B. The **SCOPE** of that peace  
*“always by all means” - continually in every circumstance!*

FINAL WORDS: *2 Thessalonians 3:17-18*

He mentions two basic things:

- (1) The **RECOGNITION** of his letters - 17 - cf. *2 Thess. 2:2*
- (2) The **RESOURCE** that we all need – 18  
*“the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ”*