

Williamsburg Community Chapel Men's Breakfast

May 3, 2019

Sri Lanka: Easter Sunday



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The Book of 2 Thessalonians



#12 – *Afflictions Will Come, but So Will the Lord*
2 Thessalonians 1:5-12

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Afflictions Will Come, but So Will the Lord

2 Thessalonians 1:5-12

2 Thessalonians is
our reminder to wait
well for Christ's return.



Thessalonica

Paul's Second Missionary Journey (A.D. 49-51)

Background of 2 Thessalonians

- ***Authors:*** Paul, Silas, & Timothy.
- ***Date:*** c. A.D. 52
- ***Recipients:*** The Church at Thessalonica, which Paul planted during his second missionary journey (c. A.D. 49-51; see *Acts 17:1-9*)
- ***Purpose:*** To *correct false teaching* about the return of Christ and to *encourage faithful and diligent living* until the return of Christ.

Structure of 2 Thessalonians

- **1:1-12** - A pastoral word of comfort
- **2:1-17** - A prophetic word of caution
- **3:1-18** - A practical word of command

Afflictions Will Come, but So Will the Lord

2 Thessalonians 1:5-12

- The return of Christ is *a major theme* of the New Testament.

Chapel Statement of Faith:

We believe ... In the bodily Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ to claim His own people and to set all things in order.

Afflictions Will Come, but So Will the Lord

2 Thessalonians 1:5-12

1) When Christ comes, so will relief (1:5-7).

1 Peter 4:12-13

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

Afflictions Will Come, but So Will the Lord

2 Thessalonians 1:5-12

1) When Christ comes, so will relief (1:5-7).

1 Thessalonians 3:3-4

... that no one be moved by these afflictions. For you yourselves know that we are destined for this. For when we were with you, we kept telling you beforehand that we were to suffer affliction, just as it has come to pass, and just as you know.

Introduction to 2 Thessalonians:

2) When Christ comes, so will vengeance (1:8-9).

Psalm 79:6

Pour out your anger on the nations
that do not know you,
and on the kingdoms
that do not call upon your name!

(See also Jeremiah 10:25)

Introduction to 2 Thessalonians:

2) When Christ comes, so will vengeance (1:8-9).

“Heaven is primarily the presence of God. Hell is the loss of that presence.”

- E.J. Bicknell

Introduction to 2 Thessalonians:

2) When Christ comes, so will vengeance (1:8-9).

Revelation 20:14-15

Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

John 3:36

Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

Afflictions Will Come, but So Will the Lord

2 Thessalonians 1:5-12

2) When Christ comes, so will vengeance (1:8-9).

Chapel Statement of Faith:

We believe ... In the salvation of all who trust the Lord Jesus Christ and the just condemnation of all who reject Him.

Introduction to 2 Thessalonians:

3) When Christ comes, so will glory (1:10-12).

His glory in the future (1:10) ...

Matthew 25:31

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne.”

Introduction to 2 Thessalonians:

3) When Christ comes, so will glory (1:10-12).

His glory in the future (1:10) ...

“The idea is that the glory of that day will far surpass anything of which we can have any idea before we behold it, and when we do behold it we shall be lost in amazement.”

- Leon Morris

Introduction to 2 Thessalonians:

3) When Christ comes, so will glory (1:10-12).

His glory in the future (1:10) ...

... and His glory in us in the present (1:12)!

“Those who bear the name of Christ must glorify God in that name ... and they can do so only by living in such a way as to reflect credit on the name.”

- F.F. Bruce

Introduction to 2 Thessalonians:

Questions:

- 1) Have you ever experienced affliction for your faith in Christ? Explain your answer.
- 2) How should the reality of eternal condemnation of those who reject Christ motivate us in what we say and do?
- 3) Is “the name of our Lord Jesus” being glorified in you? Why or why not?

Introduction to 2 Thessalonians:

- **Next Week:** *2 Thessalonians 2:1-12*
- **2 Thessalonians** is *our reminder to wait well for Christ's return.*
- Have a great week of waiting well.

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