



2 THESSALONIANS SERIES – 01
Template For A Healthy Church - Part 1
2 Thessalonians 1:1-5

INTRODUCTION

About The City

- Thessalonica located in modern Greece.
- Population of around 200,000+ in Paul's day.
- In 1st century AD originally called *Therma* because of the hot springs there.
- The city was renamed after Alexander the Great's half-sister, *Thessalonike* in 315 BC.
- Today it is called *Salonika* with a population of a little more than 300,000+.

About The Church Of Thessalonica

- Founded by Paul around 51/52AD – Acts 17-18.
- He was only there very briefly, weeks or months.
- Mixed population of Gentile and Jew.

About The 2nd Letter To The Thessalonians

- Written by Paul when he was in Corinth, a few months after 1st Thessalonians, so the year is still around 52/53 AD.
- The main theme of this letter is the second coming of Christ.

Remember...

Your responsibility, by God's enabling, is to constantly apply the divine principles and truths you have heard (Phil. 2:12-13; 1 Tim. 4:7-9; Jam 1:22-27). As you meditate on this message, ask yourself these questions:
How does God want my beliefs/actions to change?
How can I accomplish this change?
What is the first step toward bringing about this change?

BASIC OUTLINE

Chapter 1 - Greetings, encouragement, instruction, and prayer in light of their suffering (1:1-12)

Chapter 2 - Instruction, thanksgiving, and prayer in light of the day of the Lord (2:1-17)

Chapter 3 - Prayer, instruction regarding lazy Christians, and closing prayer (3:1-18).

A healthy church is distinct from the world, bathed in the grace and peace of the gospel, growing in faith and love, and persevering in trials as it looks to God's kingdom.

1. A HEALTHY CHURCH IS DISTINCT FROM THE WORLD

2 Thess. 1:1: *"Paul and Silvanus and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians"*

*"church" - ekklesia – "ek" = out "kaleo" = to call
called out ones*

John 17:14-17; Matt. 6:33

2. A HEALTHY CHURCH IS BATHED IN THE GRACE AND PEACE OF THE GOSPEL

2 Thess. 1:1-2: *"To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."*

"grace" – charis - God's unmerited favor

Romans 3:24

"peace" – eirēnē - refers to total well-being, but especially to the spiritual well-being that comes from being reconciled to God through Christ.

Ephesians 2:14