

I & II Thessalonians

by

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I & II Thessalonians

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Paul Prayed for the Thessalonians

I Thessalonians 1:1-4

This prayer was:

a prayer of thanksgiving - verse 2

a prayer of remembrance - verse 3

a prayer of assurance - verse 4

Paul worked to develop three things in every church

He gave thanks because he saw them developing in the church at Thessalonica

1 Corinthians 13:13

¹³ And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these *is* love. (NKJV)

Their work of faith

2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

¹¹ Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of *this* calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of *His* goodness and the work of faith with power, ¹² that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. (NKJV)

Their labor of love

Hebrews 6:10

¹⁰ For God *is* not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, *in that* you have ministered to the saints, and do minister. (NKJV)

Their patience of hope

Romans 8:24-25

²⁴ For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for *it* with perseverance. (NKJV)

Paul Focused on Making Disciples

I Thessalonians 1:5-10

God Wants People to:

- make true decisions for Christ - verse 5
- become disciples - verse 6
- become examples - verse 7
- become reproducers- verse 8
- have a true commitment - verses 9-10

We make true decisions for Christ when:

- the Word is proclaimed in power
- the Word is accompanied by the ministry of the Holy Spirit
- those who share the Gospel have full assurance that the Spirit will work

We become disciples as:

- we follow the example of godly leaders
- we learn to follow the Lord by following the Lord's people
- we receive or take hold of the Word of God by learning and obeying it

We become examples to others as: (I Timothy 4:12)

- we learn to become examples in word
- we learn to become examples in conduct
- we learn to become examples in love
- we learn to become examples in spirit
- we learn to become examples in faith
- we learn to become examples in purity

We become reproducers as: (Acts 20:20)

- we become equipped to teach all that is profitable
- we become equipped to show others how to serve the Lord
- we become equipped to teach others how to serve the Lord
- we become equipped to do these things publicly
- we become equipped to train others through on the job training

We have a true commitment when we:

- turn to God
- turn from idols (any person, idea, etc. that is more important to us than God)
- begin to serve God and not just make a profession of faith
- have an eager expectation of the return of Christ

Paul Became a Spiritual Parent

I Thessalonians 2:1-6

Spiritual parents do certain things

they have a purpose they are working to accomplish - verse 1

they share the Word of God boldly - verse 2

they do not use deceit - verse 3

their goal is to please God - verse 4

they do not use flattering words - verse 5

they do not seek glory from men - verse 6

The Need for Spiritual Parents Today

Many Churches Lack Spiritual Parents

1 Corinthians 4:15-17

¹⁵For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet *you do not have* many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. ¹⁶Therefore I urge you, imitate me. ¹⁷For this reason I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful son in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every church. (NKJV)

Many Christians Fail to Grow When Lacking Spiritual Parents

Hebrews 5:11-14

¹¹Of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. ¹²For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need *someone* to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. ¹³For everyone who partakes *only* of milk *is* unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. ¹⁴But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, *that is*, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. (NKJV)

Spiritual Parents Help Christians Grow to Maturity

2 Timothy 2:1-2

¹You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ²And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. (NKJV)

The Care of a Spiritual Mother

I Thessalonians 2:7-9

Spiritual Parents have the Care of a Mother

a mother is gentle and cherishes her children - verse 7

a mother shares her life - verse 8

a mother avoids being a burden - verse 9

Spiritual Parents are gentle

2 Timothy 2:24-25

²⁴ And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, ²⁵ in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, (NKJV)

Spiritual Parents cherish (to care for with tender love) their children

Ephesians 5:29

²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. (NKJV)

Spiritual Parents share their lives

1 John 3:16

¹⁶ By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. (NKJV)

Spiritual Parents avoid being a burden

2 Corinthians 11:9

⁹ And when I was present with you, and in need, I was a burden to no one, for what I lacked the brethren who came from Macedonia supplied. And in everything I kept myself from being burdensome to you, and so I will keep myself. (NKJV)

The Care of a Spiritual Father

I Thessalonians 2:10-12

Spiritual Parents have the Practical Concerns of a Father

a father provides an example - verse 10
a father provides encouragement and comfort - verse 11
a father encourages a godly walk - verse 12

Spiritual Parents Provide an Example

2 Corinthians 1:12

¹²For our boasting is this: the testimony of our conscience that we conducted ourselves in the world in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom but by the grace of God, and more abundantly toward you. (NKJV)

2 Thessalonians 3:7

⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you; (NKJV)

Spiritual Parents Encourage, Comfort and Charge

1 Thessalonians 4:1

¹Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God; (NKJV)

Ephesians 4:17

¹⁷This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, (NKJV)

Spiritual Parents Encourage a Godly Walk

Colossians 1:10

¹⁰That you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him*, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; (NKJV)

Ephesians 5:1-2

¹Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. ²And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma. (NKJV)

Spiritual Parents Lead Through Example I Thessalonians 2:13-20

Spiritual Parents Teach Through Their Example

they show through example the importance of the Word - verse 13

they provide an example of suffering - verses 14-16

they have a continuing concern - verses 17-20

Spiritual Parents Show the Importance of the Word of God

Jeremiah 15:16

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, O LORD God of hosts. (NKJV)

Hebrews 4:12

¹² For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. (NKJV)

2 Timothy 3:16-17

¹⁶ All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. (NKJV)

Spiritual Parents Provide an Example of Suffering

2 Corinthians 11:24-28

²⁴ From the Jews five times I received forty *stripes* minus one. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; ²⁶ *in* journeys often, *in* perils of waters, *in* perils of robbers, *in* perils of *my own* countrymen, *in* perils of the Gentiles, *in* perils in the city, *in* perils in the wilderness, *in* perils in the sea, *in* perils among false brethren; ²⁷ in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness -- ²⁸ besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches. (NKJV)

Spiritual Parents Have a Continuing Concern

1 Thessalonians 3:1-2

¹ Therefore, when we could no longer endure it, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone, ² and sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith, (NKJV)

Encouragement in Testing

I Thessalonians 3:1-8

Christians will experience testing

Persecution will be experienced by Christians - verses 1-3

Persecution has its source in Satan - verses 4-5

Persecution provides an opportunity to stand firm - verses 6-8

How to face Persecution

Paul was more concerned about new Christians than himself - verse 1

Paul knew new Christians needed to be established and encouraged - verse 2

establish - to make stable, strengthen and make firm

encourage - to come alongside and encourage

Paul had already prepared these Christians for persecution - verse 3

Understanding the Source of Persecution

Persecution will certainly come to all true Christians - verse 4

2 Timothy 3:12

¹² Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. (NKJV)

Acts 5:41-42

⁴¹ So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. ⁴² And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus *as* the Christ. (NKJV)

Persecution has its source in Satan - verse 5

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

¹³ For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. ¹⁴ And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. ¹⁵ Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works. (NKJV)

Standing Firm in Persecution

the Thessalonians were standing firm in love - verse 6

the Thessalonians were standing firm in faith - verse 7

the Thessalonians were standing firm in the Lord - verse 8

Romans 8:31

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us? (NKJV)

Paul's Prayer for the Thessalonians I Thessalonians 3:9-13

This Prayer was:

- a prayer of thanksgiving - verse 9
- a prayer for continuing spiritual growth - verse 10
- a prayer for an opportunity to see them again - verse 11
- a prayer for continuing growth in love - verse 12
- a prayer that their hearts would be established - verse 13

Christians have much for which to be thankful

Ephesians 5:20

²⁰ Giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, (NKJV)

Christians have a need for continuing our spiritual growth

2 Peter 3:18

¹⁸ but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him *be* the glory both now and forever. Amen. (NKJV)

Christians see a great need to encourage one another

Romans 1:11-12

¹¹ For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established -- ¹² that is, that I may be encouraged together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me. (NKJV)

Christians have a need for continuing growth in our love

John 13:34-35

³⁴ "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵ "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." (NKJV)

1 John 4:7-8

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. (NKJV)

Christians have a need for our hearts to be established

1 Thessalonians 5:23

²³ Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (NKJV)

Paul had a Concern for Godly Living

I Thessalonians 4:1-8

Godly Living

requires knowing the commandments of the Lord - verses 1-2
includes proper sexual relationships - verses 3-8

Godly Living will only Happen as we Know and Obey the Commandments

Matthew 7:24-27 ²⁴ "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵ "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. ²⁶ "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: ²⁷ "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall." (NKJV)

Godly Living will only Happen as we Develop Proper Sexual Relationships the Lord wants us to know His will - verse 3

Romans 12:1-2 ¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (NKJV)

the Lord wants us to possess our vessel in honor - verse 4

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 ¹⁸ Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. (NKJV)

the Lord does not want us to be controlled by lust - verse 5

Matthew 5:27-28 ²⁷ "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.' ²⁸ "But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. (NKJV)

the Lord does not want us to take advantage of others - verse 6

Ephesians 5:5 ⁵ For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. (NKJV)

the Lord has called us to holy living - verse 7

Ephesians 4:19-20 ¹⁹ who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. ²⁰ But you have not so learned Christ, (NKJV)

the Lord does not want us to reject Him - verse 8

Luke 10:16 ¹⁶ "He who hears you hears Me, he who rejects you rejects Me, and he who rejects Me rejects Him who sent Me." (NKJV)

Continuing Concern for Godly Living I Thessalonians 4:9-12

Godly Living Includes Showing Brotherly Love

brotherly love is taught by God - verse 9

brotherly love should continue to increase - verse 10

Godly Living Includes Disciplined Living

the Lord wants us to mind our own business - verse 11

the Lord wants us to walk properly - verse 12

Brotherly Love is Taught by God

Romans 12:10 ¹⁰ *Be* kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; (NKJV)

Hebrews 13:1 ¹ Let brotherly love continue. (NKJV)

1 Peter 1:22 ²² Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, (NKJV)

Brotherly Love Should Continue to Increase

2 Peter 1:5-8 ⁵ But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, ⁶ to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, ⁷ to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. ⁸ For if these things are yours and abound, *you will be* neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (NKJV)

The Lord Wants us to Mind our own Business

our goal should be to lead a quiet life

our goal should be to mind our own business

our goal should be to work with our own hands

The Lord Wants us to Walk Properly

Romans 12:17-21 ¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. ¹⁸ If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. ¹⁹ Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but *rather* give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance *is* Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. ²⁰ Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. (NKJV)

Colossians 4:5 ⁵ Walk in wisdom toward those *who are* outside, redeeming the time. (NKJV)

Christ is Coming for all Christians I Thessalonians 4:13-18

The Lord gives Hope regarding those who have died

Christians have hope regarding those who have died - verse 13
Christians will see Christ return with those who have died - verse 14
Christians may meet Christ without everdying - verse 15

The Lord is going to return for all believers

Christ will raise the bodies of the dead - verse 16
Christ will take the Christians who are still alive - verse 17
Christ says these words will bring comfort - verse 18

We have Hope for the future

The death of a Christian is compared to falling asleep and waking in heaven

1 Corinthians 15:6 ⁶ After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. (NKJV)

Christians will see one another again

1 Corinthians 12:20-22 ²⁰ But now indeed *there are* many members, yet one body. ²¹ And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²² No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. (NKJV)

Christians may meet Christ without dying

1 Corinthians 15:51 ⁵¹ Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed -- (NKJV)

We will go with Christ to heaven

Christ will raise the bodies of the dead

1 Corinthians 15:52 ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. (NKJV)

Christ will take the Christians who are still alive

John 14:3 ³ "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also. (NKJV)

Christ says these words will bring comfort

Hebrews 10:24-25 ²⁴ And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, ²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. (NKJV)

The Day of the Lord

I Thessalonians 5:2

The "Day of the Lord" Defined

The "day of the Lord" is that period of time from the time the Lord takes the Christians to heaven (I Thessalonians 4:13-18) until the cleansing of the heavens and the earth in preparation for the coming of the new heavens and the new earth (II Peter 3:10). It is a time of judgment of Israel (Amos 5:18-20), a time of judgment of all the nations (Obadiah 15, Isaiah:13:6-9), and a time of salvation and blessing for those who repent (Joel 2:28-32).

The day of the Lord begins at the rapture (return of the Lord for the church)

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 ¹⁶For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore comfort one another with these words. (NKJV)

The day of the Lord ends with the cleansing of the heavens and the earth

2 Peter 3:10 ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. (NKJV)

The day of the Lord will be a time of judgment for Israel

Amos 5:18-20 ¹⁸Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! For what good *is* the day of the LORD to you? It *will be* darkness, and not light. ¹⁹It *will be* as though a man fled from a lion, And a bear met him! Or *as though* he went into the house, Leaned his hand on the wall, And a serpent bit him! ²⁰*Is* not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light? *Is it not* very dark, with no brightness in it? (NKJV)

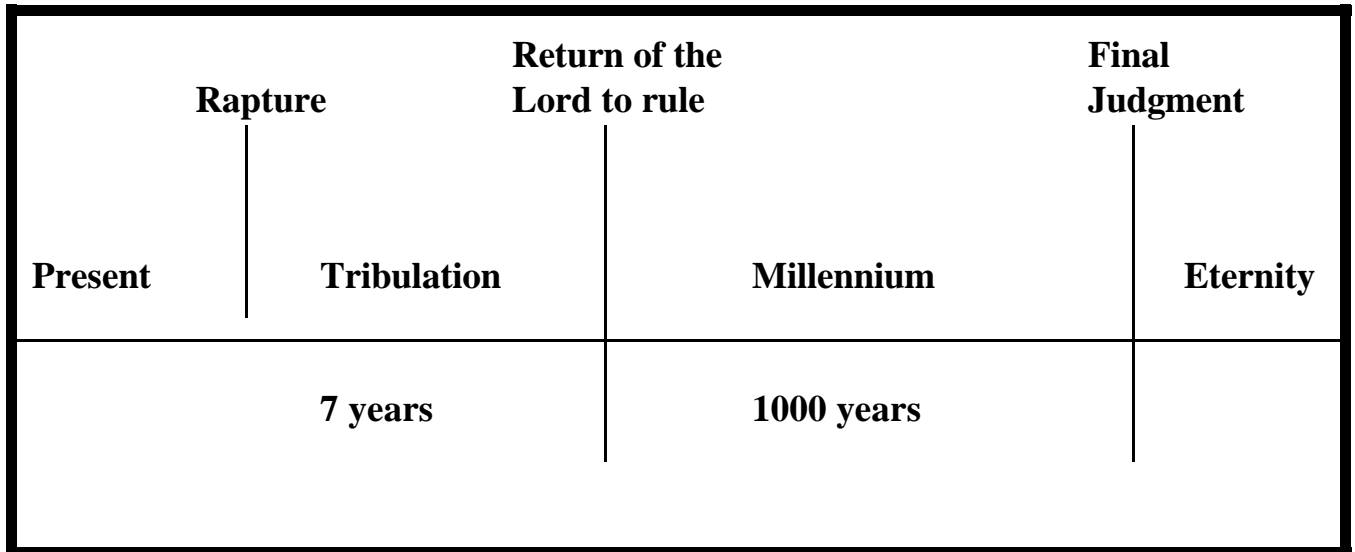
The day of the Lord will be a time of judgment of all the nations

Isaiah 13:6-9 ⁶Wail, for the day of the LORD *is* at hand! It will come as destruction from the Almighty. ⁷Therefore all hands will be limp, Every man's heart will melt, ⁸And they will be afraid. Pangs and sorrows will take hold of *them*; They will be in pain as a woman in childbirth; They will be amazed at one another; Their faces *will be like* flames. ⁹Behold, the day of the LORD comes, Cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, To lay the land desolate; And He will destroy its sinners from it. (NKJV)

The day of the Lord will be a time of salvation and blessing for those who repent

Joel 2:30-32 ³⁰"And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke. ³¹The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. ³²And it shall come to pass *That* whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, As the

The Day of the Lord Timeline



Present - this is the time in which we are now living

Rapture - this is the time when the Lord will come for the church
(I Thessalonians 4:13-18)

Tribulation - this will be the time of the judgment for Israel (Amos 5:18-20) and the time of judgment for all nations (Obadiah 15, Isaiah 13:6-9)

Return of the Lord to rule - this will happen at the end of the tribulation
(Revelation 19:11-20:3)

Millennium - this is when Christ will rule on the earth for one thousand years
(Revelation 20:4-6)

Final Judgment - this is the final judgment of Satan and all unbelievers
(Revelation 20:7-15)

Eternity - this is when we will live with Christ forever (Revelation 21:1-22:5)

The Day of the Lord for Unbelievers I Thessalonians 5:1-3

The Day of the Lord will come suddenly

Christians are to understand the times and the seasons - verse 1

Christians know the day of the Lord will come like a thief - verse 2

The Day of the Lord will bring judgment for unbelievers

Christians understand about the times and the seasons

Acts 1:6-7 ⁶Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. (NKJV)

Christians know the Day of the Lord will come like a thief

Mark 13:29-32 ²⁹"So you also, when you see these things happening, know that it is near -- at the doors! ³⁰"Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. ³¹"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. ³²" But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. (NKJV)

The Day of the Lord will bring judgment for unbelievers Two Choices and Two Consequences

Choice One

Repent of Sin and Follow Christ

Consequence One

The Rapture will come
Be with Christ forever
I Thessalonians 4:16-17

Choice Two

Follow Sin and Reject Christ

Consequence Two

The Judgment will come
Will experience eternal punishment
II Peter 2:9
Revelation 20:10-15

Prepare for the Day of the Lord I Thessalonians 5:4-8

The Day of the Lord will not surprise believers

believers are not in darkness - verse 4

believers are in the light - verse 5

believers are to be awake and alert - verse 6

believers are not to follow the patterns of the world - verse 7

believers are to be prepared at all times - verse 8

Believers are not in darkness

1 John 2:10-11

¹⁰ He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him. ¹¹ But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes. (NKJV)

Believers are in the light

Ephesians 5:8

⁸For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (NKJV)

Believers are to awake and be alert

Romans 13:11-12

¹¹ And *do* this, knowing the time, that now *it is* high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation *is* nearer than when we *first* believed. ¹²The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. (NKJV)

Believers are not to follow the patterns of the world

Ephesians 5:14

¹⁴Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light." (NKJV)

Believers are to be prepared at all times

1 Thessalonians 5:8

⁸ But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and *as* a helmet the hope of salvation. (NKJV)

1 Corinthians 13:13 ¹³ And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these *is* love. (NKJV)

Encouragement for Believers

I Thessalonians 5:9-11

The day of the Lord gives encouragement to believers

believers have obtained salvation through Christ - verse 9

believers will live with Christ - verse 10

believers are to build up one another - verse 11

Christians have received salvation in the past

1 Thessalonians 1:10 ¹⁰and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *even* Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come. (NKJV)

2 Thessalonians 2:13-14 ¹³But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, ¹⁴to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. (NKJV)

Christians will live with Christ in the future

John 14:2-3 ²"In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also. (NKJV)

Christians are to minister to one another in the present

We are to come to the side of one another to comfort and encourage

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 ³Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, ⁴who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. (NKJV)

Hebrews 10:24-25 ²⁴And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, ²⁵not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. (NKJV)

We are to build up one another

Ephesians 4:16 ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love. (NKJV)

Ephesians 4:29 ²⁹Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. (NKJV)

God Wants us to Honor and Help

I Thessalonians 5:12-15

God wants us to honor godly leaders

godly leaders are to be recognized and appreciated - verse 12

godly leaders are to be respected with love - verse 13

God wants us to help weaker brothers

believers are to encourage weaker brothers - verse 14

believers are not to return evil for evil - verse 15

Honoring Godly Leaders

Recognizing godly leaders

Godly leaders set an example for us by working hard

Godly leaders have a God given responsibility to warn us

Respecting godly leaders

we are to think very highly of godly leaders

we are to love them for the sake of the way they work

we are to be at peace among ourselves

Helping weaker brothers

Four ways to help weaker brothers

warn the unruly

encourage the fainthearted

hold up the weak

be patient with every person

Three actions that help weaker brothers

make it your goal to not get even when a brother hurts you

make it your goal to do things that are beneficial to other Christians

make it your goal to do things that are beneficial for all people

Godly Inner Attitudes

I Thessalonians 5:16-22

The Attitudes God wants us to have

believers are to have joy at all times - verse 16

believers are to pray at all times - verse 17

believers are to be thankful in all things - verse 18

believers are not to quench the Spirit - verse 19

believers are not to reject the Word of God - verse 20

believers are to hold fast to what is good - verse 21

believers are to avoid evil - verse 22

Understanding the difference between joy and happiness

happiness depends on what is happening around us

joy depends on what is happening within us in our relationship with God

Praying at all times

any time day or night is an appropriate time to pray

any thing is an appropriate about which to pray

Being Thankful in all things

there is a difference between being thankful for all thing and being thankful in all things

being thankful in all things means that we give thanks to God even in the middle of problems - illustrated by Paul and Silas in Acts 16:22-25

Avoiding Quenching the Spirit

do not hinder the work of the Spirit in our lives - Ephesians 4:30

instead make it easy for the Spirit to work through our lives - Ephesians 4:31-32

Avoid rejecting the Word of God

some reject the Word of God by not studying it

others reject the Word of God by not obeying it

Holding fast to what is good

we are to examine all things to see if they agree with the Word of God

we are to take into our lives the things that are beneficial

Avoiding the appearance of evil

we are to keep ourselves from those things which look like they are evil

we are to realize that anything evil has its source in Satan

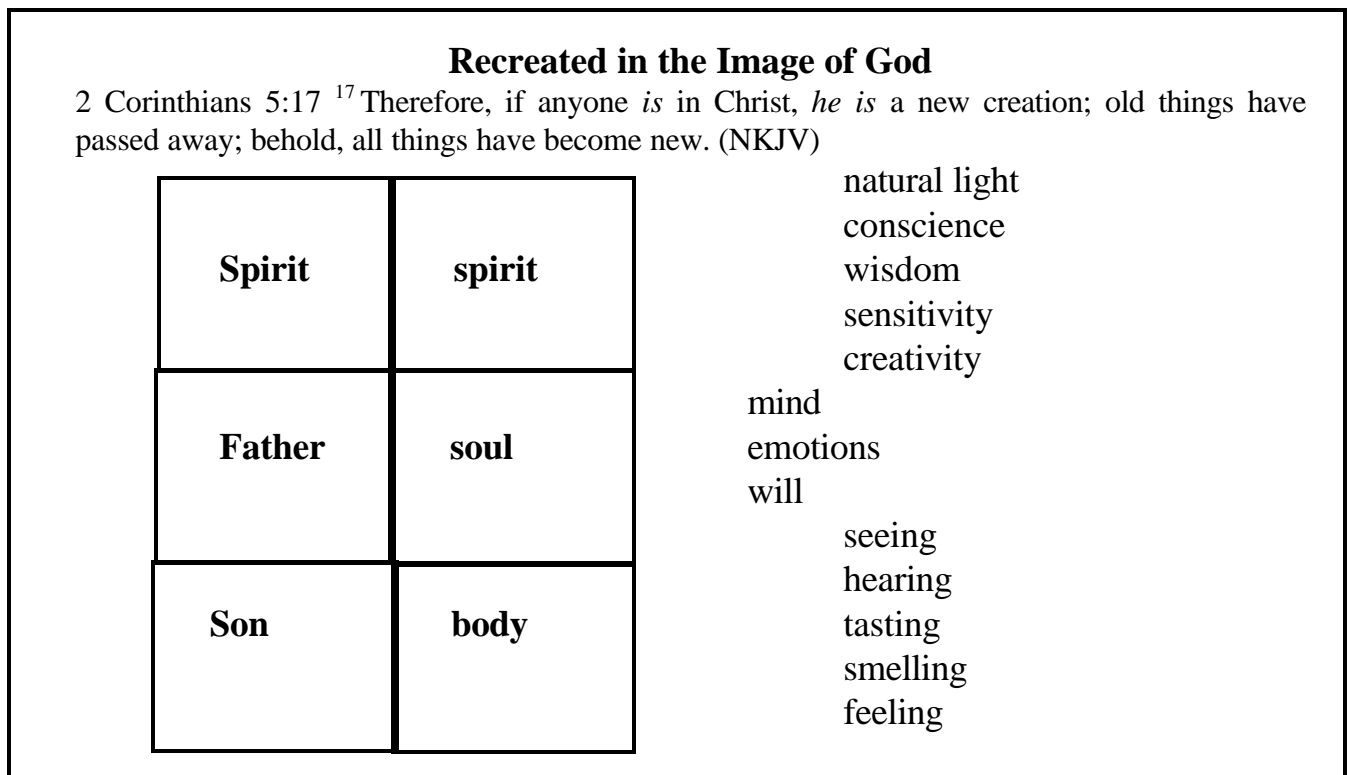
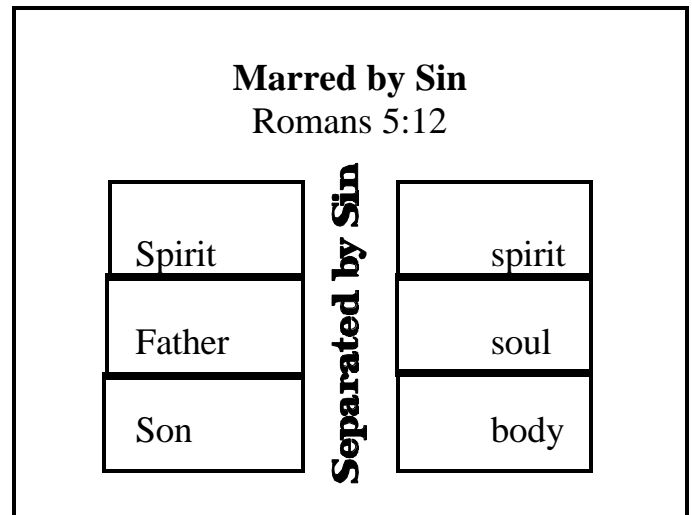
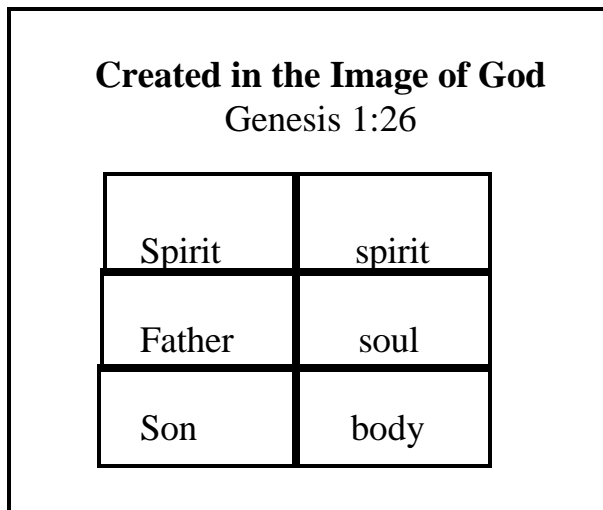
Becoming a Whole Person

I Thessalonians 5:23

God Wants to make us a whole person

He is the one who sanctifies us

He is the one who preserves us blameless



Paul Gives Concluding Words I Thessalonians 5:24-28

The Lord will complete what He has begun

The Lord gives us a concern for one another

we are to pray for one another - verse 25

we are to greet one another - verse 26

we are to share the Word of God with one another - verse 27

we are to enjoy the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ - verse 28

The Lord will complete what He has begun

2 Thessalonians 3:3

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

Philippians 1:6

⁶ being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ; (NKJV)

The Lord gives us a concern for one another

We are to pray for one another

2 Thessalonians 3:1-3 ¹ Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run *swiftly* and be glorified, just as *it is* with you, ² and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith. ³ But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard *you* from the evil one. (NKJV)

We are to greet one another

1 Corinthians 16:20 ²⁰ All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. (NKJV)

We are to share the Word of God with one another

Colossians 4:16 ¹⁶ Now when this epistle is read among you, see that it is read also in the church of the Laodiceans, and that you likewise read the epistle from Laodicea. (NKJV)

We are to enjoy the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ

Romans 16:20 ²⁰ And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you. Amen. (NKJV)

2 Thessalonians 3:18 ¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen. (NKJV)

Paul Prayed for the Thessalonians

II Thessalonians 1:1-4

This Prayer was:

addressed to the Thessalonians - verse 1
a statement of grace and peace - verse 2
a prayer of thanksgiving - verse 3
a testimony about their suffering - verse 4

Paul worked to develop three things in every church

Paul gave thanks because He saw two of these things continuing to develop
their faith was growing exceedingly
their love was abounding toward each other

I Corinthians 13:13

And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these *is* love. (NKJV)

Paul did not mention their hope as he did in I Thessalonians

Hope is strengthened by two things

The resurrection of Christ

1 Corinthians 15:19-22

¹⁹ If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable. ²⁰ But now Christ is risen from the dead, *and* has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since by man *came* death, by Man also *came* the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. (NKJV)

The return of Christ

I Thessalonians 4:13-14

¹³ But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. ¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. (NKJV)

The Thessalonians had apparently forgotten to keep their attention on the resurrection and the return of Christ because of the persecution and tribulation they were enduring.

Comfort for those who are Suffering

II Thessalonians 1:5-8

God gives comfort when we suffer

God counts us worthy - verse 5

God is the Righteous Judge -verse 6

God will give us rest - verse 7

God will take vengeance on those who reject - verse 8

Four Reasons to Rejoice When We Suffer

God counts us worthy to suffer for His sake

Acts 5:41-42

⁴¹ So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. ⁴² And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus *as* the Christ. (NKJV)

God is the Righteous Judge

Ecclesiastes 3:17

I said in my heart, "God shall judge the righteous and the wicked, For *there is* a time there for every purpose and for every work." (NKJV)

God will give us rest

II Corinthians 4:16-18

¹⁶ Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward *man* is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory, ¹⁸ while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen *are* temporary, but the things which are not seen *are* eternal. (NKJV)

God will take vengeance on those who reject

Revelation 20:15

And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. (NKJV)

Revelation 21:8

⁸ "But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." (NKJV)

Two Groups - Two Futures

II Thessalonians 1:9-12

Which Future Do You Face?

everlasting destruction for those who reject - verse 9

everlasting life for all those who believe - verse 10

Everlasting Destruction

Matthew 25:41

"Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: (NKJV)

Everlasting Life

John 5:24

Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. (NKJV)

Paul's Prayer for Christians

That God Would Count us Worthy of this Calling

Colossians 1:12

Giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. (NKJV)

That God Would Fulfill All the Good Pleasure of His Goodness

Philippians 2:13

For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure. (NKJV)

That God Would Fulfill the Work of Faith With Power

I Thessalonians 2:13

For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed *it* not *as* the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe. (NKJV)

That the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ Might Be Glorified in Us and Us in Him

John 17:21-23

That they all may be one, as You, Father, *are* in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. "And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: "I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. (NKJV)

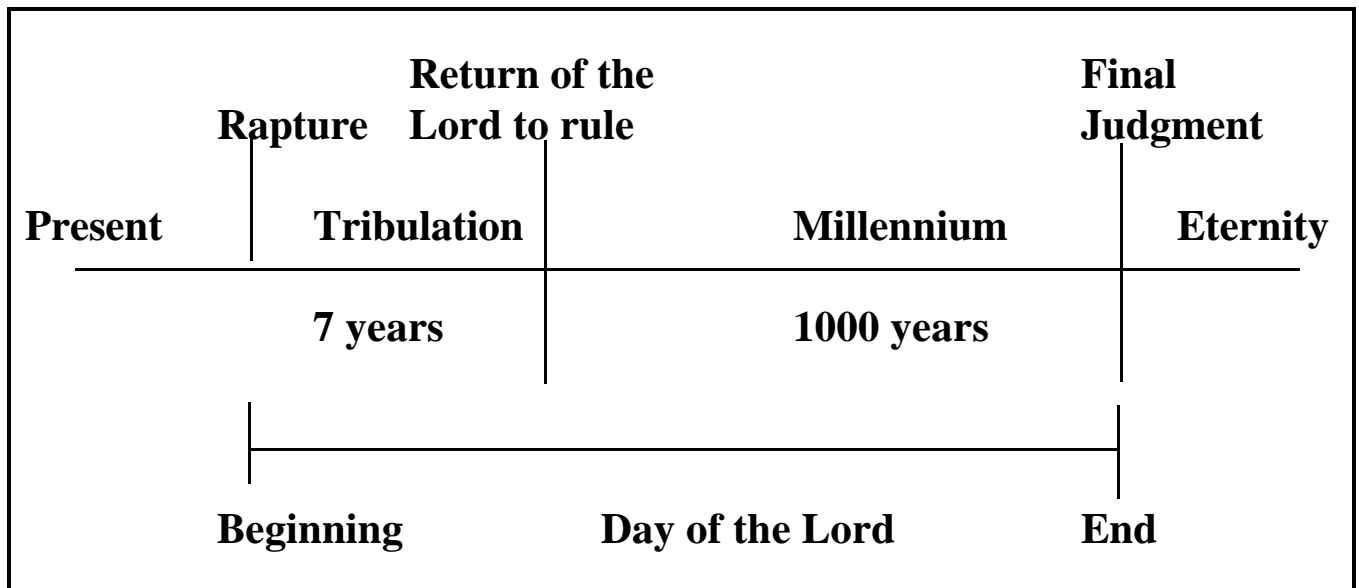
The Day of the Lord

II Thessalonians 2:2

The "Day of the Lord" Defined

The "day of the Lord" is that period of time from the time the Lord takes the Christians to heaven (I Thessalonians 4:13-18) until the cleansing of the heavens and the earth in preparation for the coming of the new heavens and the new earth (II Peter 3:10). It is a time of judgment of Israel (Amos 5:18-20), a time of judgment of all the nations (Obadiah 15, Isaiah 13:6-9), and a time of salvation and blessing for those who repent (Joel 2:28-32).

The Day of the Lord Timeline



The "Day of the Lord" is a time which Christians can look forward to with great joy but it will be a time of judgment for those who are not Christians. It should cause us to have a great concern for those who are not yet Christians.

The Coming of the Man of Sin

II Thessalonians 2:1-5

the day of the Lord had not come in Paul's time - verses 1-2

the day of the Lord would be preceded by the falling away - verse 3a

the day of the Lord would be preceded by the revealing of the man of sin - verses 3b-5

The day of the Lord had not come in Paul's time

False teachers want Christians to be confused about the coming of the Lord

the coming of the Lord was still future

the coming of the Lord will see us gathered to Him

False teachers had caused some Christians to be disturbed

false teachers had caused some to become disturbed in their minds

false teachers had caused some to become frightened

false teachers wanted to stir up the spirits of the Christians

false teachers were saying they brought words from Paul

false teachers were saying they had brought a letter from Paul

The day of the Lord will be preceded by the falling away

II Timothy 4:3-4

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. (NKJV)

The day of the Lord will be preceded by the revealing of the man of sin

the man of sin is the son of perdition (the anti-christ)

II Thessalonians 2:8

And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. (NKJV)

the man of sin will exalt himself

Revelation 13:4-6

⁴ So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who *is* like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" ⁵ And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. ⁶ Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. (NKJV)

the man of sin had already been mentioned by Paul

The Holy Spirit is the Restrainer

II Thessalonians 2:6-9

the restrainer is now holding back the son of perdition - verse 6

the restrainer will be taken out of the way - verse 7-9

the lawless one is now restrained - verse 7

the lawless one will be revealed - verse 8

the lawless one will have great power - verse 9

**The Holy Spirit is now holding back the anti-christ
(through the presence of Christians because the Holy Spirit dwells in us)**

John 14:17

The Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. (NKJV)

I John 4:4

You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. (NKJV)

The Holy Spirit will no longer be here convicting the world

John 16:8-11

⁸ "And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: ⁹ "of sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ "of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; ¹¹ "of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. (NKJV)

The anti-christ will be revealed after Christians are gone

Revelation 13:3-4

³ And *I saw* one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. ⁴ So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who *is* like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" (NKJV)

The anti-christ will do great miracles

Revelation 13:5-8

⁵ And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. ⁶ Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. ⁷ It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. ⁸ All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. (NKJV)

Deceived in the Day of the Lord

II Thessalonians 2:10-12

unbelievers will be deceived - verse 10
unbelievers will believe the lie - verse 11
unbelievers will be condemned - verse 12

Deceived because they rejected the truth

II Corinthians 4:3-4

³ But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. (NKJV)

II Corinthians 11:13-15

¹³ For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. ¹⁴ And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. ¹⁵ Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works. (NKJV)

Deceived to Believe the Lie

II Timothy 4:3-4

³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; ⁴ and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. (NKJV)

Revelation 13:8

All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. (NKJV)

Deceived Until it Brings Eternal Judgment

Revelation 19:15-16

¹⁵ Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶ And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. (NKJV)

Revelation 20:11-12

¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is *the Book* of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. (NKJV)

Reasons we Should be Thankful

II Thessalonians 2:13-17

God chose us from the beginning - verse 13

God called us by the gospel - verse 14

God gives us strength to stand through the Word - verse 15

God loves us with an everlasting love - verse 16

God is the One who comforts and strengthens us - verse 17

God Chose us from the Beginning

this choice is a reason for thanks

this choice was to salvation

this choice was to sanctify us through the Spirit

this choice resulted in us believing the truth

God Called us Through the Gospel to Glory

I Peter 5:10

But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle *you*. (NKJV)

God Gives us Strength to Stand Through the Word

I Corinthians 15:58

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. (NKJV)

God Loves us With an Everlasting Love

Jeremiah 31:3

The LORD has appeared of old to me, *saying*: "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you. (NKJV)

God is the One Who Comforts and Strengthens us

II Corinthians 1:3-6

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. ⁵ For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ. ⁶ Now if we are afflicted, *it is* for your consolation and salvation, which is effective for enduring the same sufferings which we also suffer. Or if we are comforted, *it is* for your consolation and salvation. (NKJV)

Prayer for One Another

II Thessalonians 3:1-5

prayer is needed for the Word to spread freely - verse 1

prayer is needed for protection - verse 2

prayer is needed for growth - verse 3

prayer is a key for obedience - verse 4

prayer causes us to grow in our understanding of the love of God - verse 5

Prayer is needed for the Word to spread freely

Colossians 4:3

Meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains, (NKJV)

Prayer is Needed for Protection

Romans 15:30-31

Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me, ³¹ that I may be delivered from those in Judea who do not believe, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, (NKJV)

Prayer is Needed for Growth

I Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God *is* faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear *it*. (NKJV)

Prayer is a Key for Obedience

Philippians 2:12

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; (NKJV)

Prayer Causes us to Grow in our Understanding of the Love of God

I John 3:16

By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren. (NKJV)

I John 4:10

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. (NKJV)

The Importance of Example

II Thessalonians 3:6-9

an example was not being provided by some brothers - verse 6

an example had been given by Paul and the team - verse 7

an example had been given of how to work -verse 8

an example had been given to follow - verse 9

Others are Watching Us

The Kind of Example we are to Avoid

I Corinthians 5:11-13

But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner -- not even to eat with such a person. ¹²For what *have I to do* with judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those who are inside? ¹³But those who are outside God judges. Therefore "put away from yourselves the evil person." (NKJV)

An Example Had Been Given by Paul and the Team

I Thessalonians 1:6-7

And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe. (NKJV)

An Example Had Been Given of How to Work

I Thessalonians 2:9

For you remember, brethren, our labor and toil; for laboring night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God. (NKJV)

An Example Had Been Given to Follow

I Corinthians 4:15-17

For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet *you do not have* many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. ¹⁶Therefore I urge you, imitate me. ¹⁷For this reason I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful son in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every church. (NKJV)

I Corinthians 11:1

Imitate me, just as I also *imitate* Christ. (NKJV)

Understanding God's View of Work

II Thessalonians 3:10-12

some needed to be commanded to work - verse 10
some had become busybodies who were not working - verse 11
some needed further encouragement to work - verse 12

Work is Commanded by God

I Thessalonians 4:10-12

And indeed you do so toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more; ¹¹ that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, ¹² that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and *that* you may lack nothing. (NKJV)

Two Common Consequences When People Will Not Work

Some Become Disorderly II Thessalonians 3:6

But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the tradition which he received from us. (NKJV)

Some Become Busybodies I Peter 4:15

But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters. (NKJV)

Some Need Further Encouragement to Work

Some Need Commandments I Thessalonians 4:11-12

That you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, ¹² that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and *that* you may lack nothing.

Some Need Encouragement Ephesians 4:27-28

Nor give place to the devil. ²⁸ Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with *his* hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. (NKJV)

Are There People You Need to Encourage to Work?

Learning to Exercise Discipline

II Thessalonians 3:13-15

self discipline gives the opportunity to do good - 13
discipline is needed when people refuse to obey the Word of God - verses 14-15
true discipline will cause healthy shame - verse 14
true discipline may restore a brother - verse 15

The Benefits of Self-Discipline

Self-Discipline Gives Opportunity to Do Good **Galatians 6:9-10**

And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith. (NKJV)

Self-Discipline is Part of the Fruit of the Spirit **Galatians 5:22-23**

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. (NKJV)

The Importance of Discipline in the Body of Christ

True Discipline Produces Healthy Shame **Luke 15:21**

"And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' (NKJV)

True Discipline May Restore a Brother **Luke 17:3-4**

"Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him. "And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, saying, 'I repent,' you shall forgive him." (NKJV)

True Discipline Defined **Matthew 18:15-17**

"Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶ "But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that 'by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.' ¹⁷ "And if he refuses to hear them, tell *it* to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector. (NKJV)

The Lord Has Called Us To Peace

II Thessalonians 3:16-18

God is the source of peace - verse 16
God led Paul to write this letter - verse 17
God is the source of grace - verse 18

The Results of True Peace

True Peace Comes from the Lord Ephesians 2:14-18

For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, ¹⁵ having abolished in His flesh the enmity, *that is*, the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man *from* the two, *thus* making peace, ¹⁶ and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. ¹⁷ And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. (NKJV)

True Peace Can Be Experienced Even in Tribulation John 16:33

"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." (NKJV)

True Peace Sets us Free from Worry and Fear John 14:27

"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. (NKJV)

True Peace Will Produce a Thankful Heart Philippians 4:6-9

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy -- meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you. (NKJV)