

SERMON NOTES AND QUESTIONS

THE LORD WILL COME

1 & 2 THESSALONIANS

1 THESS 4:13-5:11

THE LORD WILL COME



1. Describe the grief of losing a loved one.

2. Read 1 Thess 4:13-18. What was the cause of the readers' grief?

3. What determines whether or not the dead in Christ will rise to life (vs 14)? Does the timing of a believer's death matter?

4. Why should the reader look forward to the coming of the Lord? How would this encourage the reader?

5. Read 1 Thess 5:1-3. What is wrong with saying, 'There is peace and security' (Vs3)?

6. When will the Lord come? What must happen first?

7. Read 1 Thess 5:4-8. What does it mean to remain 'awake and sober'?

8. Read 1 Thess 5:9-10. What is the believer destined for?

9. How should that characterise his/her life?

10. Define christian 'hope'.

2 THESS 1:1-12

THE LORD WILL PUNISH



It is recommended that you either refer to various translations or use the ESV for these studies.

1. In what ways does being a Christian in 2024 seem like being on the wrong side of history?

2. What is the situation that the Thessalonian believers find themselves in?

3. What does Paul thank God for?

4. Is it significant that there is no mention of the Thessalonians' hope in Paul's thanksgiving?

5. How will believers and unbelievers each fare when Jesus returns?

6. What role does reflecting on future judgement play when we face trials and persecution?

7. What would you say is Paul's main prayer point in the midst of the Thessalonians' suffering? (v11-12)

8. How does God's righteous judgement impact our view of current injustices and persecutions?

9. Write a prayer based on this passage for someone you know currently experiencing some trial.

2 THESS 2:1-12

THE LIES WILL BE REVEALED



1. What can cause a loss of confidence in the gospel?

2. Read 2 Thess 2:1-12. A fake letter had been circulating saying that, 'the day of the Lord has come'. Why would this unsettle the readers? How does Paul convince them that that can not be true?

3. Describe the activity of the man of lawlessness (perdition)? Vs 4, 9-10.

4. Read Daniel 11:36-37. In what ways is this man similar to the one described in 2 Thess?

5. When will the Lord Jesus annihilate the lawless one?

6. Can you think of humans who have deceived people and taken divine status? What is the impact on the human race?

7. Read Isaiah 6:9-10. Why would God want Isaiah to proclaim this?

8. What false ideas about God are being touted and believed today?

9. What is Satan's role in all of this? (Vs 9)

10. What will be revealed? When?

11. What is the believer to remember during times of heightened opposition?

2 THESS 2:13-17

STAND FIRM



1. Share a time when someone encouraged you when you needed it most.

2. Read 2 Thess 2:13-17. Are there any words in the passage that you don't understand?

3. Why might the Thessalonians need encouragement?

4. Taking 2:10-12 with Paul's thanksgiving, how are the Thessalonians contrasted with "those who are perishing"?

5. What do we learn about God and His work of salvation?

6. Paul speaks of "the truth" (v13) and "the teachings" (v15). How should they feature in the lives of the Thessalonians?

7. Do you value "the truth" as vital in your life? Why or why not?

8. Is being a Christian primarily about the intellect and having Bible knowledge?

9. How does prayer feature in Paul's ministry to the Thessalonians?

10. Rather than saying a generic "I'll pray for you," how can you use Paul's prayer to tell someone in need of encouragement the specific things you'll be praying for them?

2 THESS 3:1-5
PRAY!



1. How's your prayer life?
What helps?

6. What was Paul praying
for the Thessalonians?

2. Read 1 Thess 3:1-2. What
does Paul request prayer
for?

7. What is the work of the
'evil one'? 2 Thess 2:9-12.

3. Read Acts 17:1-9. What
did Paul and his
companions preach in
Thessalonica. Who were
the first to hear?

8. List the other things
Paul prays for the
Thessalonians. 2 Thess 1:11
& 12. What is his priority
when praying for them?

4. What were the
responses? How was the
word of the Lord
honoured?

9. How should we pray for
each other?

5. How do 'wicked men'
threaten the evangelists?

10. How would our lives
look if these prayers were
answered?

2 THESS 3:6-10

WORK HARD



1. Give an instance when you paid someone but didn't get good value for money.

2. Read 2 Thess 3:6-12. What was the problem? How was the church to respond? How were the loafers to respond?

3. Read 2 Corinthians 11:4-11. How were the false teachers behaving? How did the Corinthians show their approval of them? How did Paul's behaviour distinguish himself from the false teachers?

4. Does vs10 sound a bit harsh? Is this a warning against excessive generosity, social welfare or something else?

5. What does it mean to 'work quietly'? Who benefits?

6. Read 1 Thess 4:11-12. What is 'proper living'?

7. What incorrect theology could lead to idleness?

8. How is this passage foiled by Matthew 6:24, and 1 Tim 6:18?

9. If we support those who teach and preach, what should the conditions be (1 Tim 5:17-18, 6:3-10)?

10. What role does work play in your life? How does it define you? Are you tempted to underwork or overwork?

2 THESS 3:11-18

DO GOOD



1. Share your dream work-life balance. (Think of “work” not only as paid work but also include looking after grandkids, housework, volunteering etc).

2. Read 2 Thess 3:11-18. How is the idleness of some Thessalonians problematic?

3. Why might they choose not to work?

4. Is Paul also addressing those who are genuinely in need and cannot work?

5. What does it mean to “never tire of doing what is good”? Is it referring to paid work?

6. How does it apply to every believer?

7. Where is the line between taking advantage of someone else’s generosity and being a grateful recipient of another believer’s grace?

8. What steps could you take if you feel used by another believer?

9. In light of this passage, what would a prayer for peace look like on a (i) personal and (ii) communal level as you do life at Oceanside? (v16)

Are you in a Growth Group?

Growth Groups are smaller groups that meet weekly to read the Bible, discuss and pray. The setting is more intimate than church services, which allows the members to better know each other, help, and hold each other accountable.

Oceanside Anglican has many groups that meet at different times. Some are in person and others are by Zoom. Contact gavin@oceansideanglican.org.au for more information.



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