

Sermon Discussion Guide

God's Righteous Judgment

2 Thessalonians 1:5–12

God's righteous judgment is proved by your endurance (5)

Phil. 1:28

- In what sense is endurance in the face of suffering and trials evidence of God's righteous judgment?
- What is the relationship between faith and perseverance? Are we saved by our perseverance or by faith in Jesus Christ?
- How does knowing that God is on your side help you endure suffering and trials?

God's righteous judgment will be displayed at the second coming of Christ (6–10)

Rom. 2:5–6; Isa. 66:15–16; Rom. 8:17–18

- Why does Paul describe Christ's second coming as a "revelation"?
- How does the description of Jesus as the heavenly king and judge in verses 7 and 8 challenge popular ideas about Jesus? Does your understanding of Jesus include his roles as king and judge?
- Why is it important for us to teach and preach the doctrine of hell?
- Do believers need to fear Jesus' second coming? What will happen to us and what will we do when Christ returns? Hint: see verse 10

God's righteous judgment motivates living worthy of his calling in the present (11–12)

1 Thess. 2:12; Gal. 5:17; Phil. 2:12–13

- Why do Christians struggle with acting on their godly desires and goals?
- Grace is both God's gracious disposition toward those who believe and his power for godly living. Do you ask God to give you the ability to live in a way that honors him?
- How is Paul's prayer for the Thessalonians in verses 11 and 12 instructive for our own prayers?