

LIVING IN THE LAST DAYS

A dramatic landscape with dark, stormy clouds and a field of bare, skeletal trees in the foreground. The scene is dark and moody, with a sense of impending doom or a desolate, post-apocalyptic world. The trees are mostly without leaves, and the ground is covered in a mix of green and brown, suggesting a harsh environment. The sky is filled with heavy, grey clouds, with some light breaking through near the horizon.

2 Thessalonians

2 THESSALONIANS 1:4-12



**“WHEN CHRIST RETURNS THERE
WILL BE REST OR RETRIBUTION”**

2 Thessalonians 1:4–12 (NKJV)

4 so that we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure, 5 which is manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer; 6 since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, 7 and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, 8 in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, 10 when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed. 11 Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power, 12 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 the Lord Jesus Christ.

Outline:

2. The book's purpose and argument:

Observations:

- 1: 3-4 commend the church
- 1: 5-12 encouragement for the church
- 2: 1-12 correcting error in the church
- 2: 13-15 reinforce truth to the church
- 3: 1-5 request prayer from the church
- 3: 6-15 instruct the church in proper living
- 3: 16-18 blessing and conclusion



Outline:

- 1. Review of the historical facts**
- 2. The judgment before the coming kingdom**
- 3. Living in light of the coming kingdom**



Outline:

- 1. Review of the historical facts**
- 2. The judgment before the coming kingdom**
- 3. Living in light of the coming kingdom**



Places Paul Visited



2 Thessalonians 2:1–2 (NKJV)

1 Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, 2 not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come.

Outline:

- 1. Review of the historical facts**
- 2. The judgment before the coming kingdom**
- 3. Living in light of the coming kingdom**



Seven questions:

1) Who receives rest?



2 Thessalonians 1:4–12 (NKJV)

6 since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, 7 and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels,

Seven questions:

- 1) Who receives rest?
- 2) When do they receive rest?



2 Thessalonians 1:4–12 (NKJV)

6 since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, 7 and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels,

Seven questions:

- 1) Who receives rest?
- 2) When do they receive rest?



2 Thessalonians 2:1–2 (NKJV)

1 Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, 2 not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come.

Seven questions:

- 1) Who receives rest?
- 2) When do they receive rest?
- 3) Why do they receive rest?



2 Thessalonians 1:4–12 (NKJV)

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



Seven questions:

- 1) Who receives rest?
- 2) When do they receive rest?
- 3) Why do they receive rest?
- 4) Why are they troubled?



2 Thessalonians 1:4–12 (NKJV)

4 so that we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure, 5 which is manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer;

John 15:18–21 (NKJV)

18 “If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. 19 If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. 20 Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also. 21 But all these things they will do to you for My name’s sake, because they do not know Him who sent Me.

Seven questions:

- 1) Who receives rest?
- 2) When do they receive rest?
- 3) Why do they receive rest?
- 4) Why are they troubled?
- 5) Who are the persecutors?



Acts 17:5–9 (NKJV)

5 But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious, took some of the evil men from the marketplace, and gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. 6 But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, crying out, “These who have turned the world upside down have come here too. 7 Jason has harbored them, and these are all acting contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another king—Jesus.” 8 And they troubled the crowd and the rulers of the city when they heard these things. 9 So when they had taken security from Jason and the rest, they let them go.



2 Thessalonians 1:4–12 (NKJV)

8 in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Seven questions:

- 1) Who receives rest?
- 2) When do they receive rest?
- 3) Why do they receive rest?
- 4) Why are they troubled?
- 5) Who are the persecutors?
- 6) What will happen to the unbelievers?



2 Thessalonians 1:4–12 (NKJV)

6 since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, 7 and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, 8 in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

Seven questions:

- 1) Who receives rest?
- 2) When do they receive rest?
- 3) Why do they receive rest?
- 4) Why are they troubled?
- 5) Who are the persecutors?
- 6) What will happen to the unbelievers?
- 7) Why are they punished?



2 Thessalonians 1:4–12 (NKJV)

6 since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, 7 and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, 8 in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

Seven Applications:

- 1) God will right wrong
- 2) God will repay
- 3) God will comfort
- 4) God will judge
- 5) The judged will be punished
- 6) God will return
- 7) God will be glorified



Outline:

- 1. Review of the historical facts**
- 2. The judgment before the coming kingdom**
- 3. Living in light of the coming kingdom**



2 Thessalonians 1:4–12 (NKJV)

11 Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power, 12 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 the Lord Jesus Christ.





Application:



- Are you a believer?
- Are you growing?
- Are you looking towards your rest?
- Are you evangelizing?

2 THESSALONIANS 1:4-12



**“WHEN CHRIST RETURNS THERE
WILL BE REST OR RETRIBUTION”**