

2 Thessalonians 3:1-18

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1. How did the Thessalonians receive the gospel? What was Paul's request?

2 Thess. 3:1-2

1 Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and be glorified, just as it did also with you;

2 and that we will be rescued from perverse and evil men; for not all have faith.

1. How did the Thessalonians receive the gospel? What was Paul's request?

The Thessalonians received the gospel because:

A. They loved Scripture (2 Thess. 2:15).

B. They were growing in love and perseverance (2 Thess. 2:17).

C. They were spreading the word of God with others (2 Thess. 3:1).

D. They were glorying God for His word (2 Thess. 3:1).

1. How did the Thessalonians receive the gospel? What was Paul's request?

Paul asked his brethren to pray on his behalf for:

A. God's word to spread rapidly and be glorified.

B. Deliverance from perverse and evil men.

C. Boldness in spreading the word of the Lord.

D. The Lost who do not have the faith.

2. What will God do for Christians who are threatened by the evil one?

2 Thess. 3:3-5

3 But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

4 We have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you are doing and will *continue to do* what we command.

5 May the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the steadfastness of Christ.

2. What will God do for Christians who are threatened by the evil one?

The Lord is faithful.

1 Cor. 10:13

13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

2. What will God do for Christians who are threatened by the evil one?

A. The Lord will strengthen and protect them from the evil one (Satan).

B. The Lord will direct their hearts into the love of God.

C. The Lord will direct their hearts into the steadfastness of Christ.

3. Describe the author's example while they were with the Thessalonians.

2 Thess. 3:6-9

6 Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from every brother who leads an unruly life and not according to the tradition which you received from us.

7 For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example, because we did not act in an undisciplined manner among you,

8 nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with labor and hardship we kept working night and day so that we would not be a burden to any of you;

9 not because we do not have the right *to this*, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you, so that you would follow our example.

3. Describe the author's example while they were with the Thessalonians.

Paul and his companions commanded the Thessalonians to:

Keep away from every brother who leads an unruly life.

NASB - leads an unruly life

NIV - who is idle and disruptive

CEV - who loafers around (any of your people who loaf around)

NKJV - who walks disorderly – lives in Idleness – who does not work

***Greek - disorderly walking**

* Complete Biblical Library Interlinear: NT

3. Describe the author's example while they were with the Thessalonians.

Paul's example:

A. We did not act in an undisciplined manner among you.

B. We did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it.

C. With labor and hardship we *kept* working night and day so that we would not be a burden to any of you.

4. What instruction did Paul and his companions give to the Thessalonians?

2 Thess. 10-13

10 For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either.

11 For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies.

12 Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread.

13 But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary of doing good.

4. What instruction did Paul and his companions give to the Thessalonians?

A. If anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either.

B. Some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies.

C. Such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread.

D. Do not grow weary of doing good.

5. What actions were the Thessalonians to take with brethren who did not obey the instructions of Paul and his companions?

2 Thess. 3:14-15

14 If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, **take special note of that person** and **do not associate with him**, so that he will be put to shame.

15 *Yet* do not regard him as an enemy, but **admonish him as a brother.**

5. What actions were the Thessalonians to take with brethren who did not obey the instructions of Paul and his companions?

If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter:

A. Take special note of that person.

B. Do not associate with him, so that he will be put to shame.

C. Do not regard him as an enemy.

D. Admonish him as a brother.

6. What is the importance of writing the letter in Paul's own hand?

2 Thess. 3:16-18

16 Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance. The Lord be with you all!

17 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand, and this is a distinguishing mark in every letter; this is the way I write.

18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

6. What is the importance of writing the letter in Paul's own hand?

Paul's encouragement to the Thessalonians:

A. May the **Lord of peace** Himself continually **grant you peace** in every circumstance.

B. **The Lord be with you.**

C. **The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.**

6. What is the importance of writing the letter in Paul's own hand?

17 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand, and this is a distinguishing mark in every letter; this is the way I write.

Some scholars believe Paul suffered from an eye ailment or injury.

Acts 9:18

18 And immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he regained his sight, and he got up and was baptized;

Acts 14:19

19 But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having won over the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead.

6. What is the importance of writing the letter in Paul's own hand?

2 Cor. 12:7-9

7 Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me—to keep me from exalting myself!

8 Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me.

9 And He has said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.” Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

6. What is the importance of writing the letter in Paul's own hand?

2 Thess. 2:1-2

1 Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him,

2 that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.

6. What is the importance of writing the letter in Paul's own hand?

1. The "coming of the Lord" (1 Cor. 15:21-28; 1 Thess. 5:2; 2 Thess. 2:1, 7-9; 2 Peter 3:10)

2. When Jesus returns, all Christians will be gathered together to Him (1 Cor. 15:23-24, 50-54; 1 Thess. 4:15-17; 2 Thess. 2:1)

3. Do not listen to:

a. False spirits

b. Message (Words from false teachers)

c. False letter (A misunderstanding of actual apostolic letters or forged ones)

6. What is the importance of writing the letter in Paul's own hand?

It is possible that false teachers had been sending letters to the Thessalonian church with the apostle Paul's forged signature.

In some of Paul's other letters, he mentions false claims about his teachings (Rom. 3:8) or makes a point of noting that he's personally signing his name (1 Cor. 16:21; Gal. 6:11; Col. 4:18; Philemon 1:19).

To assure the Thessalonians that this was genuinely his letter, Paul attached his signature to it.