

# **1 and 2 Thessalonians**

**By**

**Duane L. Anderson**

# **1 and 2 Thessalonians**

Updated 2016

© 2015 Duane L. Anderson

**American Indian Bible Institute**

**Box 511**

**Norwalk, CA 90651-0511**

**[www.aibi.org](http://www.aibi.org)**

# Outline of 1 Thessalonians

- I. Paul prayed for the Thessalonians 1:1-4**
  
- II. Paul rejoiced for the example of the Thessalonians 1:5-10**
  - A. The Thessalonians had made true decisions for Christ 1:5**
  - B. The Thessalonians had become disciples 1:6**
  - C. The Thessalonians had become examples 1:7**
  - D. The Thessalonians had become reproducers 1:8**
  - E. The Thessalonians had a true commitment 1:9-10**
  
- III. Paul and the team were spiritual parents 2:1-20**
  - A. The example for spiritual parents 2:1-6**
  - B. The example of a spiritual mother 2:7-9**
  - C. The example of a spiritual father 2:10-12**
  - D. Spiritual parents lead through example 2:13-20**
  
- IV. Paul and the team provided encouragement 3:1-13**
  - A. Christians need to be prepared for testing 3:1-8**
  - B. Christians need continuing prayer for their growth 3:9-13**
  
- V. Paul and the team had a concern for godly living 4:1-18**
  - A. Christians are called to avoid sexual sin 4:1-8**
  - B. Christians are called to love one another 4:9-12**
  - C. Christians have a great hope for the future 4:13-18**
  
- VI. Paul and the team had a concern for a godly walk 5:1-28**
  - A. Christians are to understand the future 5:1-10**
  - B. Christians are to recognize godly leaders 5:11-13**
  - C. Christians are to grow in godliness 5:14-22**
  - D. Christians are to become examples that are blameless 5:23-24**
  - E. Christians are to minister to one another 5:25-28**

## Outline of 1 Thessalonians

### I. Paul prayed for the Thessalonians - 1:1-4

#### A. This was a prayer of thanksgiving - 1:1-2

##### 1. This was a letter from Paul and the team - 1:1

**The team included Paul**

Paul was the leader of the team - Acts 15:40

**The team included Silvanus (Silas)**

**This team included Timothy**

Timothy was added to the team in Lystra - Acts 16:1-2

##### 2. The team prayed for the Thessalonian Christians continually - 1:2

**This was a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord**

**This team faithfully prayed for the Thessalonians**

Paul prayed that way for many every day - 2 Tim. 1:3

#### B. This was a prayer of remembrance - 1:3

**This thanksgiving was given continually**

The team began their prayer with thanks - 1 Cor. 1:4-9

**This thanksgiving remembered their work of faith**

**This thanksgiving remembered their labor of love**

**This thanksgiving remembered their patience of hope**

Faith, hope and love are the three things that abide - 1 Cor. 13:13

**This thanksgiving was given to Christ**

**This thanksgiving was in the name of the Father**

#### C. This was a prayer of assurance - 1:4

**This prayer was based on knowledge**

Paul had sent Timothy to Thessalonica - 1 Thess. 3:6

**This prayer was for beloved brethren**

The team viewed other Christians as family - 1 Thess. 2:7

**This prayer recognized their election by God**

This was a choice by God before Creation - Eph. 1:4

## **II. Paul rejoiced for the example of the Thessalonians - 1:5-10**

### **A. The Thessalonians had made true decisions for Christ - 1:5**

#### **The Gospel did not come just in word**

The team did not use flattering words - 1 Thess. 2:5

#### **The Gospel came in power**

The Word of God is living and powerful - Heb. 4:12

#### **The Gospel came through the ministry of the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit convicts of sin, righteousness and judgment - John 16:8-11

#### **The Gospel was shared with much assurance**

We can have a true heart in full assurance of faith - Heb. 10:22

#### **The message shared was backed by the example of the team**

We become an example by imitating Christ - 1 Cor. 11:1

### **B. The Thessalonians had become disciples - 1:6**

#### **New Christians learn to follow the Lord by example**

Christ gave us His example to follow - John 13:15

#### **New Christians are shown how to make the Lord their example**

Paul had always ministered by the example of his life - Acts 20:18

#### **These new Christians had received the Word in much affliction**

Paul always prepared new Christians for tribulation - Acts 14:22

#### **These new Christians had been given joy by the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit is given at the moment of salvation - Rom. 5:5

We are filled with joy when we are filled with the Spirit - Acts 13:52

We are to count it all joy when we fall into various trials - James 1:2

### **C. The Thessalonians had become examples - 1:7**

#### **The new Christians in Thessalonica became examples to others**

Paul had given his own life as an example - Phil. 3:17

#### **The new Christians were examples to all in Macedonia**

Macedonia is the area of northern Greece today

#### **The new Christians were examples to all in Achaia**

Achaia is the area of Southern Greece today

#### **The new Christians were examples to all who believed**

Our lives are to be an example of how to follow Christ - 2 Thess. 3:9

#### **D. The Thessalonians had become reproducers - 1:8**

**They were spreading the Gospel wherever they went**

That was what the Jews had done earlier - Acts 8:4

**The Gospel had spread from them to other parts of Macedonia**

This included other parts of northern Greece

**The Gospel had spread from them to Achaia**

This included various areas in southern Greece

**The Gospel was now spreading to other places**

This church included a large number of Greeks - Acts 17:4

**People were speaking about the faith of the Thessalonians**

This news was being spread by many Thessalonians - Acts 17:4

**The news was spreading ahead of the team with Paul**

The team with Paul did not need to say anything

#### **E. The Thessalonians had a true commitment - 1:9-10**

##### **1. This included a true turning to God - 1:9**

**People were talking about what the Gospel had done in Thessalonica**

The Gospel has the power to turn the world upside down - Acts 17:6

**The people who believed turned to God**

Many Gentiles were turning to God - Acts 15:19

**The people who believed turned from idols**

Christians were to abstain from things polluted by idols - Acts 15:20

**The people who believed chose to serve the living and true God**

Those who believe are now able to serve the living God - Heb. 9:14

##### **2. This included a focus on the resurrection - 1:10**

**The people who believed looked forward to the return of Christ**

This gave them a strong reason for their hope - 1 Thess. 4:13

The glorious hope is the return of Christ - Titus 2:13

**The people had believed in the resurrection of Jesus**

The death and resurrection was the center of the message - Acts 17:3

The resurrection is the message of first importance - 1 Cor. 15:1-6

**The people knew they had been delivered from the wrath to come**

That message of wrath will be fulfilled in the future - Rev. 6:17, 20:15

The wrath to come is the result of the sinfulness of man - 1 Thess. 2:16

### III. Paul and the team were spiritual parents - 2:1-20

#### A. The example for spiritual parents - 2:1-6

##### 1. Spiritual parents have a purpose - 2:1

###### **The people in Thessalonica knew certain things**

The people knew that the view of the team was profitable - Acts 17:6

###### **The people saw the team had a purpose that was important**

The people had seen their own lives changed - Acts 17:4

##### 2. Spiritual parents share the Word of God boldly - 2:2

###### **This godly team had already experienced much opposition**

They had experienced opposition in Thessalonica - Acts 17:5

###### **Paul and Silas had been beaten and put in prison in Philippi**

They had been beaten with many stripes in Philippi - Acts 16:22-24

###### **The Gospel team continued to speak boldly**

They spoke boldly in Berea and many believed - Acts 17:12

###### **They spoke the Gospel of God in spite of much opposition**

##### 3. Spiritual parents do not use deceit - 2:3

###### **Their exhortation did not come from error**

They were an example of what they taught - 1 Thess. 1:6

###### **Their exhortation did not come from uncleanness**

God called us not in uncleanness but in holiness - 1 Thess. 4:7

###### **Their exhortation did not come from deceit**

The Word of God is living and powerful - Heb. 4:12

##### 4. Spiritual parents have as their goal to please God - 2:4

###### **The team knew that they had been approved by God**

Paul preached the Word of God wherever he went - Acts 17:13

###### **The team knew that they had been entrusted with the Gospel**

The Gospel had come in power and the Holy Spirit - 1 Thess. 1:5

###### **The team did not speak to please men**

**The team spoke to please God who tests the hearts**

Paul had been given a commandment by God - Titus 1:3

**5. Spiritual parents do not use flattering words - 2:5**

**The team never used flattering words**  
**They did not speak with a cloak of covetousness**  
They were not greedy for money - 1 Tim. 6:6-9  
**They knew that God was their witness**

**6. Spiritual parents do not seek glory from men - 2:6**

**They did not seek glory from any man**  
**This included both the Thessalonians and others**  
**They did not make demands as the apostles of Christ**

**B. The example of a spiritual mother - 2:7-9**

**a. A spiritual mother is gentle - 2:7**

**The team was gentle among the Thessalonians**  
We are also to be gentle to all as we teach - 2 Tim. 2:24  
**The team was like a team of nursing mothers**  
The attitude of a mother feeding her newborn - 1 Pet. 2:2

**b. A spiritual mother shares her life - 2:8**

**The team had an affectionate longing for the Thessalonians**  
This is the longing of hearts of love - John 13:34-35  
**The team shared the Gospel of God with the Thessalonians**  
**The team shared their own lives with the Thessalonians**  
We are also to lay down our lives for the brethren - 1 John 3:16  
**The Thessalonians had become very dear to the team**

**c. A spiritual mother does not burden her children - 2:9**

**The team had ministered with much labor and toil**  
They endured suffering and pain for the Thessalonians - 2 Cor. 11:27  
**The team labored both night and day**  
**The team did not want to be a burden to anyone**  
The team did not want to be a burden to any of the people - 2 Thess. 3:8  
**The team preached the Gospel of God**



## **C. The example of a spiritual father - 2:10-12**

### **1. Spiritual fathers lead by example - 2:10**

**The Thessalonians were witnesses of what Paul said**

The team had worked night and day - 1 Thess. 2:9

**The team had been devout in their ministry**

The team provided examples of holy lives - Col. 1:22

**The team had been just in their ministry**

We are to live justly (righteously) in this world - Titus 2:12

**The team had been blameless in their ministry**

We will be preserved blameless at the coming of Christ - 1 Thess. 5:23

**The team had been examples in their ministry**

We want to be an example to younger believers - 1 Cor. 4:16

We are to live lives that can be imitated - 1 Cor. 10:31; 11:1

### **2. Spiritual fathers lead by what they teach - 2:11**

**The team had used exhortation in their ministry**

Paul urged new Christians to imitate him - 1 Cor. 4:16

That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love - Col. 2:2

**The team had comforted through their ministry**

The fainthearted often need comfort or encouragement - 1 Thess. 5:14

**The team had charged as a part of their ministry**

These all, having obtained a good testimony through faith - Heb. 11:39

Testified of the truth that is in you - 3 John 1:3

**The team had done as a father does with his children**

A father warns his beloved children - 1 Cor. 4:14

### **3. Spiritual fathers urge a worthy walk - 2:12**

**The team called the Thessalonians to a new walk**

They were to walk in brotherly love - 1 Thess. 4:9-12

**The team called them to a walk worthy of God**

We are to walk worthy of the Lord being fruitful in every good work - Col. 1:10

**The team said God called the Thessalonians into His kingdom**

We have been delivered from the kingdom of darkness - Col. 1:13-14

**The team called the Thessalonians to bring glory to God**

We are to do all to the glory of God - 1 Cor. 10:31

**D. Spiritual parents lead through example - 2:13-20**

**1. The team gave thanks to God for what He was doing - 2:13**

**The team was giving thanks to God continually**

This thanksgiving was made without ceasing - 1 Thess. 1:2

**The Thessalonians had received the Word of God**

They recognized the Word came in the power of the Spirit - 1 Thess. 1:5

**The Thessalonians realized it was not their words as men**

The Word caused the Thessalonians to follow the Lord - 1 Thess. 1:6

**The Thessalonians received the Word of God as Truth**

All Scripture is given by the inspiration of God - 2 Tim. 3:16

**The Thessalonians saw that the Word transformed their lives**

They even had a love for Christians in other areas - 1 Thess. 4:9-10

**2. The team said they were imitating the churches in Judea - 2:14-16**

**a. The Thessalonians had imitated the churches in Judea - 2:14**

**The Thessalonians became imitators of the churches in Judea**

The Christians in Jerusalem had been forbidden to speak - Acts 4:18-20

**The churches in Judea were in Christ Jesus**

The message of Jesus Christ was their message - Acts 4:10-12

**The Christians in Judea suffered just like the Thessalonians**

The Christians in Judea experienced great persecution - Acts 8:1

**The Christians in Judea suffered from their own countrymen**

One of those countrymen had been Saul - Acts 8:3

**b. The Thessalonians knew what the Jews did to Christ - 2:15**

**The unbelieving Jews in Judea had killed the Lord Jesus**

The people said, "His blood be on us and on our children" - Matt. 27:25

**The unbelieving Jews in Judea had killed the prophets**

Both the scribes and their fathers had killed the prophets - Matt. 23:29-32

**The unbelieving Jews in Judea persecuted the Christians**

There was a great persecution against the church - Acts 8:1

**The unbelieving Jews did not please God**

**The unbelieving Jews were contrary to all men**

Paul had done many things contrary to the name of Jesus - Acts 26:9

**c. The Thessalonians knew what the Jews did to the apostles - 2:16**

**The unbelieving Jews forbid the Christians to speak about Christ**

The religious leaders threatened the apostles - Acts 4:17-20

**The unbelieving Jews did not want to see more saved**

They were disturbed the apostles taught the resurrection - Acts 4:2

**The unbelieving Jews were filling up their own sin**

Christ said they would fill up the measure of their fathers' guilt - Matt. 23:32

**The unbelieving Jews would experience the wrath of God**

Jerusalem was completely destroyed in 70 A.D. - Matt. 23:37-39

**3. Paul and the team were eager to see the Thessalonians again - 2:17**

**The team had been taken away from the Thessalonians for a short time**

The Thessalonian Christians had to send them away at night - Acts 17:10

**The team continued to have the Thessalonians in their hearts**

They thanked God continually for them - 1 Thess. 1:2

**The team was eager to see the Thessalonians again**

They had sent Timothy to see them - 1 Thess. 3:6

**The team had a great desire to see them**

They prayed daily to see them again - 1 Thess. 3:10

**4. Paul had been hindered from coming by Satan - 2:18**

**The team wanted to come to Thessalonica**

**Paul had a very strong desire to come to Thessalonica**

This was why Paul had sent Timothy - 1 Thess. 3:5

**Paul said that he had been hindered by Satan**

Satan had hindered an angel for 21 days - Dan. 10:13

**5. Paul said the Thessalonians brought great joy to them - 2:19-20**

**Paul asked what was their hope, joy or crown of rejoicing**

**Paul said this hope was to see them in heaven**

The coming of Christ should be the hope of every Christian - Titus 2:13

**Paul said they would be there at the coming of Christ**

Paul taught the Thessalonians about the coming of Christ - 1 Thess. 4:13-18

**Paul said they were their glory and joy**

Salvation of others should bring great joy to all - Acts 15:3

#### **IV. Paul and the team provided encouragement - 3:1-13**

##### **A. Christians need to be prepared for testing - 3:1-8**

###### **1. Paul sent Timothy back to Thessalonica - 3:1-3**

###### **a. Paul had a great concern for the Christians - 3:1**

###### **Paul could not continue to have uncertainty about them**

This was the result of his love for them - 1 Thess. 4:9

###### **Paul decided to remain in Athens alone**

Paul had also begun his ministry in Athens alone - Acts 17:16

###### **b. Paul sent Timothy to encourage the Christians - 3:2**

###### **Paul sent Timothy to Thessalonica**

Paul also sent Timothy to other places - 1 Cor. 4:17

###### **Paul said Timothy is our brother and minister of God**

Paul had a very close relationship with Timothy - 2 Tim. 1:2

###### **Paul said Timothy was their fellow laborer in the Gospel of Christ**

Paul often saw the team with him as fellow laborers - 1 Cor. 3:9

###### **Paul said that Timothy would establish them**

Paul wanted to see the Lord help all Christians become strong - Rom. 16:25

Christ is able to establish us blameless in holiness before God - 1 Thess. 3:13

The Lord is able to establish us in every good word and work - 2 Thess. 2:17

###### **Paul said that Timothy would encourage them**

God comforts the downcast - 2 Cor. 7:6

Exhort with all longsuffering and teaching - 2 Tim. 4:2

We need to encourage one another daily - Heb. 3:13

###### **c. Paul did not want the new Christians to be shaken - 3:3**

###### **Paul did not want anyone shaken by affliction**

Tribulation helps Christians to develop patience - Rom. 5:3

Out of much affliction and anguish of heart, I wrote to you - 2 Cor. 2:4

###### **Paul had warned them of opposition**

Paul prepared all Christians for opposition - Acts 14:22

###### **Paul said we have been appointed for affliction**

The Thessalonians received the Word during much affliction - 1 Thess. 1:6

## 2. Paul had prepared the Thessalonians for suffering - 3:4

**Paul had given the Thessalonians instructions when he was with them**

Paul prepared all Christians for tribulation - Acts 14:22

**Paul had told them that they would suffer tribulation**

All who desire to live godly in Christ will suffer persecution - 2 Tim. 3:12

**The Thessalonians were now experiencing that tribulation**

God will repay with tribulation those who trouble us - 2 Thess. 1:6

## 3. Paul wanted to make certain Satan had not deceived them - 3:5

**This was the reason why Paul was so concerned for them**

Paul had to leave town while they were still new Christians - Acts 17:8-10

**This is why Paul sent to know about their faith**

Paul and the team were praying for them without ceasing - 1 Thess. 1:3

**Paul was concerned the tempter might have deceived them**

We are not ignorant of his (Satan's) devices - 2 Cor. 2:11

**Paul felt that would have made their labor of no use**

Paul served all to win more to Christ - 1 Cor. 9:19-22

## 4. Paul received a good report when Timothy returned - 3:6-7

**Timothy had now come to Paul from Thessalonica**

Paul had sent Timothy because of their concern - 1 Thess. 3:1

**Timothy brought good news of their faith**

The team thanked the Lord for their work of faith - 1 Thess. 1:3

**Timothy brought good news of their love**

The team thanked the Lord for their abounding love - 2 Thess. 1:3

**Timothy said they had a good remembrance of the team**

They (and we) are taught by God to love one another - 1 Thess. 4:9

**Timothy said they had a great desire to see the team**

**The team had the same desire to see the Thessalonians**

The team continued to thank God for them - 2 Thess. 1:3-4

**The team knew that they were brethren as Christians**

All children of God are brothers and sisters in Christ - Rom. 8:16-17

**The team was experiencing much affliction and distress**

The Lord gave Paul a vision to encourage him - Acts 18:9-10

**The team was comforted as they heard about their faith**

Their faith was growing exceedingly - 2 Thess. 1:3

**5. Paul was eager to see them stand fast in Christ - 3:8**

**For now we live**

We are the temple of the Holy Spirit - 1 Cor. 6:19

We are the temple of the living God - 2 Cor. 6:16

We suffer reproach because we trust in the living God - 1 Tim. 4:10

**If you stand fast in the Lord**

We are to stand fast in the faith...doing all in love - 1 Cor. 16:13-14

We are to stand fast in the liberty that we have in Christ - Gal.5:1

We are to stand fast in one spirit, with one mind - Phil. 1:27

**B. Christians need continuing prayer for their growth - 3:9-13**

**1. Paul looked forward to seeing them again - 3:9-10**

**a. The team was rejoicing about the report - 3:9**

**For what thanks can we render to God for you**

The team gave thanks to God for the whole church - 1 Thess.1:2

**For all the joy with which we rejoice**

John had no greater joy than to hear Christians walked in truth - 3 John 4

**We rejoice for your sake before God**

The team expressed their joy to God for them - 1 Thess. 2:7-8

**b. The team was praying for them without ceasing - 3:10**

**We rejoice night and day**

The team both worked and prayed night and day for them - 1 Thess. 2:9

**We pray exceedingly for you**

We desire that you would be perfectly joined together - 1 Cor.1:10

Paul knew that God can do more than we even imagine - Eph. 3:20-21

**We greatly desire to see your face**

Paul and Silas longed to see them - 1 Thess. 2:8

**We want to perfect (mature) you**

The team prayed they would mature in the faith - 1 Thess.5:23

Peter has this same concern for Christians to mature in the faith - 1 Pet. 5:10

**We want to share what is lacking in your faith**

Everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher - Luke 6:40

## **2. Paul knew they would stand blameless before God - 3:11-13**

### **a. The team looked to the Lord to direct them back to Thessalonica - 3:11**

#### **They trusted God the Father to lead them back to Thessalonica**

The team had a great desire to visit Thessalonica again - 1 Thess. 3:6

#### **They trusted the Lord Jesus Christ to guide this process**

Christ came to deliver us from this present evil age - Gal. 1:4

#### **They were looking forward to spending more time in Thessalonica**

The team had a great desire to see them again - 1 Thess. 3:6

### **b. The team had shown a real example of love - 3:12**

#### **The Lord is the One who helps us increase in love**

The Holy Spirit poured the love of Christ in our hearts - Rom. 5:5

The Lord teaches each true Christian to love - 1 Thess. 4:9

#### **The Lord helps us to abound in love**

This I pray, that your love may abound still more - Phil. 1:9

#### **The Lord causes this love to be directed toward one another**

Christ commanded us to love one another as He loves - John 13:34-35

#### **The team had shown this love to the Thessalonians**

The team urged them to continue to grow in love - 1 Thess. 4:10

The love of every one of you abounds toward each another - 2 Thess. 1:3

### **c. The team wanted to establish their heart blameless - 3:13**

#### **The Lord is able to establish our hearts blameless**

Christ is able to present us faultless - Jude 24

Christ will present the church to the Father without blemish - Eph. 5:27

#### **The Lord causes us to be blameless in holiness**

It should be our desire to become more like Christ - Phil. 2:14-16

We will be sanctified completely in Christ when He comes - Col. 1:28

#### **This will make us blameless before the Father**

We are to pursue a godly life - 1 Tim. 6:11

#### **This will be true when Christ comes for us**

We became new creations in Christ - 2 Cor. 5:17

#### **Christ will bring all the saints with him**

Christ will bring all the saints at the rapture - 1 Thess. 4:15-17

Christ will bring ten thousands of His saints at His second coming - Jude 14

**V. Paul and the team had a concern for godly living - 4:1-18**

**A. Christians are called to avoid sexual sin - 4:1-8**

**1. The team urged them to walk to please God - 4:1-4**

**a. They had been taught how to walk to please God - 4:1**

**The team urged and exhorted them to continue to grow**

This was a concern of all of the apostles - 2 Pet. 3:18

**The team had taught them how to walk**

As slaves to God, our fruit will be sanctification - Rom. 6:22

**The team wanted them to please God**

Without faith it is impossible to please Him (God) - Heb. 11:6

**b. They had learned the commandments of Christ - 4:2**

**The team said they knew the commandments**

The old commandment is to love God and our neighbor - Matt. 22:37-40

The new commandment is to love one another as Christ loved us - John 13:34-35

**The team had taught these through the Lord Jesus**

**c. They knew it was His will to abstain from immorality - 4:3**

**The team taught them the things that are the will of God**

Those who do the will of God will abide forever - 1 John 2:17

**The team taught them how to become more like Christ**

We are no longer to conform ourselves to our former lusts - 1 Pet. 1:13-16

**The team taught them to abstain from sexual immorality**

We are to present ourselves as slaves of righteousness - Rom. 6:19

**d. They were to possess their own vessels in honor - 4:4**

**The team taught them about the way to possess their vessel**

The word vessel is used to refer to our own body - 2 Cor. 4:6-7

**The team said they were to possess it in sanctification**

God has called us unto sanctification - 1 Thess. 4:7

**The team said they were to possess it in honor**

We become a vessel to honor by fleeing and following - 2 Tim. 2:21-22



**2. The team urged them to walk in holiness - 4:5-8**

**a. We are not to continue to act like those who do not know God - 4:5**

**We are not to possess our bodies in the passion of lust**

We are to put these sins to death - Col. 3:5

We are to be transformed by the renewing of our minds - Rom. 12:2

**That is the way Gentiles who do not know God act**

This is the way we thought and lived before Christ called us - Eph. 2:1-3

Those who do not know God have their understanding darkened - Eph. 4:17-18

**b. We are not to take advantage of or defraud other Christians - 4:6**

**No one should take advantage of his brother**

One who oversteps any boundary - Rom. 6:19-22

**No one should defraud his brother in this manner**

In these verses this refers to sexual immorality - 1 Thess. 4:3-4

**The Lord is the avenger of those who do**

God is the One who will take vengeance - Rom. 12:19; 1 Cor. 11:32

God brings judgment of Christians on this earth - Heb. 13:4

**The team had forewarned the new Christians**

As Christians we are no longer to walk in the futility of our minds - Eph. 4:17

**c. We have been called by God in holiness - 4:7**

**God has not called us to uncleanness**

We are to put to death our members here on earth - Col. 3:5-7

**God has called us to holiness**

God disciplines us for our good so we may share His holiness - Heb. 12:10

**d. Those who reject this command reject God - 4:8**

**Those who reject this statement are not rejecting men**

We are to obey the commandments of the Lord - 1 Cor. 14:37-38

**Those who reject this statement are rejecting God**

Such individuals need to examine themselves - 2 Cor. 13:5

**God has given us the Holy Spirit to give us victory**

Christians who depend on self will experience failure - Rom. 7:15-25

Christians who yield to the Holy Spirit have victory - Rom. 8:1-39

## **B. Christians are called to love one another - 4:9-12**

### **1. God taught us to love one another at salvation - 4:9**

**The team wrote these new Christians about brotherly love**

This love is to be fervent with a pure heart - 1 Pet. 1:22

**The team said they did not need to teach them about brotherly love**

This brotherly love given by God is to continue - Heb. 13:1

**The team said God was the One who taught them to love one another**

Brotherly love is taught by God and not men - Rom. 12:10

### **2. God gives us His strength to show even more love - 4:10**

**These new Christians were showing great love to other brethren**

We are to love other brethren as Christ loved us - John 13:34-35

**These new Christians were showing love throughout Macedonia**

They had become examples to the other Christians in Macedonia - 1 Thess. 1:7

**The team did urge them to show even greater love to others**

The example of love is the Father sending Christ for our sins - 1 John 4:10-11

**The team encouraged them to show more and more love**

The Lord is able to make us increase and abound in love - 1 Thess. 3:12

### **3. God wants us to lead a quiet life - 4:11**

**The team encouraged them to aspire to a quiet life**

They rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment - Luke 23:56

**The team encouraged them to mind their own business**

Not according to our works, but according to His own purpose - 2 Tim. 1:9

**The team encouraged them to work with their own hands**

This was a problem with a few in Thessalonica - 2 Thess. 3:11

**The team had given these instructions as commands**

We are to impart grace to those who are not Christians - Eph. 4:28

### **4. God wants us to walk properly toward non-Christians - 4:12**

**The team encouraged them to walk properly toward non-Christians**

Christians are to do good to all people including non-Christians - Gal. 6:10

**The team said if they did these things they would lack nothing**

The Hebrews needed someone to teach them basic principles - Heb. 5:12

## **C. Christians have a great hope for the future - 4:13-18**

### **1. Christians do not grieve as those who have no hope - 4:13**

#### **The team did not want the new Christians to be ignorant**

Many are ignorant of God's righteousness - Rom. 10:3

We were alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance in us - Eph. 4:18

We are not to be conformed to the former lusts of our ignorance - 1 Pet. 1:14

#### **The team wanted them to know about those who died in Christ**

While we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord - 2 Cor. 5:6

#### **The team did not want them to have no hope**

As Christians the return of Christ is our blessed hope - Titus 2:13

That hope is defined as eternal life - Titus 3:7

This hope we have as an anchor of the soul - Heb. 6:19

### **2. Christians believe that the dead in Christ are with the Lord - 4:14**

#### **All true Christians believe that Jesus died**

Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures - 1 Cor. 15:1-6

It is through His blood that we have redemption - Eph. 1:7

#### **All true Christians believe that Jesus rose again**

Without the resurrection there is no hope - 1 Cor. 15:17-20

We must believe in our hearts that God raised Christ - Rom. 10:10

#### **God will bring with Him all Christians who have died**

Our bodies will be rejoined with our spirits - 1 Cor. 15:51-53

#### **That means that when Christians die they are with the Lord**

At physical death our spirits are present with the Lord - 2 Cor. 5:7-8

### **3. There will be a resurrection of the bodies of the saints - 4:15**

#### **We can teach what the Lord taught**

Christ is coming again after He has prepared a place for us - John 14:2-3

#### **Some Christians will still be alive when Christ comes for His saints**

These will be caught up together with those who have died - 1 Thess. 4:17

#### **The physical bodies of Christians do not go to heaven**

Those physical bodies will one day become incorruptible - 1 Cor. 15:53

#### **Those Christians will join those who are raised**

Our present bodies have been corrupted by sin resulting in death - Rom. 5:12

Our changed bodies will meet the Lord - 1 Cor. 15:54-57

#### **4. The dead in Christ will rise first - 4:16**

##### **Christ will descend from heaven with a shout**

Christ will come from heaven - 1 Thess. 1:10

The day of the Lord begins with the Rapture - 1 Thess. 5:2

The day of the Lord is great and very terrible - Joel 2:11

##### **Christ will come with the voice of an archangel**

Michael is the one angel listed as an archangel - Jude 9

##### **Christ will come with the trumpet of God**

In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet - 1 Cor. 15:52

##### **The dead in Christ will rise first**

All the physical bodies will be raised incorruptible - 1 Cor. 15:52

(These will be new bodies that are eternal)

#### **5. All saints will meet the Lord in the air - 4:17**

##### **Those who are still alive will be caught up together**

Christ promised that He would come again - John 14:3

This will be all living Christians at that moment - 1 Cor. 15:52

This Rapture will be before the tribulation - Rev. 3:10

##### **Those who remain will be caught up together**

The living will be changed and caught up - 1 Cor. 15:52

Those with the Lord will have their bodies changed and raised

##### **Our bodies will meet the Lord together in the air**

This will happen in a moment - 1 Cor. 15:52

We will be with Christ where He is - John 12:26

This is a different return than when Christ comes to rule - Zech. 14:4

That coming will be at the end of the tribulation - Rev. 19:11-16

##### **Then we will always be with the Lord**

Christ went to prepare a place for all Christians - John 14:2

We will reign with Christ forever and ever - Rev. 22:5

#### **6. This is a message of comfort of all Christians - 4:18**

##### **That is why Christians can be comforted when other Christians die**

We are confident yes well pleased that we will see them again - 2 Cor. 5:8

##### **We comfort one another with the promises of the Lord**

We are able to comfort each other and build up each other - 1 Thess. 5:11

We will be with Christ where He is - John 17:24

**VI. Paul and the team had a concern for a godly walk - 5:1-28**

**A. Christians are to understand the future - 5:1-10**

**1. The team had taught about the future - 5:1-3**

**a. Christians are to know the times and seasons - 5:1**

**Christians are able to recognize the times**

The disciples asked Christ three questions - Matt. 24:3

This day will not come until after the falling away - 2 Thess. 2:3

**Christians are able to recognize the seasons**

A particular period or season but not the moment - 1 Tim. 4:1

**Christians did not even need to be retold**

Some things the Lord puts in our hearts - 1 Thess. 4:9

**b. Christians know that the day of the Lord comes as a thief - 5:2**

**This is something that Christians can know perfectly**

Christians will be saved from this hour - Rev. 3:10

Christ will not give a warning in advance - Matt. 24:37-39

**Christians can know the way that the Day of the Lord is coming**

Travel and knowledge will both show a rapid increase - Dan. 12:4

**Christians can know that day will come like a thief in the night**

The apostles knew that Christ would come suddenly - 2 Pet. 3:10

**c. Christians should recognize what the world will be saying - 5:3**

**They (the world) will be saying, "Peace and Safety"**

This has been a goal of much of the world for many years

The Day of the Lord will be a day of darkness - Amos 5:18-20

The day which is coming shall burn them up - Mal. 4:1

**Sudden destruction will come upon them**

This destruction will come from the word of Christ's mouth - Rev. 19:15

**These will be like the labor pains of a woman**

A woman who goes into labor has sudden pain and anguish - John 16:21

**They will not escape from that destruction**

No non-believers will escape at that time - Rev. 19:21

They will be punished with everlasting destruction - 2 Thess. 1:9

**2. The team reminded the Christians that we are sons of light - 5:4-7**

**a. That Day will not overtake Christians as a thief - 5:4**

**Christians are not of the darkness**

Those who practice evil hate the light - John 3:20

**This Day will not overtake Christians as a thief**

The Day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night - 2 Pet. 3:10

**b. Christians are the children of light - 5:5**

**Christians are the sons of light**

We are to walk as children of light - Eph. 5:8

**Christians are the sons of the day**

Christ invited people to become sons of light - John 12:36

**Christians are not of the night**

We were once darkness - Eph. 5:8

**Christians are not of the darkness**

We have been turned from darkness to light - Acts 26:18

The true light is already shining for Christians - 1 John 2:8

He who hates his brother is still in darkness - 1 John 2:10

**c. Christians are to watch and be sober - 5:6**

**This is why Christians do not sleep spiritually**

Those who follow the Lord do not walk in darkness - John 8:12

**Those who are not Christians are spiritually dead**

We were also spiritually dead before we came to Christ - Eph. 2:1

**Christians are to watch and be sober**

Be serious and watchful in your prayers - 1 Pet. 4:7

We are to be sober and vigilant (watch) - 1 Pet. 5:8

**d. Those who live for today are not prepared - 5:7**

**Those who sleep, sleep at night**

Awake you who sleep, arise from the dead - Eph. 5:14

**Those who get drunk, get drunk in the night**

They do not want their deeds exposed to the light - John 3:20

To eat and drink and be drunk - Luke 12:45

### **3. The way we should live as people in the light - 5:8-10**

#### **a. We are to remember that we are of the day - 5:8**

**We are to remember what it means to be of the day**

Because we of the day, we are to walk in the light - 1 John 1:7

**We are to be sober because we are of the day**

We are to be sober (self-controlled) because of the hope we have - 1 Pet. 1:3

**We are to put on the breastplate of faith**

This book began with faith, love and hope - 1 Thess. 1:3

This book now repeats all three in this verse

These are the three things that abide - 1 Cor. 13:13

Christ brought us to Himself by grace through faith - Eph. 2:8-9

**We are to put on the breastplate of love**

This love is our response to His love for us - 2 Cor. 5:14-15; 1 John 4:19

**We are to put as a helmet the hope of salvation**

The helmet of salvation is the hope of salvation - Eph. 6:17

#### **b. We are not appointed to wrath - 5:9**

**God did not appoint us to wrath**

There is no condemnation to those who are in Christ - Rom. 8:1

**God appointed us to obtain salvation**

God chose us to salvation from the beginning - 2 Thess. 2:13

**God made this possible through our Lord Jesus Christ**

God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world - Eph. 1:4

#### **c. We will live together with Christ - 5:10**

**Christ is the One who died for us**

Christ died for us and rose again - 2 Cor. 5:14-15

This is what we believe for salvation - Rom. 10:9-10

**Christ is with us while we are alive**

Christ will never leave us or forsake us - Heb. 13:5

**Christ will be with us when we die physically**

Christ has already given us victory over death - 1 Cor. 15:57

Christ will bring their souls and spirits with him - 1 Thess. 4:14

**Then we will live together with Him**

To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord - 2 Cor. 5:8

## **B. Christians are to recognize godly leaders - 5:11-13**

### **1. We are to minister to one another - 5:11**

#### **Christians are to comfort one another**

I beseech you therefore, brethren by the mercies of God - Rom. 12:1

#### **Christians are to edify (build up) one another**

All things are lawful for me, but not all things edify - 1 Cor. 10:23

**The Christians in Thessalonica were already doing these things**

### **2. We are to recognize those who minister to us - 5:12**

**The team gave specific instructions to those who were brethren**

**The team told them to recognize those who labored among them**

This refers to leaders who serve the other Christians - Mark 10:43-45

**The team said those were Christians who were over them in the Lord**

Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor - 1 Tim. 5:17

**The team said they were brethren who admonished them**

### **3. We are to highly esteem godly leaders - 5:13**

#### **The team said to esteem them highly in love**

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials - James 1:2

**The team said to do this because they were working hard**

**The team encouraged them to be at peace among themselves**

Christ taught the disciples the same thing - Mark 9:50

## **C. Christians are to grow in godliness - 5:14-22**

### **1. We minister to others in various ways - 5:14**

**The team encouraged the Christians to do certain things**

**Warn those who were unruly**

Warn those who are disorderly - 2 Thess. 3:10-11

**Comfort the fainthearted**

Encourage the easily discouraged - Col. 3:21

**Hold up those who are weak**

Hold up those without strength - Rom. 5:6

**Be patient with all**



## **2. We are to pursue what is good - 5:15**

**Christians are not to render evil for evil to anyone**

Christians are to give a blessing instead - 1 Pet. 3:9

**Christians are always to pursue what is good**

We are to cling to what is good - Rom. 12:9

**Christians are to pursue good among themselves**

God created all who become Christians for good works - Eph. 3:10

**Christians are to pursue good for all people**

We are to look for opportunities to do good to all - Gal. 6:10

We are to overcome evil with good - Rom. 12:21

## **3. We are to do certain things - 5:16-18**

**Christians are to rejoice always**

This is true even in times of trials - James 1:2

**Christians are to pray without ceasing**

The team prayed without ceasing for the Thessalonians - 1 Thess. 1:3

**Christians are to give thanks in all things**

We are to give thanks always for all things - Eph. 5:20

**This is the will of God in Christ Jesus**

He that does the will of God abides forever - 1 John 2:17

## **4. We are to avoid certain things - 5:19-22**

**We are not to quench the Spirit**

We are not to limit the work of the Spirit in our lives - Eph. 3:20-21

Sin grieves the Holy Spirit and may limit our usefulness - Eph. 4:30

**We are not to despise prophecies**

This is the Word of God which He has given us in the Bible - 2 Pet. 1:19-21

**We are to test all things**

We test so we can approve the things that are excellent - Phil. 1:10

We are to test the spirits to see if they are from God - 1 John 4:1

**We are to hold fast to what is good**

We are to meditate on the things that are good - Phil. 4:8

We are to look for opportunities to do good - Gal. 6:9-10

**We are to abstain from every form of evil**

We are to abstain from sexual immorality - 1 Thess. 4:3

We are to abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul - 1 Pet. 2:11

**D. Christians are to become examples that are blameless - 5:23-24**

**The God of peace Himself is able to sanctify you completely**

We are set apart to Christ at the moment of salvation - Col. 1:27

We become more like Christ as we grow in the Lord - Gal. 4:19

We will be like Christ when He takes us to heaven - 1 John 3:2

**This will include your whole spirit**

The Holy Spirit ministers to our spirit that we are children of God - Rom. 8:16

**This will include your whole soul**

The Scripture is able to show the spirit and soul are separate - Heb. 4:12

Abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul - 1 Pet. 2:11

(unconfessed sins can cause tremendous guilt)

The soul is our mind, emotions and will - 2 Pet. 2:8

We can become weary and discouraged in our souls - Heb. 12:3

**This will include your whole body**

This human body will be replaced by an incorruptible body - 1 Cor. 15:53

**We will be sanctified completely at the coming of Christ**

We will be like Christ when He is revealed - 1 John 3:2

**God who calls us is faithful**

The Lord is faithful and will protect us from the evil one - 2 Thess. 3:3

**God will do all that He has promised**

God will complete what He has promised - Phil. 1:6

**E. Christians are to minister to one another - 5:25-28**

**The team asked the Christians to pray for them**

We are also to pray for one another - James 5:16

**The team told them to kiss with a holy kiss**

We are to greet with a holy kiss - Rom. 16:16; 1 Cor. 16:20; 2 Cor. 13:12

Peter gave this same command - 1 Pet. 5:14

**Paul encouraged them to read this to all the holy brethren**

Every Christian needs to hear the Word of God read - Rev. 1:3

We read to help each one become familiar with the Word - Col. 4:16

We are to read the Word to one another - 1 Tim. 4:13

**Paul said the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ would be with them**

It is the grace of God that brought salvation - Titus 2:11

We have been justified freely by the grace of God - Rom. 3:24

Grace comes from the Father and the Son - Col. 1:2

We are also to learn to speak with grace - Col. 4:6

# **Outline of 2 Thessalonians**

**I. The team prayed for the Thessalonians - 1:1-4**

**II. The team offered comfort to the Thessalonians in their suffering - 1:5-12**

**A. Comfort for those who are suffering - 1:5-8**

**B. God will judge those who are causing the suffering - 1:9-10**

**C. God will count as worthy those who suffer - 1:11-12**

**III. The team taught about the Day of the Lord - 2:1-12**

**A. The coming of the man of sin - 2:1-4**

**B. The Holy Spirit is presently restraining the man of sin - 2:5-8**

**C. The man of sin will deceive the world when he comes - 2:9-12**

**IV. The team gave instructions for godly living - 2:13-3:18**

**A. Reasons we should be thankful - 2:13-17**

**B. Prayer for one another - 3:1-5**

**C. The importance of example - 3:6-9**

**D. Understanding God's view of work - 3:10-13**

**E. Learning to exercise discipline - 3:14-15**

**F. The Lord has called us to peace - 3:16-18**

## **I. The team prayed for the Thessalonians - 1:1-4**

### **A. The greeting of the team - 1:1-2**

**The team included Paul, Silvanus (Silas) and Timothy**

This team was also mentioned in 1 Thessalonians - 1 Thess. 1:1

**The team said the church at Thessalonica was in the Father**

Christians have the exceeding grace of God in us - 2 Cor. 9:14

**The team said the church at Thessalonica was in Christ**

Individuals and churches are also in Christ - 2 Cor. 5:17

**Grace is from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ**

Grace is what makes us accepted in Christ - Eph. 1:5-9

**Peace is from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ**

This is the inner peace that guards our hearts - Phil. 4:7

### **B. The thanksgiving of the team for the Thessalonians - 1:3**

**We are bound to give thanks to God always for you brethren**

Paul taught Christians to be thankful in all situations - Eph. 5:20

**That thanks was fitting because their faith was growing exceedingly**

This faith was shown by the way they endured persecution - 1 Thess. 1:4

**The love of every one of them abounded toward each other**

This love was poured out in their hearts by the Holy Spirit - Rom. 5:5

We love one another because God loved us first - 1 John 4:17-19

There is no mention of their hope - 1 Thess. 1:3

### **C. The boast the team made about the Thessalonians - 1:4**

**The team was talking about the church at Thessalonica**

Their lives were examples for other Christians - 1 Thess. 1:7

**The team was telling about the patience of the Thessalonian church**

The testing of our faith produces patience - James 1:3

**The team was telling about the faith of the Thessalonian church**

Christ is the author and finisher of our faith - Heb. 12:2

**The Thessalonian church was going through much persecution**

This persecution was due to the envy of the Jews - Acts 17:5

**The Thessalonian church was experiencing many tribulations**

Much of this opposition came from the Jews - Acts 17:5

**The Thessalonian church was enduring these things**

## II. The team offered comfort to the Thessalonians in their suffering - 1:5-12

### A. Comfort for those who are suffering - 1:5-8

#### 1. God gives us the privilege to suffer for His kingdom - 1:5

**This is a plain indication of the judgment of God**  
God promised that He will one day judge unbelievers - Rom. 12:19  
**God uses suffering to show we are worthy of the kingdom of God**  
We are to walk worthy of God - 1 Thess. 2:12  
**God said that this is a reason why we suffer**  
Tribulation produces patience in our lives - Rom. 5:3

#### 2. God will repay those who cause the suffering - 1:6

**It is righteous for God to repay those who make us suffer**  
The judgment of God is a righteous judgment - Rom. 1:32  
**God will repay them with eternal tribulation**  
This eternal judgment will be in the lake of fire and brimstone - Rev. 21:8

#### 3. God will give rest to those who have been troubled - 1:7

**God will give rest to us who have been troubled**  
We are to be diligent to enter into that rest - Heb. 4:11  
**This will happen when Christ is revealed**  
They will live and reign with Christ - Rev. 20:4  
**This will happen when Christ comes with His mighty angels**  
The armies of heaven will follow Christ when He comes - Rev. 19:14

#### 4. God will bring eternal separation to all who do not know God - 1:8

**This is when Christ comes to take vengeance**  
There will be immediate death for all unbelievers - Rev. 19:14-16; 19:21  
**This vengeance will come on all who do not know God**  
All the world became guilty before God - Rom. 3:19-20  
**This vengeance will come on all who do not obey the Gospel**  
This judgment will become eternal at the final judgment - Rev. 20:11-15  
**This vengeance will come because they did not receive Christ**  
This judgment will include all unbelievers - Rev. 21:8

**A. God will judge those who are causing the suffering - 1:9-10**

**1. These will be punished with everlasting destruction - 1:9**

**They will be judged with everlasting suffering**  
**They will be eternally separated from the presence of the Lord**  
This eternal separation will be in the lake of fire - Rev. 20:14-15  
**They will be separated from the glory of the power of the Lord**  
The second death is the eternal condition of all unbelievers - Rev. 21:8

**2. This will happen when He comes in that Day - 1:10**

**This separation will begin when He comes**  
They will be in the place of torment until the final judgment - Luke 16:22-31  
**In that Day the Lord will be glorified in His saints**  
Christ asked the Father to be glorified in His saints - John 17:8-10  
**The Lord will be admired among all those who believe**  
**This will happen because the testimony of the team was believed**

**B. God will count as worthy those who suffer - 1:11-12**

**1. God will fulfill all the goodness of His pleasure - 1:11**

**The team promised they would continue to pray for the Thessalonians**  
These prayers included prayers of thanksgiving for them - 2 Thess. 2:13  
**Their prayer would be that God would count them worthy of this calling**  
Our desire should be to grow and become more like Christ - 2 Thess. 2:16-17  
**Their prayer was God would fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness**  
**Their prayer was that God would show His power through their faith**  
The Father created us in Christ for good works - Eph. 2:10

**2. God will show this grace to all who believe - 1:12**

**Their prayer was the Lord Jesus Christ would be glorified in them**  
**Their prayer was that they would be glorified in Christ**  
**This was according to the grace of God, the Father**  
The Father made us accepted in the Beloved (Christ) - Eph. 1:6-7  
**This was according to the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ**  
Christ became poor that we might become rich - 2 Cor. 8:9

### **III. The team taught about the Day of the Lord - 2:1-12**

#### **A. The coming of the man of sin - 2:1-4**

##### **1. The team did not want the Thessalonians to be deceived - 2:1-2**

**The team wrote regarding the time of the coming of Christ**  
**This is when all Christians will be gathered to Christ**  
**The team did not want the Christians to be shaken in mind**  
**The team did not want the Christians to be troubled**  
We are to study to see if all teaching agrees with the Word of God - 2 Tim. 2:15  
**Christians can become troubled by false spirits**  
We are to test the spirits and not believe every spirit - 1 John 4:1-4  
**Christians can be troubled by false teachers**  
This was the purpose of the Jerusalem Council - Acts 15:24  
**Christians can be troubled by special letters from false teachers**  
**The team said the false teachings said the “day of Christ” had come**  
The team called this “The day of the Lord” in the first book - 1 Thess. 5:2

##### **2. The things that must happen before the “day of Christ” - 2:3**

**The team said false teachers deceive in various ways**  
Peter said the “Day of the Lord” will come as a thief in the night - 2 Pet. 3:10  
**The team said that “Day” had not yet come**  
**The team said that the falling away would happen first**  
**The team said the “man of sin” would be revealed first**  
This will happen after the Holy Spirit is taken out of the way - 2 Thess. 2:8  
**The team called the “man of sin” the son of perdition**

##### **4. The pride of the man of sin that will be revealed - 2:4**

**The man of sin opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God**  
**The man of sin will exalt himself above all that is worshiped**  
He will be doing what he does by the power of Satan - 2 Thess. 2:9  
**The man of sin will seat himself in the temple of God**  
**The man of sin will claim to be God**  
The man of sin will seek to imitate Satan - Is. 14:12-14; Ezek. 28:12-15  
**The man of sin will show by his actions that he thinks he is god**  
He will back his message with power, signs and lying wonders - 2 Thess. 2:9

## **B. The Holy Spirit is presently restraining the man of sin - 2:5-8**

### **1. Paul had taught about the man of sin - 2:5**

**Paul reminded the Thessalonians that he had taught these things**

The team had only been in Thessalonica a short time - Acts 17:1-9

A large number of Greeks had believed in Thessalonica - Acts 17:4

Jason and the rest had to provide financial security to the rulers - Acts 17:9

(This was the result of the envy of the Jews) - Acts 17:5

**Paul said this happened when he was still with them**

Paul and Silas had to send Timothy back to this church - 1 Thess. 3:5-6

### **2. The restrainer is presently restraining - 2:6-7**

**The Thessalonians had learned about the One who restrains**

The Holy Spirit convicts of sin, righteousness and judgment - John 16:8-11

He will stop restraining when the Christians are removed - 1 Thess. 4:13-18

**The man of sin would be revealed in his own time**

That is why the world has no advance warning - 1 Thess. 5:2

**The mystery of lawlessness was already at work**

All non-Christians presently fulfill their lusts - Eph. 2:1-3

All mankind has become futile in their thoughts - Rom. 1:18-25

**He who restrains would continue to restrain**

The Holy Spirit indwells each believer at the moment of salvation - Rom. 8:9

**The Restrainer will one day be taken out of the way**

Today the Holy Spirit restrains through all believers - Matt. 5:16; Gal. 6:9-10

### **3. The lawless one will one day be revealed - 2:8**

**Then the lawless one will be revealed**

This is the first beast (antichrist) who imitates the resurrection - Rev. 13:1-8

A second beast (false prophet) says worship the first beast - Rev. 13:11-15

**The Lord will one day consume him with the breath of His mouth**

Both will be judged by the word of Christ - Rev. 19:20

Satan will be bound a thousand years before final judgment - Rev. 20:1-3

**The Lord will destroy him with the brightness of His coming**

The beast (antichrist) will be cast into the lake of fire - Rev. 19:20

The second beast (false prophet) will go with the first - Rev. 19:20

The unholy trinity - Satan, the antichrist and the false prophet - Rev. 12:9-13:18



## **C. The man of sin will deceive the world when he comes - 2:9-12**

### **1. The way the lawless one will deceive the world - 2:9**

#### **The coming of the lawless one agrees with the activities of Satan**

Satan has a great desire to be worshiped - Matt. 4:8-9

Satan is the father of lies - John 8:44

#### **The coming of the lawless one will be with all power**

Satan is the source of evil principalities and powers - Eph. 6:12

#### **The coming of the lawless one will be with signs**

God warned false prophets would use signs - Deut. 13:1-2

#### **The coming of the lawless one will be with lying wonders**

False christs will deceive with great signs and wonders - Matt. 24:24

### **2. The choice that many make - 2:10**

#### **The coming of the lawless one will be with all unrighteous deception**

False teachers deceive with deceptive words - 2 Pet. 2:1-3

#### **His coming will deceive those who perish**

Unbelievers have their hearts easily deceived - Deut. 11:16

#### **They will be deceived because they are spiritually blind**

The Gospel is veiled to those who are perishing - 2 Cor. 4:4

#### **They will face judgment because they do not have salvation**

People love darkness when their deeds are evil - John 3:19

### **3. The strong delusion that will come on those who reject - 2:11-12**

#### **God will send strong delusion on those who will perish**

Those who choose their own ways will see God choose their delusions - Is. 66:4

#### **God will allow them to believe what is false**

Many are deceived by those who peddle the word for self gain - 2 Cor. 2:17

The antichrist will speak blasphemy against God - Rev. 13:6

#### **God will judge and condemn them**

Those who sow to the flesh will reap corruption - Gal. 6:6-7

#### **God will do this because they did not believe the truth**

False teachers deceive through the lusts of the flesh - 2 Pet. 2:18

Those with debased minds do what is not fitting - Rom. 1:28

#### **Those in the world take pleasure in unrighteousness**

The pleasures of the world are quickly gone - Heb. 11:25

#### **IV. The team gave instructions for godly living - 2:13-3:18**

##### **A. Reasons why we should be thankful - 2:13-17**

##### **1. God is the One who chooses individuals to salvation - 2:13**

**The team gave thanks continually for the Thessalonians**

This was mentioned in both books - 1 Thess. 1:2; 2 Thess. 1:3

**The team recognized them as brethren who are beloved**

**God chose each person who comes to salvation from the beginning**

The Father chose us in Christ before creation - Eph. 1:4

**God chose to sanctify each one by the Holy Spirit**

The love of God was poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit - Rom. 5:5

**God chose to sanctify each person by belief in the truth**

Faith comes by hearing the Word of God - Rom. 10:17

##### **2. God is the One who calls us by the Gospel - 2:14**

**God called the Thessalonians by the Gospel the team had preached**

The Gospel had come in power as the team preached - 1 Thess. 1:5

**God called them to obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ**

The fact that Christ is in us is the source of this glory - Col. 1:27

##### **3. God calls people to stand fast in His Word - 2:15**

**The brethren were to stand fast and hold to what they had been taught**

The apostles and Paul had been taught by Christ - Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 15:8

**The brethren had been taught both by word and by letter**

Prophecy of Scripture came through men moved by the Spirit - 2 Pet. 1:19-21

##### **4. God is the One who establishes us - 2:16-17**

**Christ and the Father loved us**

**Christ and the Father gave us everlasting consolation**

This is the hope of eternal life - Titus 3:5-7

**Christ and the Father gave us good hope by grace**

**Christ and the Father comfort our hearts**

**Christ and the Father establish us by every good word and work**

The Lord is faithful to establish us and guard us - 2 Thess. 3:3

## **B. Prayer for one another - 3:1-5**

### **1. Request of the team for prayer from the Thessalonians - 3:1-2**

**The team asked the Thessalonians to pray for them**

Even Paul asked for prayers for boldness to speak the Word - Eph. 6:19

**They asked them to pray the word of the Lord would run swiftly**

This happens when Christians share the Word of God boldly - 1 Thess. 1:8

**They asked them to pray that the word of the Lord would be glorified**

The Gentiles at Antioch glorified the Word of God - Acts 13:48

**That was the way the Word spread among them**

They were sharing the Word of God with others - 1 Thess. 1:8

**The team asked for prayer to be delivered from unreasonable men**

**The team asked for prayer to be delivered from wicked men**

Evil men continue to become worse - 2 Tim. 3:13

**The team recognized that not all people had faith**

There were many in Thessalonica that did not have faith - Acts 17:5-8

### **2. Reminder that the Lord is faithful - 3:3-4**

**The Lord is the One who is faithful**

God is faithful by whom we were called - 1 Cor. 1:9

**The Lord is the One who would establish the Thessalonians**

The Lord establishes our hearts blameless in holiness - 1 Thess. 3:13

**The Lord was the One who would guard them from the evil one**

We are to pray that the Lord will deliver us from the evil one - Matt. 6:13

**The team said they had confidence in the Lord about them**

Paul also had confidence in other Christians - 2 Cor. 2:3

**The team felt the Thessalonians would do what they were requesting**

The Thessalonian Christians were already growing - 1 Thess. 4:9

**The team felt they would continue to do those things**

The team wanted to see them increase more and more - 1 Thess. 4:10

### **3. Reminder that the Lord will direct the hearts of people - 3:5**

**The team prayed the Lord would direct their hearts into the love of God**

Christians are to be rooted and grounded in love - Eph. 3:17

**The team prayed they would be directed into the patience of Christ**

Christians are to let patience do her perfect work - James 1:4

### C. The importance of example - 3:6-9

#### 1. The Christians were to withdraw from disorderly brothers - 3:6

**The team gave a command in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ**

The team realized some might now obey - 2 Thess. 3:14-15

**The team said they were to withdraw from certain Christians**

Christians are to admonish those who refuse to work - 2 Thess. 3:14-15

**This was those Christians that were walking disorderly**

A disorderly person is one who will not work - 2 Thess. 3:11

**Those Christians were not walking as they had been taught**

Christians are created for good works - Eph. 2:10

#### 2. The team had worked hard when they were in Thessalonica - 3:7-8

**The team had provided examples by what they did**

Paul often invited Christians to imitate him - 1 Cor. 4:16

**The team had not been disorderly when in Thessalonica**

A disorderly person is one who refuses to work - 2 Thess. 3:11

**The team did not take free food from others**

We are created in Christ to do good works - Eph. 2:10

This is how we let our lights shine before others - Matt. 5:16

**The team had worked with labor and toil**

Paul made tents when he was in Corinth - Acts 18:3

**The team had worked night and day**

The team had worked night and day to be an example - 1 Thess. 2:9

**The team did this so they would not be a burden to anyone**

Paul was a burden to no one in Corinth - 2 Cor. 11:9

#### 3. They wanted to provide a good example - 3:9

**The team did have godly authority as they served the Lord**

Scripture allows godly leaders to devote their lives to ministry - 1 Cor. 9:15

**The team did not use that authority**

The team did not exercise this authority in many places - 1 Cor. 9:16

**The team chose instead to be examples**

Paul invited the Corinthians to imitate him - 1 Cor. 11:1

**The team wanted to show the Christians how to serve the Lord**

Paul made it a priority to show people by example - Acts 20:20

## D. Understanding God's view of work - 3:10-13

### 1. The team had said talked about those who refused to work - 3:10

**The team had given a command when they were in Thessalonica**

The team felt the Thessalonians would respond to commands - 2 Thess. 3:4

**The team said any who refused to work should not eat**

We are to do all that we do to the glory of God - I Cor. 10:31

### 2. There were some Christians who refused to work - 3:11

**The team had heard that some were living an undisciplined life**

Paul encouraged Christians to practice self discipline - 1 Cor. 9:27

We are to encourage one another to love and good works - Heb. 10:24

**The team had heard that they were not working at all**

We were created in Christ Jesus for good works - Eph. 2:10

**The team had heard that they were acting like busybodies**

A busybody is one who gets into other people's matters - I Pet. 4:15

### 3. The team said they were to work with quietness - 3:12

**The team gave a command and an exhortation**

Christians are to love one another as Christ loved us - John 13:34-35

Love was poured out in our hearts at salvation - Rom. 5:5

Paul often chose to beseech (exhort) rather than command - Phil. 4:2

**The team exhorted them in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ**

Paul begged (exhorted) in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ - 1 Cor. 1:10

**The team exhorted them to work with quietness**

We are to live a life of quietness as we work - 1 Thess. 4:11

**The team exhorted them to eat their own bread**

We are to work rather than steal from others - Eph. 4:28

### 4. The team encouraged the others to continue doing good - 3:13

**The team gave encouragement to the rest of the Christians**

All Christians are to look for opportunities to do good - Gal. 6:10

We are to encourage one another daily - Heb. 3:13

**The team encouraged them not to get tired of doing good**

Christian are not to get tired of doing good - Gal. 6:9

## **E. Learning to exercise discipline - 3:14-15**

**The team said they gave the people principles to obey**

Paul regularly gave principles of godly conduct - Philem. 9

**The team told the people to note those who did not obey**

This is the removal of fellowship but not relationship - 1 John 1:7

**The team said not to keep company with those who did not obey**

To not keep company means to avoid fellowship - 2 Thess. 3:6

**The team said this was so they would become ashamed**

Our goal is to restore a Christian in disobedience - Gal. 6:1

**The team said not to treat such a person like an enemy**

We are to treat such a person as a brother in Christ - Lev. 19:17

We are all able to admonish one another - Rom. 15:14

**The team said to admonish him as a brother**

When we love another person we will warn him - 1 Cor. 4:14

## **F. The Lord has called us to peace - 3:16-18**

### **1. The Lord is the God of peace - 3:16**

**The Lord is the Lord of peace**

He is the God of peace - Heb. 13:20

**The Lord is able to give us His peace always**

Christ has given us His peace - John 14:27

**The Lord is able to give us His peace in every way**

The peace of God passes all understanding - Phil. 4:7

**The Lord will be with all Christians**

The Lord will never leave us or forsake us - Heb. 13:5

### **2. This letter was signed by Paul - 3:17-18**

**Paul is the team member that signed this letter**

This was a common practice for Paul - 1 Cor. 16:21

**Paul signed the letters he wrote or dictated**

He reminded the Galatians that he had written - Gal. 6:11

**Paul wanted all Christians to experience grace**

His grace makes us accepted in the beloved - Eph. 1:6

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ is with all Christians**

God saved us according to His grace and purpose - 2 Tim. 1:9