



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle of Paul to Thessalonica

## 2 Thessalonians 1:6-8 – Righteous Judgment of God

- **2 Thessalonians 1:6 - since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you,**
  - We're in the middle of a sentence here, so need to revisit what leads to *since (if)* – *ei per* is a 1<sup>st</sup> class conditional; thus, it's true!
    - Their faith was growing exceedingly (verse 3).
    - Their love for one another was abounding (verse 3).
    - They were enduring tribulations and persecutions (verse 4).
    - There was evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that they may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which they were suffering (verse 5).
  - How do we interpret that *it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you (us)*?
    - Is this then or now, for those left behind or after the millennium?
      - *Psalm 2:8-9 - Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.*
      - *Matt 25:31-33, 46 - When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the*



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle of Paul to Thessalonica

## 2 Thessalonians 1:6-8 – Righteous Judgment of God

- *holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. “All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. “And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left..... “And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”*
- *Rom 1:18 - For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,.*
- *Rom 12:19 - Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay” says the Lord.*
- *John 3:36 - “He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”*
- *Zeph 3:8 - “Therefore wait for Me,” says the Lord, “Until the day I rise up for plunder, My determination is to gather the nations to my assembly of kingdoms, to pour on them My indignation. All my fierce anger; all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of My jealousy.*
- *Rev 11:18 - The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth.”*
- **Is this repayment anything but consistent with God and His**



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle of Paul to Thessalonica

## 2 Thessalonians 1:6-8 – Righteous Judgment of God

- perfect righteousness and holiness!
  - Can we trust Him here?
    - If not, where’s our citizenship?
  - And what is the basis for this repayment?
    - *John 16: 8-11 - “And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: “of sin, because they do not believe in Me; “of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; “of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.*
    - *Jude 1:14,15 - Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, “Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, “to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.”*
- So, what’s our conclusion as to when God’s judgment occurs?
- ***2 Thessalonians 1:7 (NKJV) - and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels,***



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle of Paul to Thessalonica

## 2 Thessalonians 1:6-8 – Righteous Judgment of God

- **2 Thessalonians 1:7 (ILG) – and to you the being afflicted rest with us, at the revelation of the Lord Jesus from heaven with angels of power of Him**
  - The only verb here is *being afflicted* – passive participle; *rest* is a noun reflecting a state of being, literally cessation of labor or relaxation.
    - Describe this *affliction*.
  - *us* likely refers to Paul, Silas and Timothy.
  - So, what is the timing here?
    - His return *from heaven* specifies the timing of this retribution.
    - McCalley – ‘Theologians often refer to the period between His ascension and return as His session. His session is marked by patient longsuffering but will someday abruptly end.’
      - *Matt 13:41* - “The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness,
    - Of course, those who died without salvation are now separated eternally.



# *2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle of Paul to Thessalonica*

## *2 Thessalonians 1:6-8 – Righteous Judgment of God*

– *Matt 16:27 - “For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.*

- *2 Thessalonians 1:8 - 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.*

– *in flaming fire*

– Logos Bible Software - “In flame of fire”; or, as other oldest manuscripts read, “in fire of flame.” This flame of fire accompanied His manifestation in the bush (*Exod 3:2*); also, His giving of the law at Sinai (*Exod 19:18*). Also, it shall accompany His revelation at His advent (*Dan 7:9, 10*), symbolizing His own bright glory and His consuming vengeance against His foes.

- *Heb 10:27 - but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.*
- *Heb 12:29 - For our God is a consuming fire.*
- *2 Pet 3:7 - But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.*



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle of Paul to Thessalonica

## 2 Thessalonians 1:6-8 – Righteous Judgment of God

- 2 Peter 3:10 - *But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.*
- *taking (giving) vengeance on those who do not know God*
  - *know* – this a perfect active participle, *but* what Greek term do you think is used here and why?
    - *eido, ginosko or epiginosko?*
      - » *Gal 4:8 - But then, indeed, when you did not know (eido) God, you served those which by nature are not gods.*
- *and those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.*
  - What does it mean to *not obey (present active participle) the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ?*
    - Is this ignorance or willingly *obedience* to the faith?
      - » *Tit 1:16 - They profess to know (eido) God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.*
      - » *Rom 10:3 - For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.*
      - » *Rom 10:16 - But they have not all obeyed the gospel.*