

2 Thessalonians

Warning Against Idleness ([2 Thessalonians 3:6-15](#))

Our approach each week will be REAP (read, explain, apply, personalize).

Read: Warning Against Idleness (3:6-15)

Greeting (1:1-2)

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

God's Final Judgment and Glory (1:3-12)

3 We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other, 4 so that we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure, 5 which is manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer; 6 since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, 7 and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, 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. 9 These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, 10 when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.

11 Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of *this* calling, and fulfill 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 you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Great Apostasy (2:1-12)

1 Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, 2 not to be soon shaken in mind or

troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. **3** Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, **4** who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

5 Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? **6** And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. **7** For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains *will do so* until He is taken out of the way. **8** And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. **9** The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, **10** and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. **11** And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, **12** that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Stand Fast (2:13-17)

13 But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, **14** to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. **15** Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle.

16 Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given *us* everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, **17** comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work.

Pray for Us (3:1-5)

1 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run *swiftly* and be glorified, just as *it is* with you, **2** and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith.

3 But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard *you* from the evil one. **4** And we have confidence in the Lord concerning you, both that you do and will do the things we command you.

5 Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.

Warning Against Idleness (3:6-15)

6 But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the tradition which he received from us. 7 For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you; 8 nor did we eat anyone's bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, 9 not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us.

10 For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat. 11 For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies. 12 Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread.

13 But *as for* you, brethren, do not grow weary *in* doing good. 14 And if anyone does not obey our word in this epistle, note that person and do not keep company with him, that he may be ashamed. 15 Yet do not count *him* as an enemy, but admonish *him* as a brother.

Explain: Warning Against Idleness (3:6-15)

Bible study is asking and answering questions about the text. Let's ask some.

Are there any literary/structural observations?

As Paul continues to close this letter, he deals with a specific deficiency of the Thessalonians—idleness and busybodies.

Are there any repeated words?

You/yourselves (12), **not** (11), we (9), do/does/doing (6), any/anyone (4), our/ourselves (4), work/worked/working (4), command/commanded (3), disorderly (3), eat (3), us (3), bread (2), brethren (2), brother (2), Christ (2), follow (2), Jesus (2), Lord (2), walk/walks (2)

What do the words mean?

6 But we command [present active indicative; to transmit a message, to enjoin, (give in) charge, (give) command(-ment), declare; same word used in **3:4**] **you, brethren** [*adelphos*], **in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw** [present middle infinitive; to set fast ("stall"), to repress (reflexively abstain from

associating with), **avoid**, withdraw self] **from every brother** [*adelphos*] **who walks** [present active participle; to tread all around, walk at large, to live, deport oneself, follow, go, be occupied with, walk] **disorderly** [irregularly (morally), disorderly] **and not according to the tradition** [*paradosis*; a compound word from *para* (in the presence of) and *dosis* (the act of giving); a **gift**, transmission, a precept, the Jewish traditional law, ordinance, tradition; same word used in **2:15**] **which he received** [second aorist active indicative; receive near, associate with oneself, to assume an office, to learn, receive, take (unto, with)] **from us. 7 For you yourselves know** [perfect active indicative; to see, to know, be aware, behold, can, consider, (have) known(-ledge), look (on), perceive, see, be sure, tell, understand, wist, wot] **how you ought** [present active indicative; it is necessary, behoved, be meet, must (needs), (be) need(-ful), ought, should] **to follow** [*mimēomai*; present middle infinitive; a **mimic**, to imitate, follow] **us, for we were not disorderly** [aorist active indicative; irregular, behave self disorderly] **among you; 8 nor did we eat** [second aorist active indicative] **anyone's bread free of charge** [gratuitously, without a cause, freely, for naught, in vain], **but worked** [*ergazomai*; present middle participle; to toil, effect, be engaged in or with, commit, do, labor for, minister about, trade (by), work] **with labor** [cut, toil, pains, labor, trouble, weariness] **and toil** [toil, sadness, painfulness, travail] **night and day, that we might not be a burden** [aorist active infinitive; to be heavy upon, to be expensive to, be severe towards, be chargeable to, overcharge] **to any of you, 9 not because we do not have** [present active indicative] **authority** [*exousia*; ability, privilege, force, capability, competency, freedom, mastery, delegated influence, authority, jurisdiction, liberty, power, right, strength], **but to make** [second aorist active subjunctive] **ourselves an example** [*typos*; die, stamp, scar, shape, statue, style, resemblance, sampler, model, instance, example, fashion, figure, form, manner, **pattern**, print] **of how you should follow** [*mimēomai*; present middle infinitive; a mimic, to imitate, follow; same word used in **3:7**] **us.**

10 For even when we were [imperfect middle indicative] **with you, we commanded** [imperfect active indicative; to transmit a message, to enjoin, (give in) charge, (give) command(-ment), declare; same word used in **3:4, 6**] **you this: If anyone will** [present active indicative] **not work** [*ergazomai*; present middle infinitive; to toil, effect, be engaged in or with, commit, do, labor for, minister about, trade (by), work; same word used in **3:8**], **neither shall he eat** [present active imperative]. **11 For we hear** [*akouo*; present active indicative; to hear, give audience, come (to the ears), be noised, be reported, understand] **that there are some who walk** [present active participle; to tread all around, walk at large, to live, deport oneself, follow, go, be occupied with, walk; same word used in **3:6**] **among you in a disorderly manner** [irregularly (morally), disorderly; same word used in



3:6, not working [*ergazomai*; present middle participle; to toil, effect, be engaged in or with, commit, do, labor for, minister about, trade (by), work; same word used in **3:8, 10**] **at all, but are busybodies** [*periergazomai*; present middle participle; to work all around, bustle about (meddle), be a busybody]. **12 Now those who are such we command** [present active indicative; to transmit a message, to enjoin, (give in) charge, (give) command(-ment), declare; same word used in **3:4, 6, 10**] **and exhort** [*parakaleo*; present active indicative; to call near, invite, invoke (by imploration, hortation, consolation), beseech, call for, (be of good) comfort, desire, (give) exhortation, intreat, pray; same word used in **2:17**] **through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work** [*ergazomai*; present middle participle; to toil, effect, be engaged in or with, commit, do, labor for, minister about, trade (by), work; same word used in **3:8, 10, 11**] **in quietness** [stillness, desistance from bustle or language, quietness, **silence**] **and eat** [present active subjunctive] **their own bread.**



13 But as for you, brethren [*adelphos*], **do not grow weary** [aorist active subjunctive; to be (bad or) weak, to fail (in heart), faint, be weary] **in doing good** [present active participle; to do well, live virtuously, well doing]. **14 And if anyone does not obey** [*hypakouo*; present active indicative; to hear under (as a subordinate), listen attentively, to heed or conform to a command or authority, hearken, be obedient to, obey] **our word** [*logos*] **in** [*dia*] **this epistle, note** [present middle imperative; to distinguish, mark (for avoidance) note] **that person and do not keep company with** [present middle infinitive; to mix up together, associate with, (have, keep) company (with)] **him, that he may be ashamed** [second aorist middle subjunctive; to invert, to respect, to confound, regard, (give) reverence, shame]. **15 Yet do not count** [present middle imperative; to lead, command, deem, consider, account, (be) chief, count, esteem, governor, judge, have the rule over, suppose, think] **him as an enemy** [hateful (passively odious or actively hostile), adversary, enemy, foe], **but admonish** [*noutheteo*; present active imperative; to put in **mind**, caution or reprove gently, admonish, warn] **him as a brother** [*adelphos*].



Apply (What is the point?)

1. Believing the gospel (i.e., holding the traditions) has **lifestyle** implications
2. Brothers don't ignore brothers' bad behavior
3. Christians have good examples to follow
4. Working for our Lord Jesus Christ is **good**

Personalize (What do we do with that?)



1. Withdraw and admonish wisely (this can be difficult—good thing we have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, the Scripture, and the church to help!)
2. **Engage** as needed (we have a standing Rx for engagement)
3. **Mimic** good examples
4. Get to work by working **out** (not for) our salvation

Next week: Benediction (3:16-18)

16 Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord *be* with you all.

17 The salutation of Paul with my own hand, which is a sign in every epistle; so I write.

18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.

Homework

1. Ask the Holy Spirit for help
2. Read next week's text (multiple times/multiple ways) (**2 Thessalonians 3:16-18**)
3. Talk to someone about the text ([fb.com/OurSundaySchool](https://www.facebook.com/OurSundaySchool) or in person)
4. Share ([fb.com/OurSundaySchool](https://www.facebook.com/OurSundaySchool)) insights and questions by Thursday
5. Invite a member or non-member

Extra Credit

1. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you a brother (or sister) you need to 'engage' with
2. Get to work engaging with that brother or sister

Quotes & Observations

N/A