

THE STUDY OF II THESSALONIANS

This study is designed to encourage you to begin to develop a solid foundation for the book or epistle you are studying. In each study you will find a brief background on the book or letter, general themes found in the book, a list of key words found within the chapter and a set of questions can be answered directly from the verse provided at the end of the question.

Please plan to read the book or letter in its entirety first then begin the study. You will need a pen, a note pad, and your Bible. Once you've read through the entire book go back to the beginning and read the first chapter. Circle key words in that chapter. Compare your key words with the key words listed in the study. Now read the chapter again, and mark in your margin, key points. Jot down key points on your own note pad.

Answer the questions for chapter one. You will find the answer in the verse provided at the end of the question. When you have finished the questions, retitle the chapter. The names and subtitles are not divinely inspired but place there for to give clarity. This exercise will help you develop in your own mind, the important aspects of each chapter. Proceed in this fashion until you finish the course of study. You will find that when the study is repeated you will glean new and fresh revelation each time. Before you begin however, begin in prayer asking the Lord to give you revelation and understanding.

1. Read the entire book or epistle in one day if possible.
2. Next, read the 1st chapter marking all key words.
3. Compare your key words with those listed in the study.
4. Make a note in the margin of the key points in each chapter
5. Jot down the key points on your own note pad.
6. Read the chapter again.
7. Answer the questions for each chapter and retitle the chapter.

When you complete the study you should have a solid foundational understanding of what the author was conveying through the power of the Holy Spirit. Small group studies or Sunday school classes will find it extremely helpful to allow for open discussion after each chapter. Plan on covering one half a chapter per week if you do have discussion. If you are not in a small group or Adult Bible Fellowship, then you may want to encourage a friend to join you in your study. Now let's begin.

Background: The Thessalonians were confused about the Second coming of Christ. They had consequently received teaching from someone other than Paul. It had brought much confusion. Paul addresses this group of believers with a second letter.

Paul wrote this letter most likely in Corinth about six months after the first letter to the Thessalonians to clear up the issue and address their concerns. He had first stayed there as recorded in Acts and he preached in the synagogue to some Jews and a large number of Greeks who were becoming converts (see Ac 17:1-9), Paul and Silas had to leave during the middle of the night due to an up-rise against their message, but their partner in ministry Jason, was dragged into court but the Politarchs released him on bail. The Politarchs were the governing body of the Thessalonians.

The City: The Bible makes mention of Thessalonica in Acts 17:1-13; 27:2; Phil. 4:16; 1 Thess. 1:1; 2 Thess. 1:1; 2 Tim. 4:10. It is now modern Salonica. Thessalonica was the capital of Roman province of Macedonia founded in 300 BC. It was situated on the Via Egnatia and was similar to Corinth in the social and cultural structure. It was a city entrenched in pagan religion, pagan rites and customs. It was a wicked city.

Themes

Day of the Lord

A Falling away

The Antichrist (I John 2:18, 4:3, II John 7)

- He will call himself god (2:3)
- The man of perdition would be revealed
- He will deceive many, possessing charismatic powers
- He will preform miracles

Chapter 1 Endurance

1. Who is writing this letter? Vs. 1
2. What is a common salutation for Paul? Vs 2
3. What two reasons did Paul give thanks for this group of believers? Vs 3
4. Paul boasted on this church because of their attitude in the midst of persecution. What was their attitude? Vs 4
5. Their endurance was evident that they would be counted worth because they had _____. Vs 5
6. What will God do to those who have troubled **them**? Vs 6
7. When Jesus is revealed they all would receive _____. Vs 7
8. The Lord will be revealed from heaven with his mighty _____. Vs 7
9. He will return in a flaming _____. Vs 8
10. At the Day of the Lord, there will be vengeance on those who do not _____ or _____ God. Vs 8
11. Those who do not know God or obey God will be punished with an everlasting _____. Vs 9
12. Those who do not know the Lord will be separated from His _____ and the glory of His _____. Vs 9

13. Jesus will be glorified in His _____, and admired by all those who _____ Vs 10

14. Paul prayed for them that they be counted as worthy of this _____, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His _____, and the work of _____ with power so that the name of _____ be glorified in them. Vs 11-12

15. The name of the Lord may be glorified in _____ and you in _____ according to the _____ of God and the Lord Jesus Christ. Vs 12

Key Points

Paul boasts in the believers as they had persevered in their faith in the midst of persecutions and afflictions and to give thanks which is only fitting. He assured them that God would repay those who had afflicted them. He reminded them that on the Day of the Lord

Key Words

Persecution

Tribulation

Endure

Worthy of your calling

Repay with affliction

Relief

Lord revealed from Heaven

Glorified in the saints

Glorified

Chapter 2 The Man of Lawlessness

1. What does the term "gathering together" refer to? Vs 1
2. Some thought the Day of the Lord had already occurred. What did Paul confirm to them? Vs 3
3. What must come first before the Day of the Lord comes? Vs 4
4. Who must be revealed before the Day of the Lord comes? Vs 3
5. The Antichrist will _____ and _____ himself above all that is called God? Vs 4
6. He will sit in the _____, as _____, showing himself to be _____. Vs 4
7. Paul asks them if they remember that he explained this to them already. Why? Vs 5
8. Who is restraining the antichrist now? Vs 6-7
9. What is the Lord going to eventually do to the antichrist? Vs 8
10. The lawless one will come with 4 things. What are they? Vs 9-10
11. Those who will perish, will perish because they did not receive the word of _____. Vs 10
12. What will God send to those who are going to perish? And what will they believe _____ Vs 11
13. What happens to those who believe the lie? Vs 12
14. What did God do from the beginning for these believers? Vs 13
15. They were chosen for salvation through sanctification by the _____. Vs. 13
16. Were these believers called? If so, for what? Vs 14

17. What two things did Paul warn them to do? Vs 15

18. What two things did Paul pray for these believers? Vs 17

Key Points

Paul explained more clearly the coming of the Lord. He confirmed to them that the day of the Lord had not yet come, that there were certain things that must take place first. Paul explained that the great apostasy would come then the man of perdition or son of destruction would be revealed. This man will take the seat in the synagogue and will exalt himself as being God. He will become an object of worship. The restraining force, the Holy Spirit, will be removed. He will move with all power, signs and false wonders and those who will not accept the truth will be deceived.

Key Words

The Coming of the Lord

Deceive

Apostasy

Man of Lawlessness

Son of Perdition

Restraining force, the Holy Spirit

Stand firm

Comfort

- ❖ Those who are deceived
- ❖ Those who do to love the truth
- ❖ Those who did not believe the truth

- ❖ Those who love and take pleasure in wickedness

Chapter 3 Prayer

1. What 2 things did Paul ask them to pray for? Vs 1-2
2. Who will establish and protect the believers? Vs 3
3. What did Paul have confidence in? Vs 4
4. Paul prayed that the Lord would direct their hearts into _____ and _____ of Christ. Vs 5
5. What did Paul command the believers to do when dealing with the disorderly brother? Vs 6
6. The believers know how to follow Paul because he was not _____ among them. Vs 7
7. Paul and his team worked day and night , why? Vs 8
8. Why did they work so hard and not rely on this church? Vs 9
9. What happens when a man will not work? Vs 10
10. Those who were not working were _____. Vs 11
11. How should they work? Vs 12
12. Paul encourages them to not grow weary in doing _____. Vs 13
13. If there were some who were disobedient, what 2 things did Paul tell the believers to do? Vs 14
14. How should the disobedient man be admonished? Vs 15
15. In the benediction, what did Paul pray for? Vs 16
16. Who did Paul claim write the letter and how? Vs 17

Key Points

Paul had one thing on his mind as far as his personal mission: That the word of God would spread rapidly. He also asked the Thessalonians to pray that his team would be delivered from perverse and evil men. He was confident that they would do as Paul had commanded them. Paul also prayed that their hearts be directed into the love of God and into the steadfastness of Christ. We admonished them to keep aloof of unruly men and to follow Paul's example.

Key Words

The Word spread rapidly

Strengthen and protect you from the evil one

Love of God

Steadfastness of Christ

Unruly men

Undisciplined life

Will not work, should not eat

Do not associate

Peace

Distinguishing mark

Exhortations

1. Steadfastness
2. Patience
3. Prayer
4. Against idleness

5. To discipline self
6. To be at peace
7. Keep aloof from unruly men
8. Grow in love, one for another
9. Give thanks which is only fitting
10. Persevere in faith

Facts about the Antichrist

Called man of sin (v3, 8-12, Rev 13:1-18, 14:9-13. 15:2-4, 16:2-12

Called son of perdition because he is destined to distraction along with men who rebel against God (v3 8-12, rev 13:2, Dan 8:24, 11:37-39)

He will be revealed (Vs3)

He will be an opposer of God (Vs 4)

He will try to exalt himself above God (Vs 4)

He will accept worship as God (Vs 4)

He will take his seat in the synagogue in Jerusalem (Vs 4, Dan 8:10-14, 23-27, 9:27, 11:36, 12:1-7, Matt. 24:15-21, Rev 11:1-2, 13:11-18, 14:9-11, 14:2-4, 16:2-12, 20:4-6)

He will claim to be God (Vs 4)

He has a time to be revealed (Vs 6)

He will be held back and hindered (Vs 7, Luke 4:42)

The spirit of lawlessness is working now in preparation (Vs7)

When the hindrance is removed , he will be revealed (Vs 7-8)

He will be destroyed by Christ at Armageddon (Vs 8, Dan, 7:24-28, 8:23-27,

9:27, 11:36-45, 12:1-7, Mt 24, 15-31)

He will be satan's agent and last attempt to raise up a world leader (Vs 9, Dan 8:24, 11:37-39, Rev 13:2)

He will have miraculous powers (Vs 9, Dan8:24, 11:37-39, Rev 13:2, 11-18, 16:13-16, 19:20, Mt 24:24)

He will be a deceiver. (Vs 10, Dan 8:24-25, 9:27, 11:36-45, Mt 24:15-31, Rev 13:1-18, 19:20)

Men who reject the truth will be deceived by him (vs 11-12)

He will be a great delusion and a lie (vs 11-12, Dan 8:10-14, 25, 11:39)

Protection from false god – "Love of the truth"

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