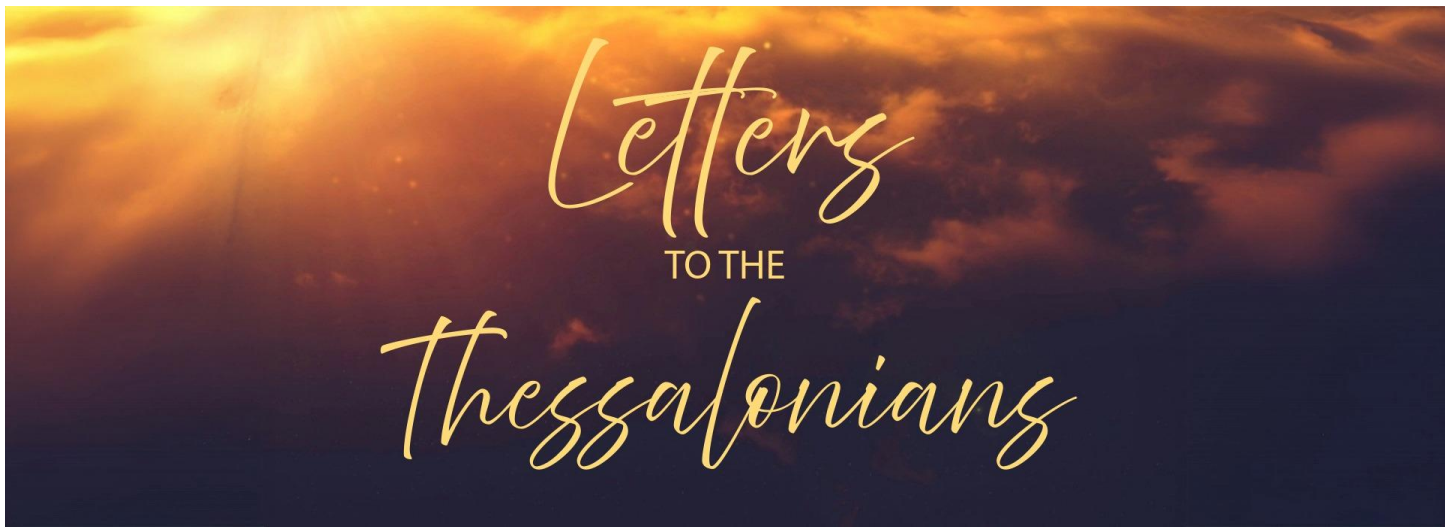




Week 6 – Letters to the Thessalonians

Worthy of His Kingdom

Introduction

- Living in the hope of Christ's return gives us encouragement in the day-to-day struggles of life.
 - The human experience is messy—personalities clash, flaws show, and we all carry wounds.
 - Like a *flesh wound*, spiritual wounds need urgent care: **Stop the Bleed.**
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1. Endurance & Faithfulness in Persecution

 2 Thessalonians 1:3–5

- Paul thanks God for the Thessalonians' **flourishing faith** and **growing love**.
- He proudly tells other churches of their **endurance and faithfulness**.
- Growth and maturity never happen by accident; they are forged in adversity.
- **Oswald Chambers:** Choosing God's will—even if it means suffering—aligns us with Christ's example.

 **Truth:** Hope shines brightest when it is tested.

2. God's Justice in a Broken World

 2 Thessalonians 1:6–9

- God will bring justice to those who persecute His people.
- Faith isn't forged by avoiding hardship but through **standing firm in it**.
- Jesus said, "*The Kingdom of Heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force*"—the Kingdom keeps advancing despite resistance.
- Our endurance and faithfulness become our testimony that we belong to His Kingdom.

 **Truth:** Justice may not be seen in our lifetime, but God's judgment will be final and perfect.

3. Rest for the Faithful, Fire for the Unfaithful

 2 Thessalonians 1:7–10

- Christ will return in flaming fire with His angels—bringing both **rest** for the faithful and **judgment** for the rebellious.
- Illustration: Wildfires & backburn—controlled fire protects against greater destruction.
- God's people endure fire now so that when the final fire comes, they are secure in Him.

 **Truth:** Enduring fire today prepares us for glory tomorrow.

4. A Prayer for Worthy Living

 2 Thessalonians 1:11–12

- Paul's prayer for the church:
 1. **Live worthy of His call** (salvation, not just vocation).
 2. **Fulfill His purpose** through Spirit-led works.

3. **Live so that Jesus is glorified**—His glory shining through us, like Moses (Ex. 34) or Stephen (Acts 6).

- Character is revealed in what we do when no one is watching (John Wooden).

🔑 **Truth:** Our lives should radiate Christ's glory until He returns.

5. The Final Judgment

📖 *Revelation 20:11–15*

- The great white throne judgment: all will be judged according to their deeds.
 - Those not found in the Book of Life face eternal separation from God.
 - Those in Christ will share in His glory forever.
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Conclusion

- Hope in Christ's return encourages us to:
 - Endure trials faithfully.
 - Trust God's justice.
 - Rest in His promise.
 - Live in such a way that His glory radiates from us.

✨ **Main Takeaway:** *The hope of Christ's return stops the bleed, strengthens our endurance, and ensures that His glory will be revealed in us.*