

*Paul's Letter to the  
Church at Thessalonica*



# II Thessalonians

"A PRAYER RENDERED, A  
PRAYER REQUESTED"

*(2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5)*



"A PRAYER RENDERED, A PRAYER REQUESTED"

# The Coming of the Lord



## ❖ **Would not occur UNTIL:**

- ❖ "The falling away occurs first" - 3
- ❖ "The man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition" - 3-6
- ❖ The mystery of iniquity was already at work - 7
- ❖ Destroyed by the Lord - 8
- ❖ After Satan / Lies - 9
- ❖ Those deceived will also be destroyed - 10-12

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# Unbelievers

**2 Thes 2:9-12**

LOST

The unbelieving  
*class* because  
they believed not  
the truth - 9-12

CONTRASTED

# Believers

**2 Thes 2:13-14**

SAVED

The believing  
*class* – seeing  
they had believed  
the truth - 13,14



## 2 Thessalonians 2:16–3:5 (NKJV)

<sup>16</sup> Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given *us* everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, <sup>17</sup> comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work.

## 2 Thessalonians 2:16–3:5 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run *swiftly* and be glorified, just as *it is* with you, <sup>2</sup> and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith. <sup>3</sup> But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard *you* from the evil one.



## 2 Thessalonians 2:16–3:5 (NKJV)

<sup>4</sup> And we have confidence in the Lord concerning you, both that you do and will do the things we command you. <sup>5</sup> Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.



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## Paul's Previous Prayers For The Thessalonians



- ❖ That they might increase & abound in love - 1Thes 3:11
- ❖ That the Lord might establish their hearts blameless in holiness - 1Th 3:12
- ❖ That God might sanctify them completely - 1Thes 5:23
- ❖ That God might count them worthy of His calling & - 2Thes 2:11
- ❖ That the name of the Lord might be glorified in them, and they in Him - 2Thes 2:11,12



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## Paul Prayed For Them & Ask They Pray For Him



- ❖ Preachers praying for their brethren was not uncommon
  - ▶ Paul prayed for his brethren often - cf. Col 1:9-11; Ro. 1:8-10. Ep. 1:15, 16.
  - ▶ Epaphras also - cf. Col 4:12-13
- ▶ Preachers need prayers also, & Paul often ask his brethren to pray for him
  - ▶ Brethren in Rome - Rom 15:30-33
  - ▶ Brethren in Ephesus - Ep 6:18-20
  - ▶ Brethren in Colosse - Col 4:2-4



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## The Comfort of God's Love & Grace - 2Th 2:16-17



2 Thessalonians 2:16-17  
(NKJV)

<sup>16</sup> Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given *us* everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, <sup>17</sup> comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work.

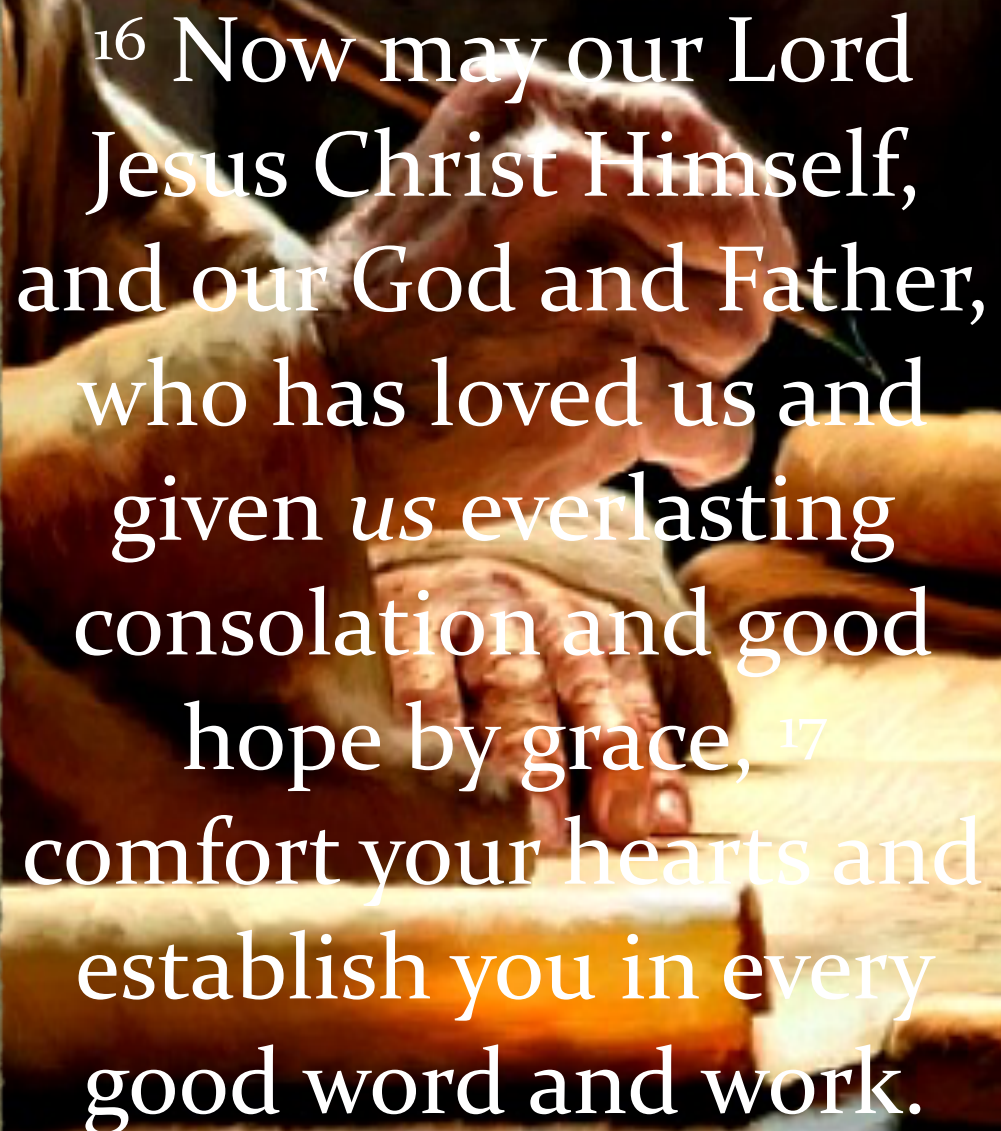
- ◆ God & Jesus have shown their love for us — ver. 13. Jno. 3:16; 13:1; 15:9, 13; Ro. 5:8; Ep. 2:4, 5; 5:2, 25; Tit. 3:4-7; 1 Jno. 3:16; 4:9, 10; Re. 1:5; 3:9.
- ◆ God & Jesus have provided us with everlasting encouragement & hope BY GRACE — Rom. 5:1-5; He. 6:18; 1 Pe. 1:5-8;



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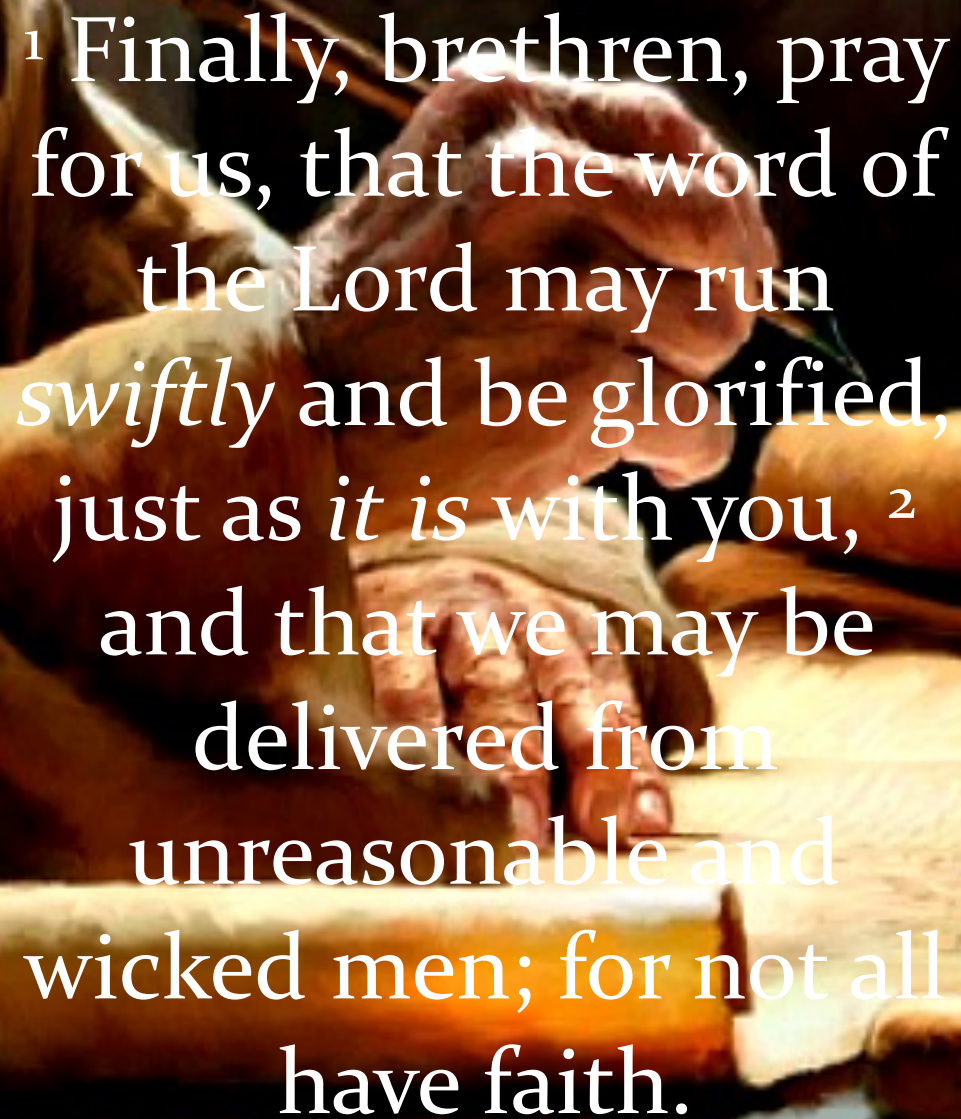
- ◆ Now may the Lord Jesus & our God & Father ...
- ◆ Comfort their hearts - cf. 2Co 1:3-6; Rom. 15:13
- ◆ Establish them in every good word and work - cf. 1 The 3:2; Rom. 16:25; 1 Cor. 1:8; Col. 2:7; Heb. 13:9; 1 Pet 5:10
- ◆ Comforted & established, they would be able to "*stand fast*" - 15



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## A PRAYER REQUESTED — (3:1-2)

2 Thessalonians 3:1-2  
(NKJV)



<sup>1</sup> Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run *swiftly* and be glorified, just as *it is* with you, <sup>2</sup> and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith.

Pray for us — Mat. 9:38; Lu. 10:2. Ro. 15:30. 2 Co. 1:11. Ep. 6:19, 20. 1 Th. 5:25. He. 13:18, 19.

That the word of the Lord may:

Be ***Unhindered***, that the Lord “*open doors*” — cf. 1Co 16:9; 2Co 2:12; Col. 4:3

***Glorified***— sinners accepting it — (Ac 13:48; Ga 1:23, 24).

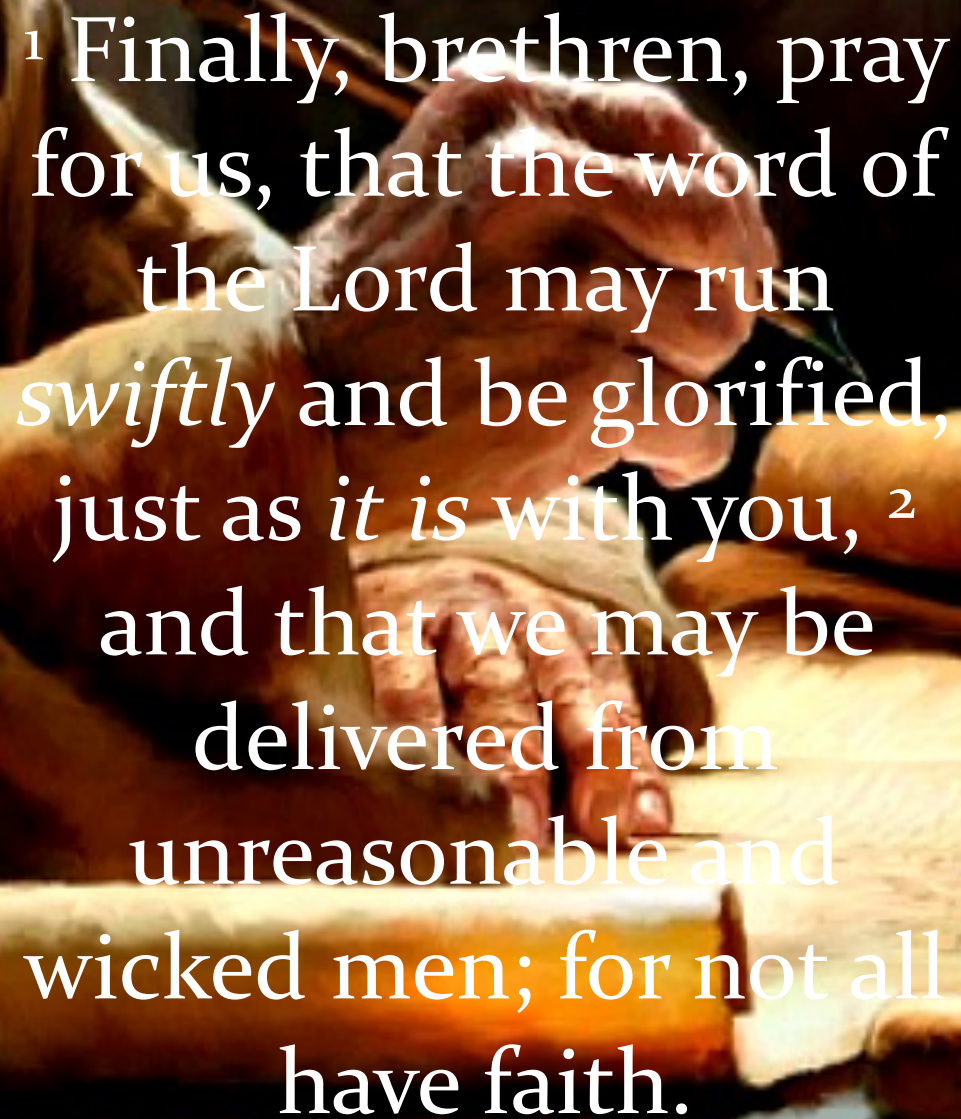
***As it is with you***—(Acts 16:9,10; 1 Th 1:5,6; 2:1, 13)



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## A PRAYER REQUESTED — (3:1-2)

**2 Thessalonians 3:1-2**  
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<sup>1</sup> Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run *swiftly* and be glorified, just as *it is* with you, <sup>2</sup> and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith.

- ◆ That they be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men
- ◆ Paul had his share of such, even in Thessalonica — Ac 17:5-10, 13
- ◆ Paul asked his brethren to pray in his behalf:
  - ◆ For deliverance, *if possible* - 2Th 3:2
  - ◆ For boldness, - cf. Ep 6:19-20
  - ◆ For not all are believers - 2Th 3:2b
- ◆ Reaction to the gospel is often hostile (cf. Gal. 4:16; 5:11,12).



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## A Vote of Confidence — (3:3-5)



2 Thessalonians 3:3  
(NKJV)

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

- ◆ In the faithfulness of the Lord - 2Th 3:3; cf. 1Th 5:24
- ◆ To establish them as Paul prayed previously - 2Th 2:17; cf. 1Pe 5:10
- ◆ To guard them from the evil one — cf. 1Co 10:13; 2Pe 2:9
- ◆ As Jesus prayed - Jn 17:15
- ◆ For which we should diligently pray - cf. Luke 11:4



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## A Vote of Confidence — (3:3-5)



2 Thessalonians 3:4  
(NKJV)

4 And we have  
confidence in the  
Lord concerning you,  
both that you do and  
will do the things we  
command you.

- ◆ In their faithfulness to the Lord - 2Th 3:4; cf. Php 1:6; Ro. 15:14. 2 Co. 2:3; 7:16; 8:22. Ga. 5:10. Phi. 1:6. Phile. 21.
- ◆ That they do the things he commands them — cf. Phil 2:12; 2Th 1:3, 4
- ◆ Their past performance gave Paul confidence regarding their future faithfulness - 1 Thes. 4:10; cf. Php 1:6-7; 2:12; Heb 6:9



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## A Vote of Confidence — (3:3-5)



2 Thessalonians 3:5  
(NKJV)

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

- ◆ That the Lord direct their hearts - 2Th 3:5a
- ◆ IF we truly trust the Lord, we will allow Him to govern our thoughts & deeds — 1 Kings 8:58; 1 Chron 29:18; Ps. 119:5; Prov 3:6; Jer. 10:23; James 1:18-21
- ◆ Into the love of God — Jn 14:23,24; 15:9,10; 1 Jn 5:2,3; Jude 20,21; Rom. 8:28-39
- ◆ The patience of Christ — He 12:1-3; 1Pe 2:21-23



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# Conclusion



- ◆ God's has graciously made His love known to us and offers us an encouraging hope— Have you received it? (Acts 2:38)
- ◆ We need to be praying for
  - ◆ The spreading of the gospel
  - ◆ For those preaching the gospel
  - ◆ For those hearing the gospel!
- ◆ Are we allowing God to govern us? Assure us? Strengthen us?







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# Ephesians 6:14–20 (NKJV)

<sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup> and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; <sup>16</sup> above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. <sup>17</sup> And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;



# Ephesians 6:14–20 (NKJV)

<sup>18</sup> praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—<sup>19</sup> and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.