2 Thessalonians 1

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

Day 1

Read 2 Thess 1.

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

1 Paul and Silvanus and Timothy,

- To the church
 - of the Thessalonians
 - in God our Father
 - and the Lord Jesus Christ:
- ² Grace to you and peace

4

9

- from God the Father
- and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- **3** We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers,
 - as is only fitting,
 - because your faith is growing abundantly,
 - and the love of each one of you all toward one another increases all the more,
 - so that we ourselves boast about you
 - among the churches of God
 - for your perseverance and faith
 - in the midst of all your persecutions and afflictions which you endure.
- 5 This is a plain indication of God's righteous judgment
 - so that you will be considered worthy of the kingdom of God,
 - for which indeed you are suffering.
- ⁶ Since it is right for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you,
- ⁷ and *to give* rest to you who are afflicted
 - and to us as well
 - at the revelation of the Lord Jesus
 - from heaven
 - with His mighty angels in flaming fire,
- 8 executing vengeance on those
 - who do not know God
 - and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.
 - These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction,
 - AWAY FROM THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD
 - AND FROM THE GLORY OF HIS MIGHT,
- ¹⁰ when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day,

and to be marveled at among all who have believed for our witness to you was believed.

¹¹ To this end also we pray for you always,

that our Cod will count you aways,

that our God will count you worthy of your calling,

and fulfill all your good pleasure for goodness and the work of faith with power,

12 so that the name of our Lord Jesus will be glorified in you, and you in Him,

according to the grace of our God and *the* Lord Jesus Christ.

- 1. What is Paul thankful for in vv. 3-4?
- 2. What do vv. 3-4 reveal about the purpose of the letter and the situation of the readers?
- **3.** How many times is the second person pronoun "you" used in vv. 5-10 and what is the state of the individuals to which it refers?
- 4. How many times are the demonstrative pronouns "those" and "these" used in vv. 5-10 and what is the state of the individuals to which they refer?

5. How many times is the word "when" used? What event does it indicate? What information does it give us about this event?

6. What are the contrasting qualities between the Thessalonians and their persecutors through out these verses?

7. Why does Paul include this information on the return of the Lord and the judgment of persecutors?

Day 2 Read 2 Thess 1 again.

- 8. How are vv. 11-12 related to vv. 5-10?
- 9. What does Paul pray for them?
- 10. What does it mean that "God will count you worthy"?
- 11. In light of v. 5, what is Paul praying for here?

12. How does this inform your prayers for believers in suffering and persecution?

13. What is "the work of faith with power"? Where has Paul addressed faith already in this letter? How does that inform what he means here?

14. Why does Paul pray this for the Thessalonians?

Day 3 Read 2 Thess 1 again.

- 15. How is 12a the aim of all prayer and all of life?
- 16. What is going on in 12b/c? What does Paul mean by saying that the name of Jesus is to be glorified "in you and you in Him"?

17. What is the relationship between 12d and the rest of v. 12?

18. How should this prayer shape your prayers for SWBC?

19. How should this passage shape the way you think about life, the church, justice, etc.?

20. Summarize this passage in 23 words or less.

In preparation for Sunday, pray in light of this passage for SWBC, the persecuted church, your heart and worthiness before the Lord.