

2 Thes. 1:1-12

I. Salutation (1)

- A. Authors: Paul and Silas and Timothy
- B. Recipients: To the church of the Thessalonians
 - 1. In God our Father
 - 2. And in the Lord Jesus Christ

Almost exactly the same wording as I Thessalonians except Paul adds “our” with “Father”

II. Blessing (2)

- A. Grace and peace to you
 - Same as I Thessalonians, but then adds the next phrase
- B. From: God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ
 - 1. God our Father
 - 2. And the Lord Jesus Christ

Notice the repetition from v. 1

This is not redundant, but has a purpose

The emphasis is on God the Father and the Lord Jesus the Messiah

Everything else is secondary

III. Thanksgiving and Prayer (3-12)

- A. We thank God for you (3-10)
 - 1. We thank God for your faith and love, which are growing even in persecution (3-4)
 - a We thank God for your faith and love, which are growing (3)
 - 1) We ought to thank God concerning you because it is appropriate (3a-b)
 - a) We ought to always give thanks to God concerning you brothers (3a)
 - b) Just as it is appropriate (3b)
 - 2) Reason: Because your faith and love are growing (3c-d)
 - a) Because your faith is increasing abundantly (3c)
 - b) And [because] the love of every one of you is growing greatly (3d)
 - b Result: We are confident of these things in you in the church of God (4)
 - 1) On behalf of your patience and faith
 - 2) In all your persecution and affliction which you are enduring
 - 2. Reason: The evidence of God’s work in your life prove God and guarantee His coming vindication (5-10)
 - a This proves that God is right and you are on God’s side (5)
 - 1) This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God (5a)
 - “this” = their faith, love and patience in trials
 - It is evidence of God’s just judgment
 - The Thessalonians prove God right
 - They are considered worthy to experience the Kingdom of God, which they are suffering for
 - 2) Purpose: So that you may be considered worthy of the Kingdom of God on behalf of which you are suffering (5b)

- b Reason: God is just and right, vindicating believers (6-10)
 - 1) Since to pay back affliction to those afflicting you is right for God (6)
 - Since justice is from/of God
 - 2) God will vindicate Himself and His believers against their oppressors (7-10)
 - a) And [to pay back] relief to you, the ones being afflicted [is right] (7)
 - (1) With us
 - (2) In the revelation of the Lord Jesus
 - Different word than “parousia” used in 1 Thessalonians
 - (3) From heaven
 - (4) With angels of His power
 - (5) In flames of fire
 - Cf. Isa. 66:15-16 – speaks of God’s fury and judgment coming using similar wording
 - b) He will pay back punishment to unbelievers (8-10)
 - (1) Giving retribution/punishment (8)
 - (a) to those who do not know God
 - (b) and [to those] who do not obey the Gospel of our Lord Jesus
 - These two descriptions describe the same group of people
 - (2) Elaboration of the punishment they will experience (9-10)
 - (a) Who will undergo punishment (9)
 - (i) Eternal destruction
 - (ii) From the presence of the Lord
 - (iii) And from the glory of His power
 - “from” can mean separation – i.e. they will be separated from His presence and glory
 - “from” can mean source – i.e. the punishment comes from His presence and His glorious strength – very strong punishment
 - Quoting Isa. 2:10, 19, 21 – They will flee “from the dread of the Lord and the splendor of His majesty”

- (b) At the glorious coming of Jesus (10)
 - (i) When He comes (10a)
 - (ii) Purpose: to be glorified and held in awe (10b-d)
 - ((a)) to be glorified in His holy ones (10b)
 - ((b)) and to be held in awe by believers (10c-d)
 - ((1)) and to be marveled at (10c)
 - ((i)) by all those who believe
 - ((ii)) in that day
 - ((2)) Reason: Because our testimony to you was believed (10d)
 - Notice again the focus on future eschatology
 - Reward and punishment of the Gospel

B. We are praying for you (11-12)

1. And for which we are always praying concerning you (11a)
2. Content: That God would be glorified by fulfilling His purpose for you (11b-12)
 - a That God would shine His face on you and fulfill His calling for you (11b-c)
 - 1) That our God would consider you suitable of [His] calling (11b)
 - 2) And he may fulfill every good disposition and work of faith (11c)
 - b Purpose: So Christ may be glorified, and we as well (12)
 - 1) So that the Name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you (12a)
 - 2) And we [may be glorified] in Him according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ (12b)