

THIS WEEK

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH, KAILUA KONA, HAWAII

events

Aloha! Thanks for worshipping with us either online or in person. Please wear your mask before and after the service.

Please sign in your children for **Nursery and Kid's Church**.

Middle School Youth Group
Wednesdays 4:30-6 pm

KKO is asking for volunteers for their **Thanksgiving and Christmas festivities**. If you would like to help, please contact Kalehua at the office.

Kalehua is updating our **church directory**. If your contact information has changed, please contact her.

The **office will be closed** this Thursday and Friday.

Ways to Give:

- Online on our website or app
- Giving box on Sundays
- Mail a check to the church

Andrew, Lead Pastor

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Kalehua, Ministry Assistant

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LouAnne, Children's Director

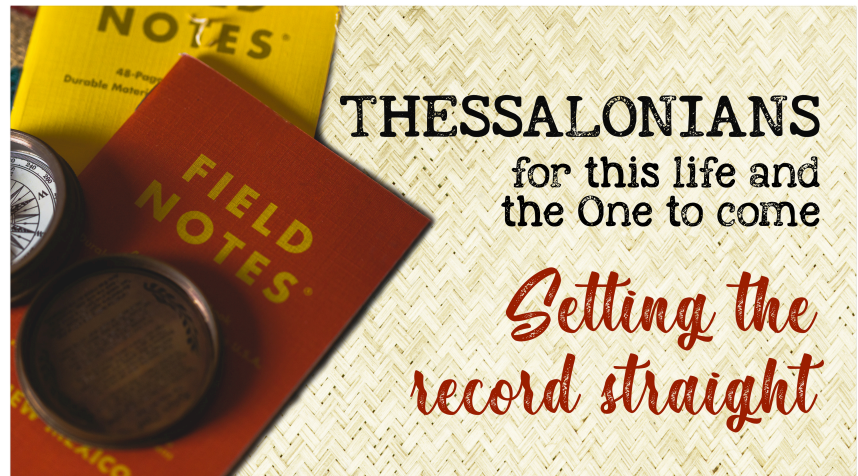
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Andrew Severinsen

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

Big Idea: Paul refutes a troubling claim that the Day of the Lord has already come, and he calls on the church to stand firm and cling to Truth.

- The Day of the LORD (2:1-12)
- God's faithfulness to His chosen ones (2:13-3:5)

GRACE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The Man and the Mystery (2:1-12)

- Read Matthew 24 and/or Mark 13 and identify several ways Paul's words here echo Jesus' own words there.
- Some in Thessalonica had grown concerned that the Day of the Lord had already come and that they had missed out. Such a fear may strike us as bizarre, but consider the nature of fear. How is it sometimes irrational? How is it sometimes contagious?
- In 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12, Paul responds to the fear that the Day of the Lord had come too quickly and that living Christians had missed out. How in his previous letter had he responded to the opposite fear — that the Day of the Lord was not coming quickly enough and the deceased Christians has missed out?
- Verse 5, though easy to skim past, is profoundly important. In the process of refuting a false rumor, Paul appeals to his own authoritative teaching, which the congregation knew and had either forgotten or dismissed. Given that apostolic teaching is now permanently preserved for us in the New Testament, what might be a contemporary application of verse 5 (see also verse 15)?
- Which verse in this passage indicates that it is wrong to conclude that the "man of lawlessness" is Satan himself?
- The promise that Jesus will kill the lawless one "with the breath of His mouth" is an allusion to Isaiah 11:4. He will destroy with his voice — that is, in accordance with His word (see Revelation 19:15). How else does the New Testament apply this messianic passage (Isaiah 11:1-15) to Jesus? (See, for example, Romans 15:12; Revelation 5:5; 22:16)
- Do you think the man of lawlessness is the same figure as "the antichrist" described by John (see 1 John 2:18, 22; 4:3; 2 John 7)? Why or why not?
- 2 Thessalonians 2:10 speaks of those who "refused to love the truth and so be saved." Salvation, then, is impossible apart from (1) the truth and (2) love for the truth. What is the significance of the word "love" here? Why do you think Paul chose it instead of, say, "know" or "affirm"? Lastly, how does verse 10 shed light on what it means to "believe the truth" (verse 12)?

Stand Firm and Hold Tight (2:13-17)

- Paul's words of thanksgiving in verses 13-14 are not the stuff of shallow religious jargon. Which persons of the Trinity does he mention, and what roles are they fulfilling? Also, where in these verses do you see the moment of justification? The process of sanctification? The promise of glorification?
- God offers us comfort that is "eternal" and hope that is "good" (verse 16). What does this imply about the type of comfort and hope that the world offers? How have you experienced this contrast in your own life?