

2 Thessalonians 1:1-12 **Rewards at the Coming of the Lord (good and bad)**

Addressed to the Church of the Thessalonians

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: ² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving for the Thessalonians Faithful Endurance in the face of Severe Persecution

³ We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other, ⁴ so that we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure, ⁵ which is manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer;

Destruction for Persecutors – Glory for the Saints – At coming of the Lord

⁶ since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, ⁷ and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, ⁸ in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, ¹⁰ when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.

Prayer for the Saints

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.

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Facts Revealed:

Addressed to the Church of the Thessalonians [2 Thessalonians 1:1-2]

- ✚ Paul identifies himself and those with him Silvanus and Timothy as the source of the epistle.
 - ✧ Together they send the epistle to the Church of the Thessalonians.
 - ✧ The Church is viewed as being in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- ✚ Paul's typical greeting is a blessing: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving for the Thessalonians Faithful Endurance in the face of Severe Persecution [2 Thessalonians 1:3-5]

- ✚ The reports regarding the Thessalonian Church is so inspiring that Paul and his company overflow with thanksgiving to God which they feel is fitting. The evidence of true growth and fruitfulness:
 - ✧ Their faith grows exceedingly, all of them abound in love toward each-other.
 - ✧ The life style of the Thessalonians becomes an example for which Paul and company boast among the other churches of God.
 - ✧ The fruit of the Thessalonians is evidenced by their patience and faith in all the persecutions and tribulations they endure.
 - ✧ It is manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that they may be counted worthy of the Kingdom of God, for which they suffer.

- ✧ This is a demonstration of what Jesus was speaking about when He said: "Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man." [Luke 21:36]

Destruction for Persecutors – Glory for the Saints – At coming of the Lord [2 Thessalonians 1:6-10]

- ✧ The righteous judgments of God include the reward for the Saints and the punishment of the wicked.
 - ✧ The time of the Judgment of God is: "When the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ."
 - ✧ The Saints who remain faithful as they suffer persecution and tribulation at the hand of the wicked, will find rest and comfort at the judgment of God.
 - ✧ Those who cause grief toward the Saints will be punished with everlasting destruction and banished from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power.
 - ✧ It all happens when He comes, in that Day.
 - ✧ When The Lord Jesus Christ comes, He will be glorified in His Saints and admired among all those who believe.
 - ✧ Paul's thanksgiving is as he said, "because our testimony among you was believed."

Prayer for the Saints [2 Thessalonians 1:11-12]

- ✧ The prayer request of Paul and company for the Thessalonians is:
 - ✧ That God will count them worthy of the calling.
 - ✧ That God will fulfill all His good Will in their lives and the work of faith with power.
 - ✧ The goal is that the name of the Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in the believers.
 - ✧ The believers will be glorified in Christ according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.