

The Hope of Judgement

***HOPE DRIVEN LIFE* | 2 Thess. 1:1-12**

Discussion Questions

1. How did you experience Hope Initiative? Did you feel encouraged by serving, or did you find yourself discouraged by the overwhelming need? Why do you think we can feel both emotions at the same time?
2. When have you felt like evil was winning—either in the world around you or in your personal life? How did that affect your faith and hope?
3. Most people are outraged by evil "out there" but hesitant to acknowledge evil "in here." Read Mark 7:21-23. What does Jesus say about the source of evil? How does recognizing your own heart's capacity for evil change how you think about judgment and grace?
4. How does the transformed lives of believers point to the reality that Christ has triumphed over evil?
5. Verse 9 describes eternal punishment as being "away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might." How does understanding hell as separation from God (rather than just physical torment) help you grasp both its tragedy and its justice? What does this reveal about how much we depend on God's presence even now?
7. Read 2 Peter 3:9 together. If we're living in an "age of mercy" where God delays judgment so more can repent, who are 5 people you need to pray for and share the gospel with? What's keeping you from being more intentional about this?
8. Verses 11-12 describe Paul praying that God would "fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power." What specific action could you take to address evil or brokenness in your sphere of influence—your neighborhood, workplace, or community? Be concrete.
9. When Jesus returns, believers will "marvel at" Him and glorify Him (v. 10). What aspects of Jesus—His character, sacrifice, or victory—cause you to marvel even now? How does focusing on who He is sustain hope?
10. Paul doesn't just encourage the Thessalonians—he prays for them (v. 11). What "work of faith" or "resolve for good" do you need God's power to accomplish? Pray specifically for one another, asking God to work both in you and through you.