2Thess #148

Pray for your fellow Christians and your pastor.

Well RF, we finally open up in the last chapter of 2Thessalonians chapter 3.

As we dive into this last chapter, many of you who have been with me the past year or two, understand the letters to Thessalonica much better.

Today will be a nice, simple message that you can sit back and take notes on. It will not require turning pages in your Bible if you do not want to – yet I suggest having your pen and note pad ready!

The 2nd letter is addressed to a problem that Timothy noticed upon his return to teach there at Thessalonica.

There had been a handful of men, possibly connected to the Gnostic group.

Who wrote letters and brought forth teaching and many claimed to be directly from the apostles, or even one of the apostles themselves.

They signed a few letters in Paul’s name as well.

So, these were satanic counterfeits and they taught a skewed version of the end time events.

As I mentioned last lesson, certain NT letters like 2Timothy chapter 2 - and right here in 2Thessalonians, we see the attack on the doctrine of dispensations, as well as the rapture and tribulation.

Skewed versions of the doctrines to confuse and manipulate the early church. Folks, we have the same attacks and skewed versions today.

This is a closing portion because the Apostle Paul had set them back on track about the chain of events leading up to the 2nd Advent of Christ.

He did that between chapters one into chapter two.

In fact, both letters to Thessalonica are a very clear representation of the doctrine of dispensations pointing to the Church Age and also the Rapture and Tribulation period.

Part of this second letter is a reprimand and the Apostle Paul does complete this letter with strong warnings.

Let us read the first few scriptures to get us into the introduction of chapter 3;

/2Thes 3:1 Finally, brothers *and sisters,* **pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly** and be glorified, just as *it was* also with you;\

[2Th 3:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/2/s_1119002) and that we will be rescued from troublesome and evil people; for not all have the faith.

[2Th 3:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/3/s_1119003) But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

[2Th 3:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/4/s_1119004) We have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you are doing, and will do, what we command.

[2Th 3:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/5/s_1119005) May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the perseverance of Christ.

[2Th 3:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/6/s_1119006) Now we command you, brothers *and sisters,* in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from every brother *or sister* who leadsa disorderly life and not *one* in accordance with the tradition which you received from us.

[2Th 3:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/7/s_1119007) For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example, because we did not act in an undisciplined way among you,

This message today will seem as if I am pleading for your prayers. Yet I am simply following the guidance of the WORD and God the HS in my studies.

There is a call in Biblical teachings that those in leadership, especially pastor-teachers, evangelists, deacons and anyone who works hard lifting up the truth for others to grow, they need strong consistent prayer from those under their authority.

I know many of you lift me up in prayer and I am humbled by that! So, I am definitely not complaining, but I am teaching a serious principle that all the apostles, especially Paul emphasized.

We need prayer for one another in the body of Christ and prayer for any leadership roles who keep the word going out into a lost and dying world.

/The Apostle Paul had many letters asking for prayer for himself and his men. This was not arrogance or insecurity; it was legitimately needed. Most Christians pray for family and friends often, yet those in leadership such as pastors or deacons may not be on their minds in daily prayer. Yet the Bible is clear men of GOD are targeted by Satan and his demonic army, most of the time more than the growing Christian.\

Satan hopes to cut off the source of truth - the teacher.

The one who GOD has HIS hand on, a good teacher is a threat to the fallen angels.

/Rom 15:30 Now I urge you, brothers *and sisters,* by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive **together with me in your prayers to God for me**,

2Cor 1:11 *if* you also join **in helping us through your prayers**, so that thanks may be given by many persons in our behalf for the favor *granted* to us **through *the prayers of* many**.\

There are three powerful ways to support a true, Bible teaching ministry. The first is to make yourself available when the teaching comes out.

Within that availability, bring others on board, share the messages and lead others into that ministry.

The second way is financial and physical support. If the ministry has a need - use your time, talent and treasure and simply pitch in…even a little effort goes a long way.

The third powerful way - is to pray with serious intent, habitually for those working hard to help you with your spiritual growth.

 REPEAT

/Eph 6:18 **With every prayer and request, pray at all times in the Spirit**, and with this in view, be alert with all perseverance and *every* **request for all the saints**, 19 and ***pray* in my behalf**, that speech may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,\

The principle of the right thing done in the right way - matters. Pray when filled by God the HS, with concentration.

The Apostle Paul knew Mystery Doctrine of the CA was going to a be challenge for him to wake people up.

Sometimes a pastor knows the message is going to be unpopular or difficult, it may even upset some folks and bring in the verbal attacks.

/Phl 1:19 for I know that this will turn out for my deliverance **through your prayers**and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

Col 4:3 **praying at the same time for us as well**, that God will open up to us a door for the word, **so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ**, for which I have also been imprisoned;\

The pastor, evangelist and even a deacon must be prepared to be unpopular – teaching in season and out of season.

/1Thes 5:25 Brothers *and sisters,* **pray for us.**

Phlm 1:22 At the same time also prepare me a guest room, **for I hope that through your prayers** I will be given to you.\

I want to cover some basic concepts of prayer without getting into a full throttle series on the doctrine of prayer.

I have done that before and I am not getting a sense, right now to do a deep dive on that.

You must remember that prayer is maximum concentration, filled by the Spirit with no certain time restriction.

A Good prayer can be two minutes long or twenty minutes long – time is not the issue; mechanics are the main concern.

A two-minute prayer with great concentration, filled by GOD the HS can be much more effective than a twenty- minute prayer, which is filled with emotional waves, distractions and word salads.

 REPEAT

There are three basic categories of prayer in relation to assistance for this temporal walk we are on. These three avenues of prayer for assistance are received by God the Father.

/The first category of prayer for our assistance, comes from the great High Priest, the Lord Jesus Christ the most powerful prayer warrior in human history —

Heb 7:25 Therefore He is also able to save forever those who come to God through Him, since **He always lives to make intercession for them**.\

The prayer life of TLJC is strictly on our behalf, we should always give thanks for that. Intercessory prayer is the prayer for others, which we should become familiar with as we grow spiritually.

The second area for the prayer in time of great need, when all else seems to be falling apart around us – we can call “the emergency prayer”

/God the Holy Spirit does all of the emergency praying for us and along with us —

Rom 8:26 Now in the same way **the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know what to pray for as we should**, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us* with groanings too deep for words;27 and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because **He intercedes for the saints** according to *the will of* God.\

 Keeping in mind prayer is not a problem-solving device - so this is in time of great need or emergency circumstances.

We have a consistent set of prayers for us through TLJC and God the HS.

The third category is the prayer from the Believer priest, who properly approaches the throne of GOD;

/As a Believer priest, we are called into duty and this is one of our responsibilities; prayer, for others and even self in time of dire need;

Heb 4:16 Therefore let’s approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that **we may receive mercy and find grace for help at the time of *our* need**.\

How to approach God in prayer is very important, pointing us again to the right thing done in the right way.

/All prayer must be addressed to God the Father —

Mat 6:9 **Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father, who is in heaven**, Hallowed be Your name. (Eph 3:14, 1Pet 1:17)\

The channel of approach is through our high priest, Jesus Christ –

/The Lord Jesus Christ is the HIGH Priest, therefore our union with HIM is the only channel we can approach God the Father-

Jhn 14:13 “And **whatever you ask in My name**, this I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 “If you ask Me anything **in My name**, I will do *it.\*

The supernatural power of approach concerning prayer is the filling power of GOD the Spirit.

That is what launches prayer.

The Bel gives themselves over to the guidance and divine power of the SPIRIT.

/All prayer must be preceded by the Bel washing themselves clean (1John 1:9). All sin was paid for on the CROSS, yet in the temporal walk, we adjust to the justice of GOD when we fall. while the Bel is walking in this fallen world, with the OSN still active, yet it is eternally dead once we die physically, there is a responsibility to name and cite sin. This opens up the filling power of the SPIRIT which engages your Christ-like nature in time. Fellowship, growth, prayer and divine good all are dependent upon the NEW NATURE.\

The New Nature given at salvation can not be tapped into unless GOD the HS is given control of your soul.

FREE WILL matters in the plan of God.

/Eph 6:18 **With every prayer and request, pray at all times in the Spirit**, and with this in view, be alert with all perseverance and *every* request for all the saints,

Eph 5:18 And do not get drunk with wine, in which there is debauchery, but **be filled with the Spirit**,\

The Bel allows the power of GOD the HS to take over. It is used as an equivalent with putting alcohol in the body to the point of drunkenness. Because in the negative, too much alcohol takes control of the person…in the positive - God the HS is filling you and then you reflect the nature of Christ.

 REPEAT

The only prayer heard by God the Father by a Believer out of fellowship, is the call to the Justice System of God recognizing they have sinned and fallen short.

Not shame, guilt or begging forgiveness is involved – it is a simple adjustment to God’s justice and acknowledgement of HIS pure righteousness.

If you are already forgiven there is no need to beg…simply acknowledge, name and cite…your wrong and GOD is right.

 REPEAT

/Your prayers gain momentum as you grow toward maturity, because they align with the plan of GOD. All prayer was heard and answered in eternity past. If the answer is NO – it is because it does not align with HIS plan;

(Deu 4:7, 1King 8:49, Jer 29:12, Jer 33:3)

Isa 65:24 “It will also come to pass that **before they call, I will answer**; while they are still speaking, I will listen.

Psa 145:18 The LORD is near to all who call on Him, **To all who call on Him in truth**.\

The Doctrine of Prayer is a wonderful and informative doctrine which you can simply look up on my website.

But in relation to what the Apostle Paul speaks of in 2Thess 3:1 –

He requests prayer for himself and the leaders he used to develop the early church. Again, this is seen in many of the Apostle Paul’s letters, it was never written from a place of insecurity or arrogance.

It was and truly…IS, even today, truly in dire need. The Apostle Paul also always kept fervently praying for the saints, the body of Christ and the WORD to go out across this lost and dying world.

/Today the CA Bels need to keep one another in prayer, yet never forget to lift up the accuracy of the WORD and those who rightly divide it, in habitual prayer. Satan wants to attack the positive Bel and pull them away from the spiritual battlefield. Those positive Bels sit under men of GOD who study and teach to exhaustion. So therefore, the prayers for church leaders should be predominate on your list of prayer each week. \

Let me close today with basic principles concerning Christian prayer;

/- Prayer effectiveness increases as Bible Doctrine becomes resident and solidifies within the soul.

* Prayer is an extension of the faith-rest technique. It is a soul exhale toward God, just as a soul inhale is accurate BD digested.
* Prayer demands deep knowledge of the plan of God and the person and work of Christ so that it aligns properly.\

/- The two power options (Filling Power of HS & WORD) properly handled and applied gives divine authority to all prayers to reach the throne-room.

* Sin is a deterrent for accurate prayer, unchecked sin and apostasy ensure sins never go beyond the ceiling.
* Effective prayer occurs more consistently at levels of maturity.\
* /-All prayer was already factored into the divine decree (eternity past). Therefore, all prayer aligned with God’s plan will come to fruition in HIS timing and also in HIS way.
* The super-grace life of the Bel ensures prayers are much more efficient and many times more quickly answered.\