

## **Glorified In His Saints: 2 Thessalonians 1:8-12 Explained Scriptures for Today**

### **2 Thessalonians 1:8-12**

In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; 10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day. 11 Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power: 12 That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### **Introduction — The Book of 2 Thessalonians**

This letter is written to the same believers as 1 Thessalonians. They are going through real persecution. This is not light pressure. This is serious opposition for believing the truth.

Paul is writing to steady them. There was confusion about what was coming, and people were shaken. So he brings clarity. He shows them what will happen to those who reject the truth, and what will happen to those who believe it.

This passage lays both sides out clearly. There is judgment, and there is glory. No middle ground.

### **What Happened Before This? (2 Thessalonians 1:1–7)**

Before this, Paul talks about their faith growing. That matters. Even under pressure, they are not backing down.

He also points out their patience in tribulation. They are enduring. They are staying firm. And then he says something important—God sees everything. The people troubling them will not get away with it.

### **2 Thessalonians 1:6**

Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you;

God will repay. That leads directly into how that repayment happens. Let's take a close look at the Scriptures starting there in verse 8. We're looking at verses 8 through 12 today.

## Vengeance — On Those Who Reject

### **2 Thessalonians 1:8**

In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

This is Jesus Christ returning. “In flaming fire” is not soft language. IN FLAMING FIRE taken VENGEANCE on them that know NOT God. This is great judgment being carried out. He takes vengeance on two groups—those who do not know God, and those who do not obey the gospel. Not knowing God is not just lack of information. It is rejection. They do not KNOW God.

“Obey not the gospel” means they did not believe it. To obey the Gospel means to believe the Gospel.

### **John 3:36**

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

That is the line. Believe or reject. Look closely again. It's either everlasting life or it's the wrath of God. Which one? Vengeance and wrath for all those who won't believe God.

## Everlasting Destruction

### **2 Thessalonians 1:9**

Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

This is not temporary punishment. It does not end. The Bible says "everlasting destruction" from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of HIS POWER.

“Everlasting destruction” means ongoing, final judgment. There is no reversal.

### **Revelation 20:14-15**

And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

This is complete separation from the presence of the Lord. That is the outcome for those who reject the gospel. They will see hell forever. But there's people out there all over the place, such as the foolish Mormons, that say there is no everlasting hell. That's what they want because that's where they're headed.

So they can say whatever they want. They can say, "There is no hell" but they are complete and utter fools who attempt to put their words above the word of God. Silly Mormons. That's them

right there. "Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord." So, if you want to be friends with the Mormons and invite them to your home, you're foolish.

They call the Bible a lie. They call the Almighty God of all creation a liar. And you want to be friends with them. Be nice to them. "Oh, yeah, come on over and let's talk friend." Foolishness.

Matthew 25:46 says, "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment." Many people out there will say hell is not eternal. They say, "Hell is not forever." They will find out. The Bible says EVERLASTING. Believe God or don't believe God. You get that choice.

## **Glorified in His Saints**

### **2 Thessalonians 1:10**

When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

At the same time judgment happens, Christ is glorified in His saints. That means what He has done in believers will be seen. His work in them will be evident. "And to be admired in all them that believe." The difference is belief. Not works, not performance, not you in any way—belief IN Christ ALONE.

"Because our testimony among you was believed." That settles it. They believed the message. That is why they are part of this.

## **Counted Worthy — The Calling**

### **2 Thessalonians 1:11**

Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power:

Paul is praying for them continually. He isn't stopping.

"That our God count you worthy of this calling" is not about earning salvation. They are already saved. This is about their life matching what God has called them to. Worthy of this calling. God calls you to live your life according to His commandments. We know what He wants because we read and study His words. Are you worthy of this calling?

"And fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness." That is God's will being carried out in them.

"And the work of faith with power." What comes from faith is carried out by God's power, not human strength.

## **Christ Glorified — In You**

### **2 Thessalonians 1:12**

That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the goal. Christ is glorified in you. Your life points to Him. “And ye in him.”

What He has done in you is seen. There is a clear connection. And it all comes back to grace. Not earned. Not deserved.

John 15:8 says: "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit." God wants you to bear fruit. This is the main job He gave to each one of us. BEAR FRUIT. How? By preaching the Gospel!

This passage of Scripture, verses 8 through 12, shows both outcomes clearly. Those who reject the gospel face judgment. Those who believe are part of His glory. There is no middle ground between the two.

On one side: Vengeance, Wrath, Everlasting destruction. On the other side: Glory, Christ magnified, Believers admired. The difference is not works. The difference is belief.

## **Practical Applications**

1. Rejecting the gospel has real consequences. It is not neutral, and it leads to judgment.
2. Belief in the gospel is what separates those who face wrath from those who are saved.
3. Your life should point to Christ. The goal is that He is glorified in you.
4. Everything in salvation and the Christian life is based on grace, not what you earn.

## **Conclusion**

This chapter starts with believers growing in faith and enduring real persecution. They are not backing down, and Paul says that is a clear sign that God sees what is happening and will judge righteously.

Then it shifts to what is coming. Jesus Christ is revealed from heaven. For those who reject God and refuse the gospel, there is vengeance and everlasting destruction. That does not end. That is final.

At the same time, for those who believed, something completely different happens. Christ is glorified in His saints. What He has done in them is seen, and He is admired in all them that believe. The reason is given clearly—they believed the testimony.

Paul ends by praying that their lives match what God has called them to, that Christ is glorified in them, and that everything is according to grace.

So the whole chapter comes down to this. The same return of Jesus Christ brings judgment for some and glory for others. The difference is not works, effort, or status.

The difference is simple. Did you believe the gospel?

Let's pray.