
INSTRUCTIONS OF GOD IN THE LETTERS FROM PAUL

INDUCTIVE LESSON SIX HIS JUDGEMENT, HIS GLORY

2 Thessalonians 1

Day One

Text: (Begin this week's lesson by reading the assigned passage several times.)

Hint: Read the passage repeatedly, prayerfully, thoughtfully, meditatively and patiently.

2 Thessalonians 1

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.

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.

Memory Verse : 1 Thessalonians 5:18

“ In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ”

Day Two

Words Matter: In this portion of the lesson we will take a closer look at one or two key words in the chapter. You will need to have your tools or resources at hand, such as more than one Bible translation, a dictionary or Bible dictionary, concordance, atlas, and encyclopedia. If you don't have all of these, simply use what you do have to enrich your learning. To do some digging on your own, start with your dictionary (or Bible dictionary) and then look up the references to add to your understanding. If you have additional resources, you may want to keep digging. Record these additional notes in the Tool Box section of your study. After you've completed the investigative process, write a definition in your own words. Your investigation in today's lesson will lay the groundwork for deeper discoveries in subsequent lessons, so be as thorough as you can.

Bound: 2 Thessalonians 1:3

“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,”

Dictionary or Concordance definition:

What does the Bible have to say?

Psalm 68:6

Matthew 18:18

Write your own definition:

Day Three

Toolbox: Use your toolbox or secondary helps to enhance your observational findings.

Study Bible:

Bible Concordance:

Bible Dictionary:

Bible Handbooks:

Bible Atlas:

Bible Commentary:

Day Four

Inductively Speaking:

There are several different genres or styles of writing as seen in God's Word that are historic, poetic, prophetic, biographical, or instructional in nature. To understand this can be challenging. Each of these styles of writing has two essential components leading the reader to discover the meaning of God's Word.

The first of these components guides the reader in finding the author's purpose through the literary structure—biographical, geographical, historical, chronological or ideological. The second of these two components deals with the author's choice of words, phrases, subjects, objects, and examples. Simply speaking the author is trying to lead us to the meaning of the text under study. This is possibly the most challenging aspect of reading as it pertains to

observation. This is known as purposeful reading. What genre of writing is the writer using to convey his point or meaning for the reader to understand? We highly recommend reading Howard Hendricks': *Living by the Book* to understand more of this concept of *purposeful* reading.

2 Thessalonians 1:1 (Today's highlighted passage of study.)

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.

I. Observation: Finding the literal facts or most obvious details of the passage.

Hint: Begin observation by asking the questions who, what, where, when, why, and how.

Verses 1–2

Inductively Speaking:

To illustrate the concept of *purposefully* reading is to understand the architect's responsibility when designing a building for people to inhabit. What purpose is the building to be used for? Is it going to be used for living, working, or worshipping in? This will often decide the proper style of structure to build, best fitting the purpose of the structure. The same is true for the writer; what genre or style is he trying to convey to his readers? Is he writing about something that has happened (historical), something that is going to happen (prophetic), or something doctrinal (instructional)? The architect considers the same things: will the building be modern, medieval, or any of the other designs used in creating the correct environment needed for the purpose of the structure. Each style of building contains components unique to its particular design. For example a modern skyscraper would more than likely not utilize a flying buttress as is common to a medieval structure just as an historical piece of writing would not necessarily contain a lyrical passage as a poetic piece of writing would contain. Secondly, the architect would need to place into the structure certain components such as columns, floor joists, rafters, and ridge beams to support the interior of the structure. In the same way the writer or author of a particular style of writing supports his story with *verbs*, *adjectives*, *adverbs* and *prepositions*. The architect's most important job of all is connecting these different components together maintaining the integrity or strength of the structure. This is commonly done with nails, bolts and welding. Again the writer uses the same method of connecting the structure of the written word by using words such as *and*, *but*, and *therefore* as his nails, bolts, and welding whereby maintaining the integrity or strength of the story.

II. Interpretation: Discovering the lessons or meaning of God's instruction to His people.

Hint: Try to place yourself with these people, in their circumstances, at this time of Bible history.

Verses 1–2

Inductively Speaking:

Paul, Peter, John, and James were skilled at writing doctrine or instructions to the church on how one should live as a Spirit-filled believer. Finally, Christ blessed the apostle John and all of us, when He lifted John (then in his nineties) high into heaven to see and record the things to come so that all believers would share this same purpose-driven life for God's glory. The purpose of the writer's story was dependant upon what Christ was attempting to communicate to those people at that time. Reading purposefully is finding the writer's genre or style of writing so that the message and the will of God is revealed to each reader. Amen!

III. Application: Applying the lessons and meaning of God's instructions to His people. Hint: Apply the lesson or lessons you found in the interpretation section in the form of a question.

Verses 1–2

Day Five

2 Thessalonians 1:3–10 (Today's highlighted passage of study.)

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.

I. Observation: Finding the literal facts or most obvious details of the passage.
Hint: Begin observation by asking the questions who, what, where, when, why, and how.
Verses 11–12

II. Interpretation: Discovering the lessons or meaning of God's instruction to His people.
Hint: Try to place yourself with these people, in their circumstances, at this time of Bible history.
Verses 11–12

III. Application: Applying the lessons and meaning of God's instructions to His people. Hint: Apply the lesson or lessons you found in the interpretation section in the form of a question.
Verses 11–12

Memory Verse : 1 Thessalonians 5:18
" In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. "

Impact Statement: A simple personal statement about how the Holy Spirit will guide and direct you from this week's study.

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Prayer Requests:

Lecture Notes: