

SECOND EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE THESSALONICANS

Author & Audience:

the Apostle Paul, writing Jewish and non-Jewish Believers in Thessalonica

Date:

51-52 C.E. (maximum of six months after 1 Thessalonians)

Purpose:

2 Thessalonians is a vital follow up to 1 Thessalonians. Statements were being made in the name of the Apostle Paul, letters possibly even being forged, with claims that he was teaching that the end-times and return of Yeshua were imminent. This genuine letter is written to assure the Thessalonians that certain events had to take place, preceding the Messiah's return.

1

Salutation

¹ Paul and Silvanus and Timothy, to the assembly of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Yeshua the Messiah:

² Grace to you and peace from God the Father and the Lord Yeshua the Messiah.

The Judgment at Messiah's Coming

³ We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is fitting, because your faith is growing exceedingly, and the love of each one of you all toward one another abounds;

⁴ therefore, we ourselves boast of you in the assemblies of God for your perseverance and faith in all your persecutions and in the tribulations which you endure.

⁵ *This is* evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be considered worthy of the Kingdom of God, for which you also suffer—

⁶ since it is a just thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you,

⁷ and *to give* relief to you who are troubled with us, at the revelation of the

Lord Yeshua from Heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire,

⁸ inflicting vengeance to those who do not know God, and to those who do not obey the good news of our Lord Yeshua.

⁹ These will pay the penalty: eternal ruin away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His might,

¹⁰ when He comes to be glorified in His holy ones, and to be marveled at in all those who have believed (because our testimony to you was believed), on that day.

¹¹ To this end also we pray for you always that our God may count you worthy of your calling, and fulfill every desire of goodness and work of faith with power;

¹² so that the name of our Lord Yeshua may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Yeshua the Messiah.

2

The Man of Lawlessness

¹ Now we beseech you, brothers and sisters, with regard to the coming of our

Lord Yeshua the Messiah, and our gathering together to Him,

² that you not be quickly shaken in your mind, nor be disturbed, either by a spirit, or by a word, or by a letter as from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.

³ Let no one deceive you in any way, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy^a comes first and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of perdition,

⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, setting himself up as God.

⁵ Do you not remember that when I was still with you, I was telling you these things?

⁶ And you know what restrains him now, so that he may be revealed in his own season.

⁷ For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains *will do so* until he is taken out of the way.

⁸ And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will remove with the breath of His mouth, and render powerless by the appearance of His coming;

⁹ *that is*, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and lying wonders,

¹⁰ and with all deceit of unrighteousness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

¹¹ And for this reason God sends them a strong delusion, that they should believe a lie;

¹² in order that they all might be judged who did not believe the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Chosen for Salvation

¹³ But we ought to give thanks to God always for you, brothers and sisters beloved of the Lord, because God chose you from the beginning for salvation in sanctification of the Spirit and belief in the truth.

¹⁴ And for this He called you through our good news, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah.

¹⁵ So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold to the traditions which you

were taught, whether by word *of mouth* or by a letter of ours.

¹⁶ Now may our Lord Yeshua the Messiah Himself and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace,

¹⁷ comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

3

Pray for Us

¹ Finally, brothers and sisters, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may spread rapidly and be glorified, just as *it did* also with you;

² and that we may be delivered from perverse and evil people; for not all have faith.

³ But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil *one*.

⁴ And we have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you are doing and will do the things which we charge.

⁵ And may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the perseverance of Messiah.

Warning against Idleness

⁶ Now we charge you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah, that you keep away from every brother or sister who walks disorderly, and not according to the tradition which you received from us.

⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; for we did not behave in an undisciplined manner among you,

⁸ nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but in labor and travail, *we were* working night and day, that we might not burden any of you;

⁹ not because we do not have the right, but in order to make ourselves an example to you, so that you would imitate us.

¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this order: if anyone will not work, neither let him eat.

¹¹ For we hear that some among you behave disorderly, doing no work at all, but are busybodies.

^a Grk. noun *apostasias*; "defiance of established system or authority, rebellion, abandonment, breach of faith" (BDAG, 120).

¹² Now those persons we order and exhort in the Lord Yeshua the Messiah, to work in quietness and eat their own bread.

¹³ But you, brothers and sisters, do not grow weary in doing good.

¹⁴ And if anyone does not obey our word through this letter, take note of that person, that you have no association with him, so that he may be shamed.

¹⁵ And *yet* do not regard him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother or sister.

Benediction

¹⁶ Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times in all ways. The Lord be with you all!

¹⁷ The greeting of me, Paul, with my own hand, which is the sign in every letter; this is how I write.

¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah be with you all.