~THESSALONIANS, LETTERS TO THE (1000)

- Background For First Thessalonians
- .. Background For Second Thessalonians
- · · Highlights Of First Thessalonians
- · Highlights Of Second Thessalonians
- Two inspired letters of the Christian Greek Scriptures, perhaps the first to be composed by the apostle Paul, who identifies himself as the writer of both.
- Paul and Silvanus and Timothy to the congregation of the Thessalonians in union with God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; May you have undeserved kindness and peace. (1 Thessalonians 1:1)
- For this reason we wanted to come to you, yes, I Paul, both once and a second time, but Satan cut across our path. (1 Thessalonians 2:18)
- Paul and Silvanus and Timothy to the congregation of the Thessalonians in union with God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thessalonians 1:1)
- Here is my greeting, Paul's, in my own hand, which is a sign in every letter, this is the way I write. (2 Thessalonians 3:17)
- At the time these letters were committed to writing, Silvanus, or Silas, and Timothy were with Paul.
- Paul and Silvanus and Timothy to the congregation of the Thessalonians in union with God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. May you have undeserved kindness and peace. (1 Thessalonians 1:1)
- Paul and Silvanus and Timothy to the congregation of the Thessalonians in union with God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thessalonians 1:1)
- This points to Corinth as the place from which the letters were sent, as there is no record that all three men labored together again after their stay at Corinth in the course of Paul's second missionary journey.

- When, now, both Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul began to be intensely occupied with the word, witnessing to the Jews to prove that Jesus is the Christ. (Acts of Apostles 18:5)
- Since the apostles 18-month activity in Corinth appears to have begun in the autumn of 50 C.E, likely it was at about this time that the first letter was written to the Thessalonians.
- So he stayed set there a year and six months, teaching among them the word of God. (Acts of Apostles 18:11)
- The second letter must have followed not long thereafter, probably about 51 C.E.

See Also CHRONOLOGY (The later apostolic period)

- In all outstanding catalogs of the Second, Third, and Fourth Centuries C.E, both letters are listed as canonical. They also harmonize fully with the rest of the Scriptures in admonishing God's servants to maintain fine conduct at all times.
- Noteworthy, too, is the emphasis placed on prayer in these letters. Paul, along with his fellow workers, always remembered the Thessalonians in prayer.
- We always thank God when we make mention concerning all of you in our prayers. (1 Thessalonians 1:2)
- Indeed, that is why we also thank God incessantly, because when you received God's word, which you heard from us, you accepted it, not as the word of men, but, just as it truthfully is, as the word of God, which is also at work in you believers. (1 Thessalonians 2:13)
- We are obligated to give God thanks always for you, brothers, as it is fitting, because your faith is growing exceedingly and the love of each and all of you is increasing one toward the other. (2 Thessalonians 1:3)
- To that very end indeed we always pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling and perform completely all he pleases of goodness and the work of faith with power. (2 Thessalonians 1:11)

- However, we are obligated to thank God always for you, brothers loved by Yehowah, because God selected you from the beginning for salvation by sanctifying you with spirit and by your faith in the truth. (2 Thessalonians 2:13)
- And the apostle encouraged them; Pray incessantly. In connection with everything give thanks.
- Pray incessantly. (1 Thessalonians 5:17)
- In connection with everything give thanks. For this is the will of God in union with Christ Jesus respecting you. (1 Thessalonians 5:18)
- Brothers, continue in prayer for us. (1 Thessalonians 5:25)
- Finally, brothers, carry on prayer for us, that the word of Yehowah may keep moving speedily and being glorified just as it is in fact with you. (2 Thessalonians 3:1)

Background For First Thessalonians

- Practically from the beginning the congregation to which First Thessalonians was addressed experienced persecution. After arriving at Thessalonica, Paul preached in the synagogue there for three Sabbaths.
- A considerable number of persons became believers, and a congregation was established. Fanatical Jews, however, stirred up mob violence.
- Not finding Paul and Silas at the home of Jason, the mob dragged Jason and certain other brothers before the city rulers, accusing them of sedition.
- Only upon giving sufficient security were Jason and the others released. This prompted the brothers to send Paul and Silas to Beroea by night, evidently for the sake of the congregation and the safety of the two men.
- They now journeyed through Amphipolis and Apollonia and came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. (Acts of Apostles 17:1)

- So according to Paul's custom he went inside to them, and for three Sabbaths he reasoned with them from the Scriptures. (Acts of Apostles 17:2)
- Explaining and proving by references that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying; This is the Christ, this Jesus whom I am publishing to you. (Acts of Apostles 17:3)
- As a result some of them became believers and associated themselves with Paul and Silas, and a great multitude of the Greeks who worshiped God and not a few of the principal women did so. (Acts of Apostles 17:4)
- But the Jews, getting jealous, took into their company certain wicked men of the marketplace idlers and formed a mob and proceeded to throw the city into an uproar. And they assaulted the house of Jason and went seeking to have them brought forth to the rabble. (Acts of Apostles 17:5)
- When they did not find them they dragged Jason and certain brothers to the city rulers, crying out; These men that have overturned the inhabited earth are present here also. (Acts of Apostles 17:6)
- And Jason has received them with hospitality. And all these men act in opposition to the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another king, Jesus. (Acts of Apostles 17:7)
- They indeed agitated the crowd and the city rulers when they heard these things. (Acts of Apostles 17:8)
- And first after taking sufficient security from Jason and the others they let them go. (Acts of Apostles 17:9)
- Immediately by night the brothers sent both Paul and Silas out to Beroea, and these, upon arriving, went into the synagogue of the Jews. (Acts of Apostles 17:10)
- Thereafter, besides continued persecution
- For you became imitators, brothers, of the congregations of God that are in Judea in union with Christ Jesus, because you also

began suffering at the hands of your own countrymen the same things as they also are suffering at the hands of the Jews. (1 Thessalonians 2:14)

- The congregation seemingly experienced great sorrow over losing one(s) of their number in death.
- Moreover, brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant concerning those who are sleeping in death, that you may not sorrow just as the rest also do who have no hope. (1 Thessalonians 4:13)
- Aware of the pressure that was being brought to bear against the new congregation and very much concerned about its effect, Paul dispatched Timothy to comfort and strengthen the Thessalonians. Earlier the apostle had tried to visit them twice, but Satan cut across his path.
- As for ourselves, brothers, when we were bereaved of you for but a short time, in person, not in heart, we endeavored far more than is usual to see your faces with great desire. (1
 Thessalonians 2:17)
- That no one might be swayed by these tribulations. For you yourselves know we are appointed to this very thing. (1 Thessalonians 3:3)
- Receiving Timothy's encouraging report about the faithfulness and love of the Thessalonians, Paul rejoiced.
- But Timothy has just now come to us from you and given us the Good News about your faithfulness and love, and that you continue having good remembrance of us always, yearning to see us in the same way, indeed, as we also do you. (1 Thessalonians 3:6)
- That is why, brothers, we have been comforted over you in all our necessity and tribulation through the faithfulness you show. (1 Thessalonians 3:7)
- Because now we live if you stand firm in the Lord. (1
 Thessalonians 3:8)
- For what thanksgiving can we render to God concerning you in

- return for all the joy with which we are rejoicing on your account before our God. (1 Thessalonians 3:9)
- While night and day we make more than extraordinary supplications to see your faces and to make good the things that are lacking about your faith? (1 Thessalonians 3:10)
- However, they needed further encouragement and admonition to resist weaknesses of the flesh. For this reason Paul, besides commending the Thessalonians for their faithful endurance
- We always thank God when we make mention concerning all of you in our prayers. (1 Thessalonians 1:2)
- For we bear incessantly in mind your faithful work and your loving labor and your endurance due to your hope in our Lord Jesus Christ before our God and Father. (1 Thessalonians 1:3)
- For we know, brothers loved by God, his choosing of you. (1 Thessalonians 1:4)
- Because the Good News we preach did not turn up among you with speech alone but also with power and with Holy Spirit and strong conviction, just as you know what sort of men we became to you for your sakes. (1 Thessalonians 1:5)
- And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, seeing that you accepted the word under much tribulation with joy of Holy Spirit. (1 Thessalonians 1:6)
- So that you came to be an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. (1 Thessalonians 1:7)
- The fact is, not only has the word of Yehowah sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith toward God has spread abroad, so that we do not need to say anything. (1 Thessalonians 1:8)
- For they themselves keep reporting about the way we first entered in among you and how you turned to God from your idols to slave for a living and true God. (1 Thessalonians 1:9)
- And to wait for his Son from the heavens, whom he raised up from the dead, namely, Jesus, who delivers us from the wrath

which is coming. (1 Thessalonians 1:10)

- For you became imitators, brothers, of the congregations of God that are in Judea in union with Christ Jesus, because you also began suffering at the hands of your own countrymen the same things as they also are suffering at the hands of the Jews. (1 Thessalonians 2:14)
- But Timothy has just now come to us from you and given us the Good News about your faithfulness and love, and that you continue having good remembrance of us always, yearning to see us in the same way, indeed, as we also do you. (1 Thessalonians 3:6)
- That is why, brothers, we have been comforted over you in all our necessity and tribulation through the faithfulness you show. (1 Thessalonians 3:7)
- Because now we live if you stand firm in the Lord. (1 Thessalonians 3:8)
- For what thanksgiving can we render to God concerning you in return for all the joy with which we are rejoicing on your account before our God. (1 Thessalonians 3:9)
- While night and day we make more than extraordinary supplications to see your faces and to make good the things that are lacking about your faith? (1 Thessalonians 3:10)
- And comforting them with the resurrection hope.
- Moreover, brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant concerning those who are sleeping in death, that you may not sorrow just as the rest also do who have no hope. (1 Thessalonians 4:13)
- For if our faith is that Jesus died and rose again, so, too, those who have fallen asleep in death through Jesus God will bring with him.
- For if our faith is that Jesus died and rose again, so, too, those who have fallen asleep in death through Jesus God will bring with him. (1 Thessalonians 4:14)
- For this is what we tell you by Yehowah's word, that we the

living who survive to the presence of the Lord shall in no way precede those who have fallen asleep in death. (1 Thessalonians 4:15)

- Because the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a commanding call, with an archangel's voice and with God's trumpet, and those who are dead in union with Christ will rise first. (1 Thessalonians 4:16)
- Afterward we the living who are surviving will, together with them, be caught away in clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Lord. (1 Thessalonians 4:17)
- Consequently keep comforting one another with these words. (1
 Thessalonians 4:18)
- Exhorted them to continue following a course approved by God and to do so more fully.
- Finally, brothers, we request you and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, just as you received the instruction from us on how you ought to walk and please God, just as you are in fact walking, that you would keep on doing it more fully. (1 Thessalonians 4:1)
- For you know the orders we gave you through the Lord Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 4:2)
- The apostle, among other things, counseled them to abstain from fornication
- For this is what God wills, the sanctifying of you, that you abstain from fornication. (1 Thessalonians 4:3)
- That each one of you should know how to get possession of his own vessel in sanctification and honor. (1 Thessalonians 4:4)
- Not in covetous sexual appetite such as also those nations have which do not know God. (1 Thessalonians 4:5)
- That no one go to the point of harming and encroach upon the rights of his brother in this matter, because Yehowah is one who exacts punishment for all these things, just as we told you beforehand and also gave you a thorough witness. (1 Thessalonians 4:6)

- For God called us, not with allowance for uncleanness, but in connection with sanctification. (1 Thessalonians 4:7)
- So, then, the man that shows disregard is disregarding, not man, but God, who puts his Holy Spirit in you. (1 Thessalonians 4:8)
- Love one another in fuller measure, work with their hands.
- However, with reference to brotherly love, you do not need us to be writing you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another. (1 Thessalonians 4:9)
- And, in fact, you are doing it to all the brothers in all of Macedonia. But we exhort you, brothers, to go on doing it in fuller measure. (1 Thessalonians 4:10)
- And to make it your aim to live quietly and to mind your own business and work with your hands, just as we ordered you. (1 Thessalonians 4:11)
- So that you may be walking decently as regards people outside and not be needing anything. (1 Thessalonians 4:12)
- Stay awake spiritually.
- So, then, let us not sleep on as the rest do, but let us stay awake and keep our senses. (1 Thessalonians 5:6)
- For those who sleep are accustomed to sleep at night, and those who get drunk are usually drunk at night. (1 Thessalonians 5:7)
- But as for us who belong to the day, let us keep our senses and have on the breastplate of faith and love and as a helmet the hope of salvation. (1 Thessalonians 5:8)
- Because God assigned us, not to wrath, but to the acquiring of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thessalonians 5:9)
- He died for us, that, whether we stay awake or are asleep, we should live together with him. (1 Thessalonians 5:10)
- Have regard for those working hard among them, admonish the disorderly, speak consolingly to the depressed souls, support the weak,

be long-suffering toward all, and abstain from every form of wickedness.

- Therefore keep comforting one another and building one another up, just as you are in fact doing. (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
- Now we request you, brothers, to have regard for those who are working hard among you and presiding over you in the Lord and admonishing you. (1 Thessalonians 5:12)
- And to give them more than extraordinary consideration in love because of their work. Be peaceable with one another. (1 Thessalonians 5:13)
- On the other hand, we exhort you, brothers, admonish the disorderly, speak consolingly to the depressed souls, support the weak, be long-suffering toward all. (1 Thessalonians 5:14)
- See that no one renders injury for injury to anyone else, but always pursue what is good toward one another and to all others. (1 Thessalonians 5:15)
- Always be rejoicing. (1 Thessalonians 5:16)
- Pray incessantly. (1 Thessalonians 5:17)
- In connection with everything give thanks. For this is the will of God in union with Christ Jesus respecting you. (1 Thessalonians 5:18)
- Do not put out the fire of the spirit. (1 Thessalonians 5:19)
- Do not treat prophesyings with contempt. (1 Thessalonians 5:20)
- Make sure of all things, hold fast to what is fine. (1 Thessalonians 5:21)
- Abstain from every form of wickedness. (1 Thessalonians 5:22)
- **..** Background For Second Thessalonians
- The faith of the Christians at Thessalonica was growing exceedingly, their love for one another was increasing, and they were continuing to endure persecution and tribulation faithfully. Therefore,

the apostle Paul, as in his first letter, commended them and encouraged them to continue standing firm.

- We are obligated to give God thanks always for you, brothers, as it is fitting, because your faith is growing exceedingly and the love of each and all of you is increasing one toward the other. (2 Thessalonians 1:3)
- As a result we ourselves take pride in you among the congregations of God because of your endurance and faith in all your persecutions and the tribulations that you are bearing. (2 Thessalonians 1:4)
- This is a proof of the righteous judgment of God, leading to your being counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are indeed suffering. (2 Thessalonians 1:5)
- This takes into account that it is righteous on God's part to repay tribulation to those who make tribulation for you. (2 Thessalonians 1:6)
- But, to you who suffer tribulation, relief along with us at the revelation of the Lord Jesus from heaven with his powerful angels (2 Thessalonians 1:7)
- In a flaming fire, as he brings vengeance upon those who do not know God and those who do not obey the Good News about our Lord Jesus. (2 Thessalonians 1:8)
- These very ones will undergo the judicial punishment of everlasting destruction from before the Lord and from the glory of his strength. (2 Thessalonians 1:9)
- At the time he comes to be glorified in connection with his holy ones and to be regarded in that day with wonder in connection with all those who exercised faith, because the witness we gave met with faith among you. (2 Thessalonians 1:10)
- To that very end indeed we always pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling and perform completely all he pleases of goodness and the work of faith with power. (2 Thessalonians 1:11)
- In order, that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you,

and you in union with him, in accord with the undeserved kindness of our God and of the Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thessalonians 1:12)

- However, we are obligated to thank God always for you, brothers loved by Yehowah, because God selected you from the beginning for salvation by sanctifying you with spirit and by your faith in the truth. (2 Thessalonians 2:13)
- To this very destiny he called you through the Good News we declare, for the purpose of acquiring the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thessalonians 2:14)
- So, then, brothers, stand firm and maintain your hold on the traditions that you were taught, whether it was through a verbal message or through a letter of ours. (2 Thessalonians 2:15)
- Moreover, may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and gave everlasting comfort and good hope by means of undeserved kindness. (2 Thessalonians 2:16)
- Comfort your hearts and make you firm in every good deed and word. (2 Thessalonians 2:17)
- Some in the congregation, however, were wrongly contending that the presence of Jesus Christ was imminent. Possibly even a letter wrongly attributed to Paul was interpreted as indicating that the day of Yehowah is here.
- However, brothers, respecting the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we request of you (2 Thessalonians 2:1)
- Not to be quickly shaken from your reason nor to be excited either through an inspired expression or through a verbal message or through a letter as though from us, to the effect that the day of Yehowah is here. (2 Thessalonians 2:2)
- This may have been why the apostle made a point of the genuineness of his second letter, saying; Here is my greeting, Paul's, in my own hand, which is a sign in every letter, this is the way I write.
- Not to be quickly shaken from your reason nor to be excited either through an inspired expression or through a verbal

message or through a letter as though from us, to the effect that the day of Yehowah is here. (2 Thessalonians 2:2)

- Not wanting the brothers to be seduced into accepting erroneous teaching, Paul showed that other events had to precede the coming of Yehowah's day. He wrote. It will not come unless the apostasy comes first and the man of lawlessness gets revealed.
- For the exhortation we give does not arise from error or from uncleanness or with deceit. (1 Thessalonians 2:3)
- A problem that had already existed earlier in the congregation still needed attention. In his first letter to the Thessalonians, Paul had told them:
- And, in fact, you are doing it to all the brothers in all of Macedonia. But we exhort you, brothers, to go on doing it in fuller measure. (1 Thessalonians 4:10)
- And to make it your aim to live quietly and to mind your own business and work with your hands, just as we ordered you. (1 Thessalonians 4:11)
- So that you may be walking decently as regards people outside and not be needing anything. (1 Thessalonians 4:12)
- There were those in the congregation who had not taken this admonition to heart. Hence Paul ordered such persons to work with quietness and eat food they had themselves earned, adding:
- In fact, also, when we were with you, we used to give you this order; If anyone does not want to work, neither let him eat. (2 Thessalonians 3:10)
- For we hear certain ones are walking disorderly among you, not working at all but meddling with what does not concern them. (2 Thessalonians 3:11)
- To such persons we give the order and exhortation in the Lord Jesus Christ that by working with quietness they should eat food they themselves earn. (2 Thessalonians 3:12)
- For your part, brothers, do not give up in doing right. (2 Thessalonians 3:13)

- But if anyone is not obedient to our word through this letter, keep this one marked, stop associating with him, that he may become ashamed. (2 Thessalonians 3:14)
- And yet do not be considering him as an enemy, but continue admonishing him as a brother. (2 Thessalonians 3:15)

· Highlights Of First Thessalonians

- Encouragement and counsel to a relatively new congregation.
- Written by Paul about 50 C.E, a few months after he had left Thessalonica because of mob violence.
- Commendation for the congregation,
- Paul and Silvanus and Timothy to the congregation of the Thessalonians in union with God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; May you have undeserved kindness and peace. (1 Thessalonians 1:1)
- We always thank God when we make mention concerning all of you in our prayers. (1 Thessalonians 1:2)
- For we bear incessantly in mind your faithful work and your loving labor and your endurance due to your hope in our Lord Jesus Christ before our God and Father. (1 Thessalonians 1:3)
- For we know, brothers loved by God, his choosing of you. (1 Thessalonians 1:4)
- Because the Good News we preach did not turn up among you with speech alone but also with power and with Holy Spirit and strong conviction, just as you know what sort of men we became to you for your sakes. (1 Thessalonians 1:5)
- And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, seeing that you accepted the word under much tribulation with joy of Holy Spirit. (1 Thessalonians 1:6)
- So that you came to be an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. (1 Thessalonians 1:7)

- The fact is, not only has the word of Yehowah sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith toward God has spread abroad, so that we do not need to say anything. (1 Thessalonians 1:8)
- For they themselves keep reporting about the way we first entered in among you and how you turned to God from your idols to slave for a living and true God. (1 Thessalonians 1:9)
- And to wait for his Son from the heavens, whom he raised up from the dead, namely, Jesus, who delivers us from the wrath which is coming. (1 Thessalonians 1:10)
- Paul warmly commends the Thessalonians for their faithful work and endurance.
- The Thessalonians have become an example to other believers in accepting the word under tribulation and with the joy that God's spirit produces.
- Everywhere it is being reported how they abandoned idolatry and turned to slaving for the living God and to waiting for Jesus.
- Paul's example when among them.
- To be sure, you yourselves know, brothers, how our visit to you has not been without results. (1 Thessalonians 2:1)
- But how, after we had first suffered and been insolently treated, just as you know, in Philippi, we mustered up boldness by means of our God to speak to you the Good News of God with a great deal of struggling. (1 Thessalonians 2:2)
- For the exhortation we give does not arise from error or from uncleanness or with deceit. (1 Thessalonians 2:3)
- But, just as we have been proved by God as fit to be entrusted with the Good News, so we speak, as pleasing, not men, but God, who makes proof of our hearts. (1 Thessalonians 2:4)
- In fact, at no time have we turned up either with flattering speech, just as you know, or with a false front for covetousness, God is witness! (1 Thessalonians 2:5)

- Neither have we been seeking glory from men, no, either from you or from others, though we could be an expensive burden as apostles of Christ. (1 Thessalonians 2:6)
- To the contrary, we became gentle in the midst of you, as when a nursing mother cherishes her own children. (1 Thessalonians 2:7)
- So, having a tender affection for you, we were well pleased to impart to you, not only the Good News of God, but also our own souls, because you became beloved to us. (1 Thessalonians 2:8)
- Certainly you bear in mind, brothers, our labor and toil. It was with working night and day, so as not to put an expensive burden upon any one of you, that we preached the Good News of God to you. (1 Thessalonians 2:9)
- You are witnesses, God is also, how loyal and righteous and unblamable we proved to be to you believers. (1 Thessalonians 2:10)
- In harmony with that you well know how, as a father does his children, we kept exhorting each one of you, and consoling and bearing witness to you. (1 Thessalonians 2:11)
- To the end that you should go on walking worthily of God who is calling you to his kingdom and glory. (1 Thessalonians 2:12)
- After suffering insolent treatment at Philippi, Paul drew strength from God and preached boldly to the Thessalonians.
- Paul shunned flattery, covetousness, and glory-seeking.
- He avoided becoming a burden to the brothers, but instead treated them gently as a nursing mother would and exhorted them as a loving father.
- Encouragement to remain firm in the face of persecution (1 Thessalonians 2:13)—(1 Thessalonians 3:13)
- The brothers in Thessalonica, after accepting the message proclaimed to them as the word of God, were persecuted by their fellow countrymen, the same things have happened in Judea, where Christians are suffering at the hands of Jews.

- Paul has greatly desired to see the Thessalonians, when he could no longer bear the lack of news about them, he sent Timothy, and Timothy has just returned with Good News about their spiritual condition.
- Paul prays for their continued increase.
- Admonition regarding attitude and conduct. (1 Thessalonians 4:1)–(1 Thessalonians 5:28)
- Walk more fully in the course pleasing to God, abstain from fornication.
- Love the brothers to an even greater degree, work with your hands so that even people outside can see that you walk decently.
- Comfort one another with the hope that at Christ's presence spirit-begotten believers who have died will be raised first and united with Christ, afterward those still living will join him and the resurrected ones.
- Yehowah's day is coming as a thief when they say; Peace and security! sudden destruction will come, in view of this, remain spiritually awake, protected by faith and love as a breastplate and by the hope of salvation as a helmet.
- Have deep regard for those presiding in the congregation, be peaceable, pursue what is good, always rejoice, render thanksgiving, make sure of all things, hold fast to what is fine, and abstain from wickedness.

• Highlights Of Second Thessalonians

- A letter to correct a wrong view regarding Christ's presence and to offer counsel on how to treat disorderly persons.
- Written by Paul shortly after his first letter to the Thessalonians.
- Relief to come at the revelation of Christ;
- Paul and Silvanus and Timothy to the congregation of the Thessalonians in union with God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thessalonians 1:1)

- May you have undeserved kindness and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thessalonians 1:2)
- We are obligated to give God thanks always for you, brothers, as it is fitting, because your faith is growing exceedingly and the love of each and all of you is increasing one toward the other. (2 Thessalonians 1:3)
- As a result we ourselves take pride in you among the congregations of God because of your endurance and faith in all your persecutions and the tribulations that you are bearing. (2 Thessalonians 1:4)
- This is a proof of the righteous judgment of God, leading to your being counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are indeed suffering. (2 Thessalonians 1:5)
- This takes into account that it is righteous on God's part to repay tribulation to those who make tribulation for you. (2 Thessalonians 1:6)
- But, to you who suffer tribulation, relief along with us at the revelation of the Lord Jesus from heaven with his powerful angels. (2 Thessalonians 1:7)
- In a flaming fire, as he brings vengeance upon those who do not know God and those who do not obey the Good News about our Lord Jesus. (2 Thessalonians 1:8)
- These very ones will undergo the judicial punishment of everlasting destruction from before the Lord and from the glory of his strength. (2 Thessalonians 1:9)
- At the time he comes to be glorified in connection with his holy ones and to be regarded in that day with wonder in connection with all those who exercised faith, because the witness we gave met with faith among you. (2 Thessalonians 1:10)
- To that very end indeed we always pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling and perform completely all he pleases of goodness and the work of faith with power. (2 Thessalonians 1:11)

- In order, that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in union with him, in accord with the undeserved kindness of our God and of the Lord Jesus Christ. (2
 Thessalonians 1:12)
- The Thessalonians are commended for their endurance and faith while experiencing persecutions and distress.
- Relief will come at Christ's revelation, then Jesus Christ, accompanied by powerful angels, will destroy those not obeying the Good News and will be glorified in connection with his holy ones.
- Paul prays that the Thessalonians will be counted worthy so that the Lord Jesus name will be glorified in them.
- Man of lawlessness to be revealed before the presence of Christ.
- However, brothers, respecting the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we request of you. (2 Thessalonians 2:1)
- Not to be quickly shaken from your reason nor to be excited either through an inspired expression or through a verbal message or through a letter as though from us, to the effect that the day of Yehowah is here. (2 Thessalonians 2:2)
- Let no one seduce you in any manner, because it will not come unless the apostasy comes first and the man of lawlessness gets revealed, the son of destruction. (2 Thessalonians 2:3)
- He is set in opposition and lifts himself up over everyone who is called, god, or an object of reverence, so that he sits down in the temple of The God, publicly showing himself to be a god. (2 Thessalonians 2:4)
- Do you not remember that, while I was yet with you, I used to tell you these things? (2 Thessalonians 2:5)
- And so now you know the thing that acts as a restraint, with a view to his being revealed in his own due time. (2 Thessalonians 2:6)
- True, the mystery of this lawlessness is already at work, but only till he who is right now acting as a restraint gets to be out of the

way. (2 Thessalonians 2:7)

- Then, indeed, the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will do away with by the spirit of his mouth and bring to nothing by the manifestation of his presence. (2 Thessalonians 2:8)
- But the lawless ones presence is according to the operation of Satan with every powerful work and lying signs and portents. (2 Thessalonians 2:9)
- And with every unrighteous deception for those who are perishing, as a retribution because they did not accept the love of the truth that they might be saved. (2 Thessalonians 2:10)
- So that is why God lets an operation of error go to them, that they may get to believing the lie. (2 Thessalonians 2:11)
- In order, that they all may be judged because they did not believe the truth but took pleasure in unrighteousness. (2 Thessalonians 2:12)
- However, we are obligated to thank God always for you, brothers loved by Yehowah, because God selected you from the beginning for salvation by sanctifying you with spirit and by your faith in the truth. (2 Thessalonians 2:13)
- To this very destiny he called you through the Good News we declare, for the purpose of acquiring the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thessalonians 2:14)
- So, then, brothers, stand firm and maintain your hold on the traditions that you were taught, whether it was through a verbal message or through a letter of ours. (2 Thessalonians 2:15)
- Moreover, may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and gave everlasting comfort and good hope by means of undeserved kindness. (2 Thessalonians 2:16)
- Comfort your hearts and make you firm in every good deed and word. (2 Thessalonians 2:17)

- The Thessalonians are admonished not to be unsettled or excited by any message suggesting that Yehowah's day is already upon them.
- The apostasy has to come first, and the man of lawlessness has to be revealed, he will lift himself up over every object of reverence and display himself to be a god.
- When he that acts as a restraint is removed, the lawless one will be revealed, he whose presence is marked by lying signs and every unrighteous deception in order to deceive those who are perishing.
- Jesus Christ will bring him to nothing at the manifestation of his presence.
- How to deal with disorderly persons.
- Finally, brothers, carry on prayer for us, that the word of Yehowah may keep moving speedily and being glorified just as it is in fact with you. (2 Thessalonians 3:1)
- And that we may be delivered from harmful and wicked men, for faith is not a possession of all people. (2 Thessalonians 3:2)
- But the Lord is faithful, and he will make you firm and keep you from the wicked one. (2 Thessalonians 3:3)
- Moreover, we have confidence in the Lord regarding you, that you are doing and will go on doing the things we order. (2 Thessalonians 3:4)
- May the Lord continue directing your hearts successfully into the love of God and into the endurance for the Christ. (2
 Thessalonians 3:5)
- Now we are giving you orders, brothers, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, to withdraw from every brother walking disorderly and not according to the tradition you received from us. (2 Thessalonians 3:6)
- For you yourselves know the way you ought to imitate us, because we did not behave disorderly among you. (2 Thessalonians 3:7)

- Nor did we eat food from anyone free. To the contrary, by labor and toil night and day we were working so as not to impose an expensive burden upon any one of you. (2 Thessalonians 3:8)
- Not that we do not have authority, but in order, that we might offer ourselves as an example to you to imitate us. (2 Thessalonians 3:9)
- In fact, also, when we were with you, we used to give you this order; If anyone does not want to work, neither let him eat. (2 Thessalonians 3:10)
- For we hear certain ones are walking disorderly among you, not working at all but meddling with what does not concern them. (2 Thessalonians 3:11)
- To such persons we give the order and exhortation in the Lord Jesus Christ that by working with quietness they should eat food they themselves earn. (2 Thessalonians 3:12)
- For your part, brothers, do not give up in doing right. (2 Thessalonians 3:13)
- But if anyone is not obedient to our word through this letter, keep this one marked, stop associating with him, that he may become ashamed. (2 Thessalonians 3:14)
- And yet do not be considering him as an enemy, but continue admonishing him as a brother. (2 Thessalonians 3:15)
- Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace constantly in every way. The Lord be with all of you. (2 Thessalonians 3:16)
- Here is my greeting, Paul's, in my own hand, which is a sign in every letter, this is the way I write. (2 Thessalonians 3:17)
- The undeserved kindness of our Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you. (2 Thessalonians 3:18)
- Withdraw from disorderly ones, those meddling in what does not concern them, those disregarding the order. If anyone does not want to work, neither let him eat.

 Mark such ones as persons with whom there is to be no fraternizing, but admonish them as brothers so that they may change their ways