

# 2 Thessalonians

## Purpose

To clear up the confusion about Christ's return

## Author

Paul

## To Whom Written

The church at Thessalonica

## Date Written

From Corinth (51, 52 AD)

## Setting

Many were confused about the timing of Christ's return. Because of mounting persecution, they thought the day of the Lord must be imminent. In light of this misunderstanding, many persisted in being idle and disorderly, with the excuse of waiting for Christ's return

## Key People

Paul, Timothy, and Silas

## Key Verse

"May the Lord bring you into an ever deeper understanding of the love of God and the endurance that comes from Christ."

*2 Thessalonians 3:5*

## Special Feature

In this letter, Paul indicates various events that must precede the Second Coming of Christ.

## An Overview (3 Chapters)

- The Bright Hope of Christ's Return (*1:1-2:17*)
- Living in the Light of Christ's Return (*3:1-18*)

## Major Themes

- *Persecution:* Paul encouraged the church to persevere in spite of troubles and trials. God will bring victory to His faithful followers and judge those who persecute them.
- *Christ's Return:* Since Paul had said that the Lord could come at any moment, some of the Thessalonian believers had stopped working in order to wait for Christ. We need not be concerned about when He will return. We should stand firm, keep working, and wait for Him.
- *Great Rebellion:* Before Christ's return, there will be a great rebellion against God led by the man of lawlessness (the Anti-Christ). God will remove all the restraints on evil before He brings judgment on the rebels. The Anti-Christ will attempt to deceive many.
- *Persistence:* Because church members had quit working and become disorderly and disobedient, Paul chastised them for their idleness. He called on them to show courage and true Christian conduct.