

**Topic:** Pauline Epistles Bible Questions: Epistles to the Thessalonians

**Introduction:**

The following questions are meant to be straight forward taking answers from exactly the way the passage in your King James Bible is worded. If you are unsure of the answer to any question it is suggested that you leave the question to return at a later time after you continue with other of the questions. You may also find some items for "Discussion": it is recommended that you think about the "Discussion" items on your own to be ready for group discussion.

First and Second Epistles to the Thessalonians

First Thessalonians study questions:

1. What three matters did Paul remember of the Thessalonians "without ceasing"?  
1Thess. 1:3
2. Paul wrote of the Thessalonians' "...election \_\_\_\_\_ God." 1Thess. 1:4
3. Who did the Thessalonian believers follow? 1Thess. 1:6
4. What had the Thessalonian believers become to "...all that believe..."? 1Thess. 1:7
5. From what had the Thessalonian believers "turned"? For what were they waiting?  
1Thess. 1:9-10
6. Though he was "bold in our God" speaking the gospel, what did Paul experience?  
1Thess. 2:2
7. What were the three accusations made against Paul's "exhortation"? 1Thess. 2:3
8. What was Paul's behavior among the Thessalonian believers, and why? 1Thess. 2:7-8
9. What did Paul remind them of concerning "...our labour and travail..."? 1Thess. 2:9
10. In what way were the believers to "walk"? 1Thess. 2:12

Discussion: How does a walk that is "of" God differ from one that is "to" God?

11. Paul gave thanks to God without ceasing: how did they "receive the word of God"?  
1Thess. 2:13

Discussion: The Thessalonians "became followers of the churches of God which in Judea are in Christ Jesus" in suffering 'like things'. In what way did the Thessalonian believers suffer? 1Thess. 2:14-16

12. CHALLENGE QUESTION: Of what is Paul speaking when he mentions “hope”, “joy” and “crown of rejoicing”? (Hint: three events to happen to the Body of Christ) 1Thess. 2:19-20 See also Ephesians 1:18, Philippians 4:1, 1Thessalonians 1:6, 2Timothy 4:8
13. CHALLENGE QUESTION: Read 1Thessalonians 3:1-8; Why did Paul send Timotheus to the Thessalonians while he (Paul) remained in Athens? What was Paul’s concern for them (verses 3-5)? What was Timothy’s report that then “comforted” Paul concerning the Thessalonian believers (verses 6-8)?
14. Paul desired to return to the Thessalonians that he “might perfect that which is lacking in (their) faith”; for what “end”? 1Thess. 3:9-13
15. Paul writes to the believers, “...ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God...”. Read 1Thess. 4:1-8. Consider the following passages and summarize “how ye ought to walk...”. Ephesians 4:22, 24, 30-32, Colossians 3:8-9, 10, 12, 13-17.
16. Paul writes of the believers’ conduct among the brethren. How does he instruct believers to “walk” concerning “them that are without” (non-believers), and why? 1Thess. 4:9-12.
17. What were the Thessalonian believers ignorant of “...concerning them which are asleep”? 1Thess. 4:13
18. What will happen to “them also which sleep in Jesus”? 1Thess. 4:14
19. Shall those that are alive “prevent them” (precede them) “...which are asleep.”? 1Thess. 4:15
20. What five (5) things will happen by “...the Lord himself...”? 1Thess. 4:16
21. What will then happen to those “...which are alive and remain”? 1Thess. 4:17
22. What does Paul say the believer should do “...with these words.”? 1Thess. 4:18
23. Why does Paul write to the believer that the “day of the Lord” will not “... overtake you as a thief.”? 1Thess. 5:1-5. Note: notice use of pronouns: “yourselves”, “they”, “them”, “ye”, and “you”.
24. What is the difference between those that are “...of light, and ...of the day...” compared to those “...of the night ... of darkness”? 1Thess. 5:5-10
25. What does Paul say to do now that he has informed them? 1Thess. 5:11
26. In 1Thessalonians 5:14, what instruction does Paul give concerning:

- a. "...them that are unruly"
  - b. "...the feebleminded"
  - c. "...the weak"
  - d. "...toward all men"
27. To whom should the believer "render evil" when needing to get even? 1Thess. 5:15
  28. How long should the believer "rejoice"? 1Thess. 5:16
  29. How long should the believer "pray"? 1Thess. 5:17
  30. For what should the believer "give thanks", and why? 1Thess. 5:18
  31. What is one not to do to the "Spirit"? 1Thess. 5:19
  32. Paul preached "...Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery..." (Rom.16:25), so why would he write "...despise not prophesyings.? 1Thess. 5:20 Hint: see Romans 15:4
  33. What does Paul instruct to do concerning "...all things..."? 1Thess. 5:21
  34. What does Paul teach concerning "...all appearance of evil."? 1Thess. 5:22
  35. Who sanctifies the believer "wholly"? 1Thess. 5:23
  36. What is to be preserved blameless, and unto what event? 1Thess. 5:23
  37. What did Paul "charge" concerning his "epistle"? 1Thess. 5:27

2Thessalonians study questions:

1. What two things did the Thessalonian believers “endure” with “patience” and “faith”? 2Thess. 1:4
2. Paul encouraged the believers by telling them that it would be a “righteous thing with God” to do what to those that “trouble you”? 2Thess. 1:6
3. What will “the Lord Jesus” do when he is “revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire”? 2Thess. 1:7-8
4. How is the punishment described? 2Thess. 1:9-10
  - a. Discussion: Paul writes “Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling...” which has us look back at the beginning of the chapter to identify “this calling”. What do you read in verse 4 that could be understood as the reason that Paul would say, “we pray always for you”? 2Thess. 1:11-12
  - b. Discussion: In 1Thessalonians 1, we read the following words: persecutions, tribulations, endure, judgment, suffer, recompense, trouble, vengeance, punished, and everlasting destruction. What would you say is the focus of this first chapter of 2Thessalonians?

Introduction to 2Thessalonians 2: As is Paul’s manner of teaching he presents knowledge, understanding (i.e.: explanation), and wisdom. This second chapter has been “interpreted” in many differently ways. The knowledge and wisdom imparted by Paul are the most clearly understood:

1. Knowledge → verses 1-6
  2. Understanding → verses 7-12
  3. Wisdom → verses 13-17
5. What happens to us at “the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ...”? 2Thess. 2:1

Note - Three Distinct Events:

- a. Paul’s words, “our gathering together unto him” (2Thessalonians 2:1) is the event where believers will be “caught up together...to meet the Lord in the air” (i.e.: the rapture; 1Thessalonians 4:17).
- b. The next event for believers, once gathered together unto him, is the “judgement seat of Christ” (2Corinthians 5:10) where every believer “may receive the things done in the body”.
- c. The next event for the believer, having been caught up and judged, is the “day of Christ” which is seen in 2Thessalonians 2:2. The “day of Christ” is the believer’s

presentation to the Father; in which Paul says he shall “rejoice” (Philippians 2:16), and where Paul also says “that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus” (Colossians 1:28-29).

- d. Thus, the “day of Christ” should not be mistaken for the day the believer is caught up, nor the day of the judgement seat.
6. What was the reason the Thessalonians were “shaken” and “troubled”? 2Thess. 2:2 (Note: “at hand” Strong’s definition: now present.)

Discussion:

“For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming? For ye are our glory and joy.” 1Thess. 2:19-20

- Check out how the three underlined words relate to the three events for the believer, which shall come at the end of the Dispensation of Grace:
  - i. “hope” —→ “blessed hope” Titus 2:13 (day of victory 1Corinthians 15:57)
  - ii. “joy” —→ “joy for your sakes before God” 1Thessalonians 3:9 (i.e.: at the “judgement seat of Christ” the believer will “stand” Romans 14:10)
  - iii. “crown of rejoicing” —→ “that I may rejoice in the day of Christ” Philippians 2:16

7. On what “day” will “that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition”? 2Thess. 2:2b-3
8. Where does the “son of perdition” “...sitteth...”, and to what “...shewing himself...”? 2Thess. 2:4
9. What is it that presently “withholdeth” the son of perdition who is to “be revealed in his time”? 2Thess. 2:6 (Hint: review 2Thessalonians 2:2b, see also Ephesians 2:15 question and discussion items.)
10. What is “already” at “work”? 2Thess. 2:7

a. Discussion:

- i. Verse 7 Paul writes iniquity now “letteth”. This word “letteth” is the same Greek word translated in verse 6 as “withholdeth”. It means: iniquity is in some manner being restrained in its progress.
- ii. Verse 3 establishes that the revelation of the “son of perdition” is connected with “that day” (the “day of Christ” of verse 2), which is the same day the Body of Christ, now in heaven, is presented (Colossians 1:28) to the Father.

b. For discussion: verse 3 guides us as to what is withholding the full working of iniquity in verse 7 (see Matthew 13:33).

11. Who will destroy “that Wicked” and how? 2Thess. 2:8
12. Where will he (“that Wicked” verse 8) obtain “all power”? 2Thess. 2:9a
13. What will his “power” include, and why will it work on “them that perish”? 2Thess. 2:9b-10
14. “And for this cause...” what will God “send them”? 2Thess. 2:11
15. What will be the end for “those who believed not the truth”? 2Thess. 2:12
16. Why does Paul then “give thanks alway to God...” for the believing brethren? 2Thess. 2:13
17. Where does Paul want the brethren to “stand”, and to what “traditions”? 2Thess. 2:15
18. What wisdom does Paul conclude the teaching on the “day of Christ”:  
 “Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself...hath given us everlasting \_\_\_\_\_  
 and good hope through \_\_\_\_\_, comfort your \_\_\_\_\_,  
 and establish you in every good \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.”  
 2Thess. 2:16-17
19. What did Paul ask for them to pray? 2Thess. 3:1-2
20. What two things does Paul direct the believers into? 2Thess. 3:5
21. From what does Paul want the believing brethren to “withdraw” themselves? 2Thess. 3:6 (compare to question 2Thessalonians 2:12)
22. What does Paul write concerning any that “would not work”? 2Thess. 3:10
23. What instruction does Paul give to those that are “busybodies”? 2Thess. 3:11-12
24. To those brethren in doing well (i.e.: acting uprightly), what does Paul tell them not to be? 2Thess. 3:13
25. What instruction does Paul give the believing brethren concerning “any man” that does not obey the word by his epistle? 2Thess. 14-15
26. How does Paul certify the epistle being from him? 2Thess. 3:17 (See question 2Thessalonians 1:9-10)

Colossians 1:9-10 For this cause we also, since the day we heard *it*, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God