

An Outline of 2 Thessalonians

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**Introduction – 1:1–2*

- I. A discussion of eschatology (1:3–2:17)
 - A. Dealing with the persecutors (1:3–12)
 - 1. Paul rejoices (3–4).
 - 2. Paul comforts (5–10).
 - 3. Paul prays (11–12).
 - B. Dealing with the false letter (2:1–17)
 - 1. An important correction: The Day of the Lord can't happen yet (1–7).
 - 2. An upcoming encounter (8–12)
 - 3. A fitting conclusion (13–17)
- II. A discussion of ethics (3:1–15)
 - A. A general exhortation about prayer (3:1–5)
 - 1. Paul's requests (1–2).
 - 2. Paul's encouragement (3–4).
 - 3. Paul's prayer (5).
 - B. A specific exhortation about religious idlers (3:6–15)
 - 1. An opening command to the community (6)
 - 2. Two reasons to work hard (7–10)
 - a. Work hard because of Paul's example (7–9)
 - b. Work hard because of Paul's teaching (10)
 - 3. A command regarding the unruly (11–12)
 - 4. Closing commands to the community (13–15)

**Conclusion – 3:16–18*

