

# 2 Thessalonians 1

## Read 2 Thessalonians 1

The church was going through persecution (1:4–7), and some of the believers thought they were already in the Day of the Lord, that time of tribulation in which the whole world will be judged. It is possible that a letter, supposedly from Paul, had come to the church (2:1–2), or that one of the church prophets had given this false message during a public meeting. At any rate, Paul writes to explain God’s program for the age and to encourage these suffering Christians to remain true to the Lord. He points out three purposes behind their suffering.

- I. **Suffering Helps Us to Grow** (1:3–5) Verse 4 suggests that they were growing in patience. Read Romans 5:3 - Tribulation brings \_\_\_\_\_. Discuss how God uses trials as a means of growing us. \_\_\_\_\_

How does remembering previous trials help us? \_\_\_\_\_

## II. **Suffering Prepares Us for Glory (1:6–10)**

- a. Read Phil. 1:29 - This verse makes suffering for Christ seem like a \_\_\_\_\_.  
b. Read Matt.5:10-12 - How should Christians react to persecution and insults? \_\_\_\_\_

What does Matt. 5:12 tell you about God’s knowledge of you? \_\_\_\_\_

- c. Read Romans 8:18 - What kind of trade are we making? \_\_\_\_\_

- d. Read 2Corinthians 4:16-18 - Discuss verse 18 in your group. Compare things that are seen with the things unseen and their impact upon our viewpoint? \_\_\_\_\_

- e. “God will “recompense” judgment; that is, He will mete out to the wicked in the same measure and kind that they have meted out to Christians.”  
Pharaoh drowned the babies of Israel, how did Pharaoh’s army die? \_\_\_\_\_

Judas betrayed Jesus to be hanged on a tree, how did Judas die? \_\_\_\_\_

Saul tried to slay David with a sword, how did Saul die? \_\_\_\_\_

Sinners shall reap what they \_\_\_\_\_.

- f. Read Rev.19:11-21. “*The Coming of Christ*”. Why do you think Paul focusses so much on this future event? \_\_\_\_\_

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### III. **Suffering Glorifies Christ Today (1:11–12)** Read Acts 6:4.

“But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” “He taught the people God’s \_\_\_\_\_, then \_\_\_\_\_ for them to live out what he had taught them.” Weirsbe

Re-read 2 Thess. 2:11-12. (fill in the blanks) (NASB)

- a. “... \_\_\_\_\_ will make you worthy
- b. “... and (He) may \_\_\_\_\_ every desire for goodness and the work of faith with \_\_\_\_\_, ...”
- c. so that the name of our Lord Jesus will be \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_, and you in \_\_\_\_\_, according to the \_\_\_\_\_ of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.