

SECOND THESSALONIANS

Conversational Version

Salutation

1¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy to the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ^{Messiah}. **2**Grace and peace from God [our]^{ms} Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Th 1:1-2

Gratitude for the Thessalonians

3We're always obliged to thank God for you because your faith is growing so much and your love for one another keeps increasing. **4**As a result, among the churches, we say how proud we are of you because of your faith despite the persecution and hardships you're dealing with. **5***Those hardships* show that in God's just judgment you're worthy of his kingdom you're suffering for. **6**He will be just when he pays back trouble to the ones that are giving you trouble, **7**and in paying back relief to you that face trouble along with us. That vengeance will come when the Lord Jesus returns from heaven with his powerful angels **8**in flaming fire. He'll take revenge on people that don't know God or obey the good news about our Lord Jesus. **9**They'll undergo permanent destruction away from his presence and glorious power. **10***That'll be* the day when he comes, and you saints can praise him and be amazed at him because you believed our testimony. **11**So we always pray for you, too, that our God will count you worthy of *his* calling and powerfully fulfill every good intention and faithful work. **12**That way you'll praise the Lord Jesus, and he'll praise you in proportion to the grace of our God and Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Th 1:3-12

Concerning Christ's Return

2¹Now, about our Lord's return and our gathering to him. **2**Don't let a spirit, a message, a letter claiming to be from us disturb you if it says it's time for the Lord to return. **3**He won't return till apostasy occurs and "the lawless one" appears. That "one destined for destruction" **4**will oppose *God* and exalt himself above everything that's called deity or is worshiped. He'll seat himself in God's Temple and claim to be deity. **5**You remember me telling you that, don't you, while I was there? **6**You know what's holding *him* back for now—till he's revealed in his time. **7**That secret lawlessness is already at work, but the one that's holding *him* back now *will continue to do so* till he's gone. **8**Then "the lawless one" will appear, the one the Lord will kill with his breath and destroy at his return. **9**The *lawless one's* coming will be like Satan's working: with power, signs, false wonders, **10**and every sinful deception, all aimed at people that perish, people that haven't welcomed a love for the truth so they'd be saved. **11**So God will send them a deluding influence to cause them to believe a lie. **12***Then* the truth will judge disbelievers who delight in doing wrong.

2 Th 2:1-12

God's Choice of the Thessalonians

¹³We're always obliged to thank God for you, family of Christ the Lord loves, because God chose you to be the firstfruits of salvation by believing the truth and by the holiness the Spirit brings. ¹⁴He called you to that *truth* by the good news we delivered, which is for obtaining the honor our Lord Jesus Christ has. ¹⁵So, stand firm; hold onto the traditions we taught you by word and letter. ¹⁶Now may our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father—who loved us and gave *us* eternal comfort and good hope in grace—¹⁷comfort you and strengthen *you* in every good thing you do and say.

2 Th 2:13-17

Request for Prayer

³¹Finally, pray for us that the Lord's message can make progress and be honored like *it has* with you. ²Pray for God to deliver us from harmful, evil people, because not everybody believes. ³But, the Lord is faithful; he'll strengthen you and keep *you* from the evil one. ⁴We're confident in the Lord that you're doing and will do what we tell you. ⁵May the Lord direct you to God's love and the endurance that Christ gives you.

2 Th 3:1-5

Warnings About Idleness

⁶Now, in the name of [our]^{ms} Lord Jesus Christ, stay away from anyone that lives irresponsibly, rather than by the traditions you received from us. ⁷You know you need to follow our example. We weren't idle among you ⁸and didn't eat other people's food without paying for it. We worked day and night so we wouldn't burden any of you. ⁹It's not that we didn't have the right *to receive support*, but we set ourselves up as an example for you to imitate. ¹⁰Besides, when we were with you, we told you that if somebody won't work, they shouldn't eat. ¹¹We hear that some are living irresponsibly, not doing anything but being busybodies. ¹²By the Lord Jesus Christ we direct and urge people like that to work quietly and eat their own food. ¹³Don't get discouraged with doing good. ¹⁴If any don't obey what we've said in *this* letter, don't associate with them so they'll be ashamed. ¹⁵Don't consider *them* enemies; warn *them* like members of Christ's family.

2 Th 3:6-15

Farewell

¹⁶Now may the Lord that brings peace give you peace in every situation. The Lord *be* with you.

¹⁷The salutation with my own hand—an identifying mark in every letter *I write*. This is what my handwriting looks like.

¹⁸The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you.

2 Th 3:16-18

