

**THE  
THESSALONIAN  
EPISTLES**

**REVISED STANDARD VERSION  
NEW AMERICAN STANDARD  
NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION  
LITERAL TRANSLATION OF THE HOLY BIBLE  
COMPLETE JEWISH BIBLE**



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# THE THESSALONIAN

## EPISTLES REVISED STANDARD VERSION

*Revised Standard Version (RSV), © 1952, Division of Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.*

### 1 THESSALONIANS

**1** Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

<sup>2</sup> We give thanks to God always for you all, constantly mentioning you in our prayers,

<sup>3</sup> remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> For we know, brethren beloved by God, that he has chosen you;

<sup>5</sup> for our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.

<sup>6</sup> And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit;

<sup>7</sup> so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

<sup>8</sup> For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything.

<sup>9</sup> For they themselves report concerning us what a welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God,

<sup>10</sup> and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

**2** For you yourselves know, brethren, that our visit to you was not in vain;  
<sup>2</sup> but though we had already suffered

and been shamefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in the face of great opposition.

<sup>3</sup> For our appeal does not spring from error or uncleanness, nor is it made with guile;

<sup>4</sup> but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please men, but to please God who tests our hearts.

<sup>5</sup> For we never used either words of flattery, as you know, or a cloak for greed, as God is witness;

<sup>6</sup> nor did we seek glory from men, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ.

<sup>7</sup> But we were gentle among you, like a nurse taking care of her children.

<sup>8</sup> So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.

<sup>9</sup> For you remember our labor and toil, brethren; we worked night and day, that we might not burden any of you, while we preached to you the gospel of God.

<sup>10</sup> You are witnesses, and God also, how holy and righteous and blameless was our behavior to you believers;

<sup>11</sup> for you know how, like a father with his children, we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you

<sup>12</sup> to lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

<sup>13</sup> And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.

<sup>14</sup> For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus which are in Judea; for you suffered the same things from

your own countrymen as they did from the Jews,

<sup>15</sup> who killed both the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and drove us out, and displease God and oppose all men

<sup>16</sup> by hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles that they may be saved -- so as always to fill up the measure of their sins. But God's wrath has come upon them at last!

<sup>17</sup> But since we were bereft of you, brethren, for a short time, in person not in heart, we endeavored the more eagerly and with great desire to see you face to face;

<sup>18</sup> because we wanted to come to you -- I, Paul, again and again -- but Satan hindered us.

<sup>19</sup> For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you?

<sup>20</sup> For you are our glory and joy.

**3** Therefore when we could bear it no longer, we were willing to be left behind at Athens alone,

<sup>2</sup> and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's servant in the gospel of Christ, to establish you in your faith and to exhort you,

<sup>3</sup> that no one be moved by these afflictions. You yourselves know that this is to be our lot.

<sup>4</sup> For when we were with you, we told you beforehand that we were to suffer affliction; just as it has come to pass, and as you know.

<sup>5</sup> For this reason, when I could bear it no longer, I sent that I might know your faith, for fear that somehow the tempter had tempted you and that our labor would be in vain.

<sup>6</sup> But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us the good news of your faith and love and reported that you always remember us kindly and long to see us, as we long to see you --

<sup>7</sup> for this reason, brethren, in all our distress and affliction we have been comforted about you through your faith;

<sup>8</sup> for now we live, if you stand fast in the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> For what thanksgiving can we render to God for you, for all the joy which we feel for your sake before our God,

<sup>10</sup> praying earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

<sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you;

<sup>12</sup> and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all men, as we do to you,

<sup>13</sup> so that he may establish your hearts unblamable in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

**4** Finally, brethren, we beseech and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you learned from us how you ought to live and to please God, just as you are doing, you do so more and more.

<sup>2</sup> For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

<sup>3</sup> For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from unchastity;

<sup>4</sup> that each one of you know how to take a wife for himself in holiness and honor,

<sup>5</sup> not in the passion of lust like heathen who do not know God;

<sup>6</sup> that no man transgress, and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we solemnly forewarned you.

<sup>7</sup> For God has not called us for uncleanness, but in holiness.

<sup>8</sup> Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

<sup>9</sup> But concerning love of the brethren you have no need to have any one write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another;

<sup>10</sup> and indeed you do love all the brethren throughout Macedonia. But we exhort you, brethren, to do so more and more,

<sup>11</sup> to aspire to live quietly, to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we charged you;

<sup>12</sup> so that you may command the respect of outsiders, and be dependent on nobody.

<sup>13</sup> But we would not have you ignorant, brethren, concerning those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.

<sup>14</sup> For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

<sup>15</sup> For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep.

<sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the archangel's call, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first;

<sup>17</sup> then we who are alive, who are left, shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and so we shall always be with the Lord.

<sup>18</sup> Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**5** But as to the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need to have anything written to you.

<sup>2</sup> For you yourselves know well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

<sup>3</sup> When people say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as travail comes upon a woman with child, and there will be no escape.

<sup>4</sup> But you are not in darkness, brethren, for that day to surprise you like a thief.

<sup>5</sup> For you are all sons of light and sons of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness.

<sup>6</sup> So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.

<sup>7</sup> For those who sleep sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night.

<sup>8</sup> But, since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

<sup>9</sup> For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

<sup>10</sup> who died for us so that whether we wake or sleep we might live with him.

<sup>11</sup> Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

<sup>12</sup> But we beseech you, brethren, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you,

<sup>13</sup> and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves.

<sup>14</sup> And we exhort you, brethren, admonish the idlers, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all.

<sup>15</sup> See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all.

<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always,

<sup>17</sup> pray constantly,

<sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

<sup>19</sup> Do not quench the Spirit,

<sup>20</sup> do not despise prophesying,

<sup>21</sup> but test everything; hold fast what is good,

<sup>22</sup> abstain from every form of evil.

<sup>23</sup> May the God of peace himself sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>24</sup> He who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

<sup>25</sup> Brethren, pray for us.

<sup>26</sup> Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss.

<sup>27</sup> I adjure you by the Lord that this letter be read to all the brethren.

<sup>28</sup> The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

## 2 THESSALONIANS

**1** Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

<sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>3</sup> We are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren, as is fitting, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing.

<sup>4</sup> Therefore we ourselves boast of you in the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith in all your persecutions and in the afflictions which you are enduring.

<sup>5</sup> This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be made worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering -

<sup>6</sup> since indeed God deems it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you,

<sup>7</sup> and to grant rest with us to you who are afflicted, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels in flaming fire,

<sup>8</sup> inflicting vengeance upon those who do not know God and upon those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

<sup>9</sup> They shall suffer the punishment of eternal destruction and exclusion from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might,

<sup>10</sup> when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at in all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed.

<sup>11</sup> To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his call, and may fulfil every good resolve and work of faith by his power,

<sup>12</sup> so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**2** Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our assembling to meet him, we beg you, brethren,

<sup>2</sup> not to be quickly shaken in mind or excited, either by spirit or by word, or by letter purporting to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.

<sup>3</sup> Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of perdition,

<sup>4</sup> who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.

<sup>5</sup> Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you this?

<sup>6</sup> And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time.

<sup>7</sup> For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way.

<sup>8</sup> And then the lawless one will be revealed, and the Lord Jesus will slay him with the breath of his mouth and destroy him by his appearing and his coming.

<sup>9</sup> The coming of the lawless one by the activity of Satan will be with all power and with pretended signs and wonders,

<sup>10</sup> and with all wicked deception for those who are to perish, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.

<sup>11</sup> Therefore God sends upon them a strong delusion, to make them believe what is false,

<sup>12</sup> so that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

<sup>13</sup> But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God chose you from the beginning to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth.

<sup>14</sup> To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>15</sup> So then, brethren, stand firm and hold to the traditions which you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by letter.

<sup>16</sup> Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace,

<sup>17</sup> comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

**3** Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed on and triumph, as it did among you,

<sup>2</sup> and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men; for not all have faith.

<sup>3</sup> But the Lord is faithful; he will strengthen you and guard you from evil.

<sup>4</sup> And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things which we command.

<sup>5</sup> May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

<sup>6</sup> Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is living in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us.

<sup>7</sup> For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you,

<sup>8</sup> we did not eat any one's bread without paying, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not burden any of you.

<sup>9</sup> It was not because we have not that right, but to give you in our conduct an example to imitate.

<sup>10</sup> For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: If any one will not work, let him not eat.

<sup>11</sup> For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work.

<sup>12</sup> Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work in quietness and to earn their own living.

<sup>13</sup> Brethren, do not be weary in well-doing.

<sup>14</sup> If any one refuses to obey what we say in this letter, note that man, and have nothing to do with him, that he may be ashamed.

<sup>15</sup> Do not look on him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother.

<sup>16</sup> Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways. The Lord be with you all.

<sup>17</sup> I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. This is the mark in every letter of mine; it is the way I write.

<sup>18</sup> The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

# THE THESSALONIAN

## EPISTLES

NEW AMERICAN STANDARD, UPDATED EDITION

*New American Standard, Updated Edition (NASU), ©  
1977, 1995, The Lockman Foundation.*

### 1 THESSALONIANS

**1** Paul and Silvanus and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

<sup>2</sup> We give thanks to God always for all of you, making mention of you in our prayers;

<sup>3</sup> constantly bearing in mind your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father,

<sup>4</sup> knowing, brethren beloved by God, His choice of you;

<sup>5</sup> for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.

<sup>6</sup> You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit,

<sup>7</sup> so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

<sup>8</sup> For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith toward God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything.

<sup>9</sup> For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God,

<sup>10</sup> and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *that is* Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.

**2** For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you was not in vain, <sup>2</sup> but after we had already suffered and been mistreated in Philippi, as you know, we had the boldness in our God to speak to you the gospel of God amid much opposition.

<sup>3</sup> For our exhortation does not *come* from error or impurity or by way of deceit;

<sup>4</sup> but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who examines our hearts.

<sup>5</sup> For we never came with flattering speech, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed-- God is witness--

<sup>6</sup> nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, even though as apostles of Christ we might have asserted our authority.

<sup>7</sup> But we proved to be gentle among you, as a nursing *mother* tenderly cares for her own children.

<sup>8</sup> Having so fond an affection for you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us.

<sup>9</sup> For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, *how* working night and day so as not to be a burden to any of you, we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.

<sup>10</sup> You are witnesses, and *so is* God, how devoutly and uprightly and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers;

<sup>11</sup> just as you know how we *were* exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father *would* his own children,

<sup>12</sup> so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

<sup>13</sup> For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted *it* not as

the word of men, but *for* what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.

<sup>14</sup> For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea, for you also endured the same sufferings at the hands of your own countrymen, even as they *did* from the Jews,

<sup>15</sup> who both killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and drove us out. They are not pleasing to God, but hostile to all men,

<sup>16</sup> hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles so that they may be saved; with the result that they always fill up the measure of their sins. But wrath has come upon them to the utmost.

<sup>17</sup> But we, brethren, having been taken away from you for a short while-- in person, not in spirit-- were all the more eager with great desire to see your face.

<sup>18</sup> For we wanted to come to you-- I, Paul, more than once-- and *yet* Satan hindered us.

<sup>19</sup> For who is our hope or joy or crown of exultation? Is it not even you, in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming?

<sup>20</sup> For you are our glory and joy.

**3** Therefore when we could endure *it* no longer, we thought it best to be left behind at Athens alone,

<sup>2</sup> and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you as to your faith,

<sup>3</sup> so that no one would be disturbed by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we have been destined for this.

<sup>4</sup> For indeed when we were with you, we *kept* telling you in advance that we were going to suffer affliction; and so it came to pass, as you know.

<sup>5</sup> For this reason, when I could endure *it* no longer, I also sent to find out about your faith, for fear that the tempter might have tempted you, and our labor would be in vain.

<sup>6</sup> But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always think kindly of us, longing to see us just as we also long to see you,

<sup>7</sup> for this reason, brethren, in all our distress and affliction we were comforted about you through your faith;

<sup>8</sup> for now we *really* live, if you stand firm in the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> For what thanks can we render to God for you in return for all the joy with which we rejoice before our God on your account,

<sup>10</sup> as we night and day keep praying most earnestly that we may see your face, and may complete what is lacking in your faith?

<sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father Himself and Jesus our Lord direct our way to you;

<sup>12</sup> and may the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love for one another, and for all people, just as we also *do* for you;

<sup>13</sup> so that He may establish your hearts without blame in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.

**4** Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us *instruction* as to how you ought to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you excel still more.

<sup>2</sup> For you know what commandments we gave you by *the authority* of the Lord Jesus.

<sup>3</sup> For this is the will of God, your sanctification; *that is*, that you abstain from sexual immorality;

<sup>4</sup> that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

<sup>5</sup> not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God;

<sup>6</sup> *and* that no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter because the Lord is *the* avenger in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned *you*.

<sup>7</sup> For God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification.

<sup>8</sup> So, he who rejects *this* is not rejecting man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you.

<sup>9</sup> Now as to the love of the brethren, you have no need for *anyone* to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another;

<sup>10</sup> for indeed you do practice it toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, to excel still more,

<sup>11</sup> and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you,

<sup>12</sup> so that you will behave properly toward outsiders and not be in any need.

<sup>13</sup> But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope.

<sup>14</sup> For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus.

<sup>15</sup> For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

<sup>16</sup> For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

<sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

<sup>18</sup> Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**5** Now as to the times and the epochs, brethren, you have no need of anything to be written to you.

<sup>2</sup> For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night.

<sup>3</sup> While they are saying, "Peace and safety!" then destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape.

<sup>4</sup> But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day would overtake you like a thief;

<sup>5</sup> for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness;

<sup>6</sup> so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober.

<sup>7</sup> For those who sleep do their sleeping at night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night.

<sup>8</sup> But since we are of *the* day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation.

<sup>9</sup> For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

<sup>10</sup> who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with Him.

<sup>11</sup> Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.

<sup>12</sup> But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction,

<sup>13</sup> and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another.

<sup>14</sup> We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

<sup>15</sup> See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people.

<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always;

<sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing;

<sup>18</sup> in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

<sup>19</sup> Do not quench the Spirit;

<sup>20</sup> do not despise prophetic utterances.

<sup>21</sup> But examine everything *carefully*; hold fast to that which is good;

<sup>22</sup> abstain from every form of evil.

<sup>23</sup> Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>24</sup> Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.

<sup>25</sup> Brethren, pray for us.

<sup>26</sup> Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss.

<sup>27</sup> I adjure you by the Lord to have this letter read to all the brethren.

<sup>28</sup> The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

## 2 THESSALONIANS

**1** Paul and Silvanus and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

<sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>3</sup> We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brethren, as is *only* fitting, because your faith is greatly enlarged, and the love of each one of you toward one another grows *ever* greater;

<sup>4</sup> therefore, we ourselves speak proudly of you among the churches of God for your

perseverance and faith in the midst of all your persecutions and afflictions which you endure.

<sup>5</sup> *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.*

<sup>6</sup> For after all it is *only* just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you,

<sup>7</sup> and *to give* relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire,

<sup>8</sup> dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

<sup>9</sup> These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

<sup>10</sup> when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed-- for our testimony to you was believed.

<sup>11</sup> To this end also we pray for you always, that our God will count you worthy of your calling, and fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power,

<sup>12</sup> 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.

**2** Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him,

<sup>1</sup> that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.

<sup>2</sup> Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction,

<sup>3</sup> who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.

<sup>4</sup> Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things?

<sup>5</sup> And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he will be revealed.

<sup>6</sup> For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains *will do so* until he is taken out of the way.

<sup>7</sup> Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;

<sup>8</sup> *that is*, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders,

<sup>9</sup> and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.

<sup>10</sup> For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false,

<sup>11</sup> in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.

<sup>12</sup> But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth.

<sup>13</sup> It was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>14</sup> So then, brethren, stand firm and hold to the traditions which you were taught, whether by word *of mouth* or by letter from us.

<sup>15</sup> Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace,

<sup>16</sup> comfort and strengthen your hearts in every good work and word.

**3** Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and be glorified, just as *it did* also with you;

<sup>1</sup> and that we will be rescued from perverse and evil men; for not all have faith.

<sup>2</sup> But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil *one*.

<sup>3</sup> We have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you are doing and will *continue to do* what we command.

<sup>4</sup> May the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the steadfastness of Christ.

<sup>5</sup> Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from every brother who leads an unruly life and not according to the tradition which you received from us.

<sup>7</sup> For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example, because we did not act in an undisciplined manner among you,

<sup>8</sup> nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with labor and hardship we *kept* working night and day so that we would not be a burden to any of you;

<sup>9</sup> not because we do not have the right *to this*, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you, so that you would follow our example.

<sup>10</sup> For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either.

<sup>11</sup> For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies.

<sup>12</sup> Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread.

<sup>13</sup> But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary of doing good.

<sup>14</sup> If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of that person and do not associate with him, so that he will be put to shame.

<sup>15</sup> *Yet* do not regard him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

<sup>16</sup> Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance. The Lord be with you all!

<sup>17</sup> I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand, and this is a distinguishing mark in every letter; this is the way I write.

<sup>18</sup> The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

THE  
**THESSALONIAN**  
 EPISTLES  
 NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

*New International Version*, © 1973, 1984 by  
 International Bible Society.

### 1 THESSALONIANS

**1** Paul, Silas and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you.

<sup>2</sup> We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers.

<sup>3</sup> We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you,

<sup>5</sup> because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake.

<sup>6</sup> You became imitators of us and of the Lord; in spite of severe suffering, you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit.

<sup>7</sup> And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.

<sup>8</sup> The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia-- your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it,

<sup>9</sup> for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,

<sup>10</sup> and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

**2** You know, brothers, that our visit to you was not a failure.

<sup>2</sup> We had previously suffered and been insulted in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in spite of strong opposition.

<sup>3</sup> For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you.

<sup>4</sup> On the contrary, we speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts.

<sup>5</sup> You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed-- God is our witness.

<sup>6</sup> We were not looking for praise from men, not from you or anyone else. As apostles of Christ we could have been a burden to you,

<sup>7</sup> but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children.

<sup>8</sup> We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us.

<sup>9</sup> Surely you remember, brothers, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you.

<sup>10</sup> You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed.

<sup>11</sup> For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children,

<sup>12</sup> encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

<sup>13</sup> And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe.

<sup>14</sup> For you, brothers, became imitators of God's churches in Judea, which are in Christ Jesus: You suffered from your own countrymen the same things those churches suffered from the Jews,

<sup>15</sup> who killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets and also drove us out. They displease God and are hostile to all men

<sup>16</sup> in their effort to keep us from speaking to the Gentiles so that they may be saved. In this way they always heap up their sins to the limit. The wrath of God has come upon them at last.

<sup>17</sup> But, brothers, when we were torn away from you for a short time (in person, not in thought), out of our intense longing we made every effort to see you.

<sup>18</sup> For we wanted to come to you-- certainly I, Paul, did, again and again-- but Satan stopped us.

<sup>19</sup> For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you?

<sup>20</sup> Indeed, you are our glory and joy.

**3** So when we could stand it no longer, we thought it best to be left by ourselves in Athens.

<sup>2</sup> We sent Timothy, who is our brother and God's fellow worker in spreading the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith,

<sup>3</sup> so that no one would be unsettled by these trials. You know quite well that we were destined for them.

<sup>4</sup> In fact, when we were with you, we kept telling you that we would be persecuted. And it turned out that way, as you well know.

<sup>5</sup> For this reason, when I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith. I was afraid that in some way the tempter might have tempted you and our efforts might have been useless.

<sup>6</sup> But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought good news about your faith and love. He has told us that you always have pleasant memories of us and that you long to see us, just as we also long to see you.

<sup>7</sup> Therefore, brothers, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith.

<sup>8</sup> For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you?

<sup>10</sup> Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you.

<sup>12</sup> May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you.

<sup>13</sup> May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

**4** Finally, brothers, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more.

<sup>2</sup> For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.

<sup>3</sup> It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality;

<sup>4</sup> that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable,

<sup>5</sup> not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God;

<sup>6</sup> and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you.

<sup>7</sup> For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.

<sup>8</sup> Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit.

<sup>9</sup> Now about brotherly love we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other.

<sup>10</sup> And in fact, you do love all the brothers throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers, to do so more and more.

<sup>11</sup> Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you,

<sup>12</sup> so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.

<sup>13</sup> Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope.

<sup>14</sup> We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

<sup>15</sup> According to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep.

<sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

<sup>17</sup> After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

<sup>18</sup> Therefore encourage each other with these words.

**5** Now, brothers, about times and dates we do not need to write to you,  
<sup>2</sup> for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

<sup>3</sup> While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

<sup>4</sup> But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief.

<sup>5</sup> You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness.

<sup>6</sup> So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled.

<sup>7</sup> For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night.

<sup>8</sup> But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.

<sup>9</sup> For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>10</sup> He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him.

<sup>11</sup> Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

<sup>12</sup> Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you.

<sup>13</sup> Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other.

<sup>14</sup> And we urge you, brothers, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

<sup>15</sup> Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else.

<sup>16</sup> Be joyful always;

<sup>17</sup> pray continually;

<sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

<sup>19</sup> Do not put out the Spirit's fire;

<sup>20</sup> do not treat prophecies with contempt.

<sup>21</sup> Test everything. Hold on to the good.

<sup>22</sup> Avoid every kind of evil.

<sup>23</sup> May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>24</sup> The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.

<sup>25</sup> Brothers, pray for us.

<sup>26</sup> Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss.

<sup>27</sup> I charge you before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers.

<sup>28</sup> The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

## 2 THESSALONIANS

**1** Paul, Silas and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

<sup>2</sup> Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>3</sup> We ought always to thank God for you, brothers, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love every one of you has for each other is increasing.

<sup>4</sup> Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring.

<sup>5</sup> All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering.

<sup>6</sup> God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you

<sup>7</sup> and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels.

<sup>8</sup> He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

<sup>9</sup> They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power

<sup>10</sup> on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you.

<sup>11</sup> With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may fulfill every good purpose of yours and every act prompted by your faith.

<sup>12</sup> We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**2** Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers,

<sup>2</sup> not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come.

<sup>3</sup> Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction.

<sup>4</sup> He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

<sup>5</sup> Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things?

<sup>6</sup> And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time.

<sup>7</sup> For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way.

<sup>8</sup> And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming.

<sup>9</sup> The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders,

<sup>10</sup> and in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.

<sup>11</sup> For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie

<sup>12</sup> and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.

<sup>13</sup> But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth.

<sup>14</sup> He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>15</sup> So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.

<sup>16</sup> May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope,

<sup>17</sup> encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

**3** Finally, brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you.

<sup>2</sup> And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men, for not everyone has faith.

<sup>3</sup> But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

<sup>4</sup> We have confidence in the Lord that you are doing and will continue to do the things we command.

<sup>5</sup> May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance.

<sup>6</sup> In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers, to keep away from every brother who is idle and does not live according to the teaching you received from us.

<sup>7</sup> For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you,

<sup>8</sup> nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night

and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you.

<sup>9</sup> We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to make ourselves a model for you to follow.

<sup>10</sup> For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat."

<sup>11</sup> We hear that some among you are idle. They are not busy; they are busybodies.

<sup>12</sup> Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the bread they eat.

<sup>13</sup> And as for you, brothers, never tire of doing what is right.

<sup>14</sup> If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of him. Do not associate with him, in order that he may feel ashamed.

<sup>15</sup> Yet do not regard him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother.

<sup>16</sup> Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.

<sup>17</sup> I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand, which is the distinguishing mark in all my letters. This is how I write.

<sup>18</sup> The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

# THE THESSALONIAN

## EPISTLES

### LITERAL TRANSLATION OF THE HOLY BIBLE

*The Literal Translation of the Holy Bible*, translated by Jay P. Green, © 1986, published by Sovereign Grace Publishers.

## 1 THESSALONIANS

**1** Paul and Silvanus and Timothy to the assembly of *the* Thessalonians in God *the* Father and *the* Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and *the* Lord Jesus Christ.

2 We give thanks to God always concerning you all, making mention of you on our prayers,

3 remembering without ceasing your work of faith and labor of love, and the patience of hope of our Lord Jesus Christ before our God and Father,

4 knowing, brothers, having been loved, your election by God.

5 For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in *the* Holy Spirit, and in much assurance, even as you know what kind we were among you for your sake.

6 And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, welcoming the Word in much affliction with joy of *the* Holy Spirit.

7 So that you became examples to all those believing in Macedonia and Achaia.

8 For the Word of the Lord sounded out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith toward God has gone out, so that there is no need for us to have to say anything.

9 For they themselves announce concerning us what kind of entrance we have to you, and how you had turned to God from the idols, to serve the true and living God,

10 and to await His Son from Heaven, whom He raised from *the* dead, Jesus, the *One* delivering us from the coming wrath.

**2** For brothers, you yourselves know our entrance to you, that it has not been without fruit.

2 But also suffering before and being insulted in Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak the gospel of God to you in much agony.

3 For our exhortation *was* not of error, nor of uncleanness, nor in guile;

4 but even as we have been approved by God to be entrusted *with* the gospel, so we speak not as pleasing men, but God, the *One* trying our hearts.

5 For neither were we then *found* with a word of flattery, even as you know, nor with pretense of covetousness (God *is* witness),

6 nor seeking glory from men, neither from you, nor from others, being able to be in authority, as apostles of Christ.

7 But we were gentle in your midst, even as a nurse should warmly cherish her children.

8 So yearning over you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own souls, because you have become beloved to us.

9 For, brothers, you remember our labor and toil, night and day, working in order not to put a burden on any one of you, we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.

10 You and God *are* witnesses how holily and righteously and blamelessly we were to you, those believing;

11 even as you know each one of you how, as a father *to* his children, exhorting and consoling you,

12 testifying for you to walk worthily of God, the *One* calling you to His kingdom and glory.

13 And because of this we give thanks to God without ceasing, that having received *the* Word of hearing from us, you welcomed *it as of*

God, not *as* a word of men, but as it is, truly *the* Word of God, which also works in you, the *ones* believing.

14 For, brothers, you became imitators of the assemblies of God being in Judea in Christ Jesus, because you also suffered these things by *your* own fellow countrymen, as they *did* also by the Jews,

15 who both killed the Lord Jesus and their own prophets, also having driven us out, and not pleasing God, and *being* contrary to all men,

16 hindering us from speaking to the nations in order that they be saved, to the filling up *of* their sins always. But the wrath to *the* end is come on them.

17 But, brothers, we being taken away from you for an hour's time, in presence, not in heart, we were much more eager with much desire to see your face.

18 Because of this, we desired to come to you, truly I, Paul, both once and twice; but Satan hindered us.

19 For what *is* our hope, or joy, or crown of glorying? *Are* not even you, before our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?

20 For you are our glory and joy.

**3** So, no longer enduring, we were pleased to be left in Athens alone,

2 and sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, in order to establish you and to encourage you concerning your faith,

3 that no one be drawn aside by these afflictions. For you yourselves know that we are appointed to this.

4 For even when we were with you, we said to you before that we are about to be afflicted, as it also happened, even you know.

5 Because of this, no longer enduring, I also sent to know your faith, that the tempting *one* not somehow tempt you, and our labor should come to be in vain.

6 But now Timothy coming to us from you, and announcing good news to us *of* your love and faith, and that you have good remembrance of us always, longing to see us, even as also we *long to see* you.

7 Because of this we were comforted over you, brothers, on all our affliction and distress through your faith,

8 because now we live, if you should stand fast in *the* Lord.

9 For what thanks are we able to return to God concerning you, over all the joy *with* which we rejoice because of you before our God,

10 night and day praying exceedingly for *me* to see your face, and to complete the things lacking in your faith?

11 But may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you.

12 And may the Lord make you to increase and to abound in love toward one another and toward all, even as we *do* also toward you,

13 in order to establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and our Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

**4** For the rest, then brothers, we beg you and we exhort in *the* Lord Jesus, even as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, that you abound more.

2 For you know what injunctions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

3 For this is God's will, your sanctification, *for* you to abstain from fornication,

4 each one of you to know to possess his vessel in sanctification and honor,

5 not in passion of lust, even as also the nations *do*, not knowing God;

6 not to go beyond and to overreach his brother in the matter, because *the* avenger concerning all these *is* the Lord, even as we told you before, and solemnly testified.

7 For God did not call us to impurity, but in purity.

8 Therefore, the *one* that despises does not despise man, but God, even He giving His Holy Spirit to us.

9 Now as to brotherly love, you have no need *for me* to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another.

10 For you also do it toward the brothers in all Macedonia. But, brothers, we exhort you to abound more.

11 And eagerly aspiring to be quiet, and to do *your* own things, and to work with your own hands, as we enjoined you,

12 that you may walk becomingly toward those outside, and that you may have need of nothing.

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brothers, concerning those who sleep, that you not grieve, as the rest also, not having hope.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will also bring with Him all those who have fallen asleep through Jesus.

15 For we say this to you in *the Word of the Lord*, that we the living who remain to the coming of the Lord will not at all go before those who have fallen asleep.

16 Because the Lord Himself shall come down from Heaven with a commanding shout of an archangel's voice, and with God's trumpet. And the dead in Christ will rise again first.

17 Then we who remain alive will be caught up together with them in *the clouds* to a meeting with the Lord in *the air*. And so we will always be with *the Lord*.

18 So, then, comfort each other with these words.

**5** But concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need *for it* to be written.

2 For you yourselves know accurately that the day of *the Lord*, as a thief in *the night*, so it comes.

3 For when they say, Peace and safety! Then suddenly destruction comes upon them, like the travail to the *one having babe* in womb, and not at all shall they escape.

4 But you, brothers, are not in darkness, that the Day should overtake you as a thief.

5 You are all sons of light and sons of day; we are not of night, nor of darkness.

6 So then, we should not sleep, as the rest also do, but we should watch and be sober.

7 For those sleeping sleep by night, and those having been drunk are drunk by night.

8 But we being of day should be sober, "having put on *the breastplate*" of faith and love, and *the hope* of "salvation as a helmet;" *Isa. 59:17*

9 because God has not appointed us to wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

10 He dying on our behalf, so that whether we watch or we sleep, we may live together with Him.

11 Therefore, encourage one another, and build up one another, as you indeed do.

12 But, brothers, we entreat you to know those laboring among you, and taking the lead of you in *the Lord*, and warning you,

13 even esteem them most exceedingly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves.

14 And we exhort you, brothers, to warn the disobedient ones, comfort those *that are* fainthearted, cleave to the *ones* being weak, be long-suffering towards all.

15 See *that* not any one returns evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue the good, both towards one another and towards all.

16 Rejoice always.

17 Pray without ceasing.

18 In everything give thanks, for this *is the* will of God in Christ Jesus toward you.

19 Do not quench the Spirit.

20 Do not despise prophecies.

21 Test all things, hold fast the good.

22 Keep back from every form of evil.

23 And may the God of peace Himself fully sanctify you, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

24 Faithful is the *One* calling you, who also will perform *it*.

25 Brothers, pray concerning us.

26 Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss.

27 I charge you by the Lord that this letter be read to all the holy brothers.

28 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you. Amen.

## 2 THESSALONIANS

**1** Paul and Silvanus and Timothy to the assembly of *the Thessalonians* in God our Father and *the Lord Jesus Christ*:

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and *the Lord Jesus Christ*.

3 Brothers, we are bound to give thanks to God always concerning you, even as it is right, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of each one of you multiplies toward one another,

4 so as for us to boast ourselves in you in the assemblies of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions, and the afflictions which you endure,

5 a clear token of the just judgment of God, for you to be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you indeed suffer;

6 since *it is* a just thing with God to pay back tribulation to the ones troubling you,

7 and to *give* you, those being afflicted, relief with us at the revelation of the Lord Jesus from Heaven with angels of His power,

8 in flaming fire giving full vengeance to those not knowing God, and to those not obeying the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, *Isa. 66:15; Jer. 10:25*

9 who will pay the penalty: everlasting destruction from the face of the Lord, "and from the glory of His strength," *Isa. 2:19*

10 when He comes to be glorified in His saints, and to be admired in all those who believe in that Day, because our testimony to you was believed.

11 For which we also continually pray concerning you, that our God would deem you worthy of the calling, and would fulfill all the good pleasure of *His* goodness, and work of faith in power,

12 so that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and of *the* Lord Jesus Christ.

**2** And, brothers, we entreat you, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and of our gathering together to Him,

2 for you not to be quickly shaken *in* the mind, nor to be disturbed, neither through a spirit, nor through speech, nor through letter, as through us, as *if* the Day of Christ has come.

3 Do not let anyone deceive you in any way, because *that Day will not come* unless first comes the falling away, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition,

4 the *one* opposing and exalting himself over everything being called God, or object of worship, so as for him "to sit in the temple of God" as God, setting forth himself, that he is God. *Dan. 11:36; Eze. 28:2*

5 Do you not remember that I told you these things, I yet being with you?

6 And now you know the thing holding back, for him to be revealed in his time.

7 For the mystery of lawlessness already is working, only he *is* holding back now, until it comes out of the midst.

8 And then "the Lawless One" will be revealed, "whom" "the Lord" "will consume" "by the spirit of His mouth," and will bring to nought by the brightness of His presence. *Isa. 11:4*

9 *His* coming is according to the working of Satan in all power and *miraculous* signs and lying wonders,

10 and in all deceit of unrighteousness in those being lost, because they did not receive the love of the truth in order for them to be saved.

11 And because of this, God will send to them a working of error, for them to believe the lie,

12 that all may be judged, those not believing the truth, but who have delighted in unrighteousness.

13 But we ought to thank God always concerning you, brothers, beloved by the Lord, because God chose you from the beginning to salvation in sanctification of *the* Spirit and belief of *the* truth,

14 to which He called you through our gospel, to obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

15 So, then, brothers, stand firm and strongly hold the teachings you were taught, whether by word or by our letter.

16 But may our Lord Himself, Jesus Christ, and our God and Father, the *One* having loved us and having given everlasting comfort and good hope by grace,

17 encourage your hearts, and may He establish you in every good word and work.

**3** For the rest, brothers, pray concerning us, that the Word of the Lord may run and be glorified, even as also *it has* with you,

2 and that we may be delivered from perverse and evil men. For faith *is* not in all *men*.

3 But the Lord is faithful who will establish and will guard *you* from the evil.

4 But we are persuaded in *the* Lord as to you, that whatever things we have commanded you, you both do and you will do.

5 And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.

6 And we enjoin you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to draw yourselves back from every brother walking in a disorderly way, and not according to the teaching which you received from us.

7 For you yourselves know how it is right to act like us, because we were not disorderly among you;

8 nor did we eat bread from anyone *as* a gift, but by labor and toil, working night and day in order not to burden anyone of you.

9 Not that we do not have authority, but that we give ourselves *as* an example to you, for you to act like us.

10 For even when we were with you, we commanded this to you: If anyone does not desire to work, neither let him eat.

11 For we hear some are walking in a disorderly way among you, not working at all, but being busybodies.

12 And we command such and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that working with quietness, they may eat their own bread.

13 And you, brothers, do not lose heart in well doing.

14 But if anyone does not obey our Word through the letter, mark that one, and do not associate with him, that he be shamed.

15 But do not count *him as one* hostile, but warn *him* as a brother.

16 And may the Lord of peace Himself continually give peace to you in every way. The Lord *be* with all of you.

17 The greeting of Paul by my hand is *the* sign in every letter; so I write.

18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.

# THE THESSALONIAN

## EPISTLES COMPLETE JEWISH BIBLE

*Complete Jewish Bible* translated by David H. Stern, ©  
1998, published by Jewish New Testament  
Publications.

### 1 THESSALONIANS

**1** From: Sha'ul, Sila and Timothy To: The Messianic Community of the Thessalonians, united with God the Father and the Lord Yeshua the Messiah: Grace to you and shalom.

2 We always thank God for all of you, regularly mentioning you in our prayers,

3 calling to mind before God our Father what our Lord Yeshua the Messiah has brought about in you - how your trust produces action, your love hard work, and your hope perseverance.

4 We know, brothers, that God has loved and chosen you;

5 that the Good News we brought did not become for you a matter only of words, but also one of power, the Ruach HaKodesh and total conviction - just as you know how we lived for your sakes when we were with you.

6 You, indeed, became imitators of us and of the Lord; so that even though you were going through severe troubles, you received the Word with joy from the Ruach HaKodesh.

7 Thus you became a pattern for all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia;

8 for the Lord's message sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but everywhere your trust toward God became known. The result is that we don't need to say anything;

9 since they themselves keep telling us about the welcome we received from you and how you turned to God from idols, to serve the true God, the one who is alive,

10 and to wait for his Son Yeshua, whom he raised from the dead, to appear from heaven

and rescue us from the impending fury of God's judgment.

**2** You yourselves know, brothers, that our visit to you was not fruitless.

2 On the contrary, although we had already suffered and been outraged in Philippi, as you know, we had the courage, united with our God, to tell you the Good News even under great pressure.

3 For the appeal we make does not flow from error or from impure motives, neither do we try to trick people.

4 Instead, since God has tested us and found us fit to be entrusted with Good News, this is how we speak: not to win favor with people but with God, who tests our hearts.

5 For, as you know, never did we employ flattering talk, nor did we put on a false front to mask greed - God is witness.

6 Nor did we seek human praise - either from you or from others.

7 As emissaries of the Messiah, we could have made our weight felt; but instead, we were gentle when we were with you, like a mother feeding and caring for her children.

8 We were so devoted to you that we were glad to share with you not only God's Good News but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us.

9 For you remember, brothers, our toil and hardship, how we worked night and day not to put a burden on any of you while we were proclaiming God's Good News to you.

10 You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless our behavior was in the sight of you believers;

11 for you know that we treated each one of you the way a father treats his children -

12 we encouraged you and comforted you and appealed to you to lead lives worthy of God, who calls you into his Kingdom and glory.

13 Another reason we regularly thank God is that when you heard the Word of God from us, you received it not merely as a human word, but as it truly is, God's Word, which is at work in you believers.

14 For, brothers, you came to be imitators of God's congregations in Y'hudah that are united with the Messiah Yeshua - you suffered the same things from your countrymen as they did from the Judeans who

15 both killed the Lord Yeshua and the prophets, and chased us out too. They are displeasing God and opposing all mankind

16 by trying to keep us from speaking to the Gentiles, so that they may be delivered. Their object seems to be always to make their sins as bad as possible! But God's fury will catch up with them in the end.

17 And as for us, brothers, when we were deprived of your company for a short time - in person, but not in thought - we missed you and tried hard to come and see you.

18 We wanted so much to come to you - I, Sha'ul, tried more than once - but the Adversary stopped us.

19 For when our Lord Yeshua returns, what will be our hope, our joy, our crown to boast about? Won't it be you?

20 Yes, you are our glory and our joy!

**3** So when we could no longer stand it, we agreed to be left in Athens alone  
2 and sent Timothy, our brother and God's fellow worker for the Good News of the Messiah, to make you solid and encourage you in your trust;

3 so that none of you would let these persecutions unsettle him. For you yourselves know that these are bound to come to us;

4 even when we were with you, we kept telling you in advance that we were about to be persecuted; and indeed it has happened, as you know.

5 That is the reason why, after I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your trust. I was afraid that somehow the Tempter had tempted you, and our hard work had been wasted.

6 But now Timothy has come to us from you, bringing good news about your trust and love, and telling us that you remember us well

and are always longing to see us, just as we long to see you.

7 Because of this, brothers, in spite of all our trouble and distress, we were comforted over you - because of your trust;

8 so that now we are alive; since you continue to stand fast, united with the Lord.

9 Indeed, how can we thank God enough for you or express to our God all the joy we feel because of you?

10 Night and day we pray as hard as we can that we will be able to see you face to face and supply whatever shortcomings there may be in your trust.

11 May God our Father and our Lord Yeshua direct our way to you.

12 And as for you, may the Lord make you increase and overflow in love toward each other, indeed, toward everyone, just as we do toward you;

13 so that he may give you the inner strength to be blameless, by reason of your holiness, when you stand before God our Father at the coming of our Lord Yeshua with all his angels.

**4** Therefore, brothers, just as you learned from us how you had to live in order to please God, and just as you are living this way now, we ask you - indeed, united with the Lord Yeshua, we urge you - to keep doing so more and more.

2 For you know what instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Yeshua.

3 What God wants is that you be holy, that you keep away from sexual immorality,

4 that each of you know how to manage his sexual impulses in a holy and honorable manner,

5 without giving in to lustful desires, like the pagans who don't know God.

6 No one should wrong his brother in this matter or take advantage of him, because the Lord punishes all who do such things - as we have explained to you before at length.

7 For God did not call us to live an unclean life but a holy one.

8 Therefore, whoever rejects this teaching is rejecting not a man but God, indeed, the One who gives you the Ruach HaKodesh, which is his.

9 Concerning love for the brothers we do not need to write you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other;

10 and you do love all the brothers throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, brothers, to do it even more.

11 Also, make it your ambition to live quietly, to mind your own business and to earn your living by your own efforts - just as we told you.

12 Then your daily life will gain the respect of outsiders, and you will not be dependent on anyone.

13 Now, brothers, we want you to know the truth about those who have died; otherwise, you might become sad the way other people

14 do who have nothing to hope for. For since we believe that Yeshua died and rose again, we also believe that in the same way God, through Yeshua, will take with him those who have died.

15 When we say this, we base it on the Lord's own word: we who remain alive when the Lord comes will certainly not take precedence over those who have died.

16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a rousing cry, with a call from one of the ruling angels, and with God's shofar; those who died united with the Messiah will be the first to rise;

17 then we who are left still alive will be caught up with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and thus we will always be with the Lord.

18 So encourage each other with these words.

**5** But you have no need to have anything written to you, brothers, about the times and dates when this will happen;

2 because you yourselves well know that the Day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

3 When people are saying, "Everything is so peaceful and secure," then destruction will suddenly come upon them, the way labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there is no way they will escape.

4 But you, brothers, are not in the dark, so that the Day should take you by surprise like a thief;

5 for you are all people who belong to the light, who belong to the day. We don't belong to the night or to darkness,

6 so let's not be asleep, like the rest are; on the contrary, let us stay alert and sober.

7 People who sleep, sleep at night; and people who get drunk, get drunk at night.

8 But since we belong to the day, let us stay sober, putting on trust and love as a breastplate and the hope of being delivered as a helmet. a

9 For God has not intended that we should experience his fury, but that we should gain deliverance through our Lord Yeshua the Messiah,

10 who died on our behalf so that whether we are alive or dead, we may live along with him.

11 Therefore, encourage each other, and build each other up - just as you are doing.

12 We ask you, brothers, to respect those who are working hard among you, those who are guiding you in the Lord and confronting you in order to help you change.

13 Treat them with the highest regard and love because of the work they are doing. Live at peace among yourselves;

14 but we urge you, brothers, to confront those who are lazy, your aim being to help them change, to encourage the timid, to assist the weak, and to be patient with everyone.

15 See that no one repays evil for evil; on the contrary, always try to do good to each other, indeed, to everyone.

16 Always be joyful.

17 Pray regularly.

18 In everything give thanks, for this is what God wants from you who are united with the Messiah Yeshua.

19 Don't quench the Spirit,

20 don't despise inspired messages.

21 But do test everything - hold onto what is good,

22 but keep away from every form of evil.

23 May the God of shalom make you completely holy - may your entire spirit, soul and body be kept blameless for the coming of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah.

24 The one calling you is faithful, and he will do it.

25 Brothers, keep praying for us.

26 Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss.

1Th 5:27 I charge you in the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers.

28 The grace of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah be with you.

## 2 THESSALONIANS

**1** From: Sha'ul, Sila and Timothy To: The Messianic Community of the Thessalonians, united with God our Father and the Lord Yeshua the Messiah:

2 Grace to you and shalom from God the Father and the Lord Yeshua the Messiah.

3 We have to keep thanking God for you always, brothers, as is appropriate; because your trust continues to grow greater, and the love you each have for one another continues to increase.

4 Therefore, we boast about you in the congregations of God because of your perseverance and trust in all the persecutions and troubles you are going through.

5 This is clear evidence that God's judgment is just; and as a result, you will be counted worthy of the Kingdom of God for which you are suffering.

6 For it is justice for God to pay back trouble to those who are troubling you,

7 and to give rest along with us to you who are being troubled, when the Lord Yeshua is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels

8 in a fiery flame. Then he will punish those who don't know God, a that is, those who don't listen to the Good News of our Lord Yeshua and obey it.

9 They will suffer the just penalty of eternal

10 On destruction, far away from the face of the Lord and the glory of his might. that Day, when he comes to be glorified by his holy people and admired by all who have trusted, you will be among them, because you trusted our witness to you.

11 With this in view, we always pray for you that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill by his power every good purpose of yours and every action stemming from your trust.

12 In this way, the name of our Lord Yeshua will be glorified in you, and you in him, in accordance with the grace of our God and the Lord Yeshua the Messiah.

**2** But in connection with the coming of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah and our gathering together to meet him, we ask you, brothers,

2 not to be easily shaken in your thinking or anxious because of a spirit or a spoken message or a letter supposedly from us claiming that the Day of the Lord has already come.

3 Don't let anyone deceive you in any way. For the Day will not come until after the Apostasy has come and the man who separates himself from Torah has been revealed, the one destined for doom.

4 He will oppose himself to everything that people call a god or make an object of worship; he will put himself above them all, so that he will sit in the Temple of God and proclaim that he himself is God.

5 Don't you remember that when I was still with you, I used to tell you these things?

6 And now you know what is restraining, so that he may be revealed in his own time.

7 For already this separating from Torah is at work secretly, but it will be secretly only until he who is restraining is out of the way.

8 Then the one who embodies separation from Torah will be revealed, the one whom the Lord Yeshua will slay with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the glory of his coming.

9 When this man who avoids Torah comes, the Adversary will give him the power to work all kinds of false miracles, signs and wonders.

10 He will enable him to deceive, in all kinds of wicked ways, those who are headed for destruction because they would not receive the love of the truth that could have saved them.

11 This is why God is causing them to go astray, so that they will believe the Lie.

12 The result will be that all who have not believed the truth, but have taken their pleasure in wickedness, will be condemned.

13 But we have to keep thanking God for you always, brothers whom the Lord loves, because God chose you as firstfruits for deliverance by giving you the holiness that has its origin in the Spirit and the faithfulness that has its origin in the truth.

14 He called you to this through our Good News, so that you could have the glory of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah.

15 Therefore, brothers, stand firm; and hold to the traditions you were taught by us, whether we spoke them or wrote them in a letter.

16 And may our Lord Yeshua the Messiah himself and God our Father, who has loved us and by his grace given us eternal comfort and a good hope,

17 comfort your hearts and strengthen you in every good word and deed.

**3** Finally, brothers, pray for us that the Lord's message may spread rapidly and receive honor, just as it did with you;

2 and that we may be rescued from wicked and evil people, for not everyone has trust.

3 But the Lord is worthy of trust; he will make you firm and guard you from the Evil One.

4 Yes, united with the Lord we are confident about you, that you are doing the things we are telling you to do, and that you will keep on doing them.

5 May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and the perseverance which the Messiah gives.

6 Now, in the name of the Lord Yeshua the Messiah we command you, brothers, to stay away from any brother who is leading a life of idleness, a life not in keeping with the tradition you received from us.

7 For you yourselves know how you must imitate us, that we were not idle when we were among you.

8 We did not accept anyone's food without paying; on the contrary, we labored and toiled, day and night, working so as not to be a burden to any of you.

9 It was not that we hadn't the right to be supported, but so that we could make ourselves an example to imitate.

10 For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: if someone won't work, he shouldn't eat!

11 We hear that some of you are leading a life of idleness - not busy working, just busybodies!

12 We command such people - and in union with the Lord Yeshua the Messiah we urge them - to settle down, get to work, and earn their own living.

13 And you brothers who are doing what is good, don't slack off!

14 Furthermore, if anyone does not obey what we are saying in this letter, take note of him and have nothing to do with him, so that he will be ashamed.

15 But don't consider him an enemy; on the contrary, confront him as a brother and try to help him change.

16 Now may the Lord of shalom himself give you shalom always in all ways. The Lord be with all of you.

17 The greeting in my own handwriting: From Sha'ul. This is the mark of genuineness in every letter, this is what my handwriting looks like.

18 The grace of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah be with you all.

