

First Words:

2 Timothy 3:1 - *But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty.*

_____ in the news

Revelation 6:9–11 - *When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne. ¹⁰ They cried out with a loud voice, “O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?” ¹¹ Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.*

Revelation 9:20–21 - *The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshiping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk, ²¹ nor did they repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.*

Revelation 11:9 & 12 - *For three and a half days some from the peoples and tribes and languages and nations will gaze at their dead bodies and refuse to let them be placed in a tomb...¹² Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, “Come up here!” And they went up to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies watched them.*

Revelation 13:16–17 - *Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, ¹⁷ so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name.*

A. The _____ – **2 Thessalonians 1:1-2** - *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.*

1. The _____ – **2 Thessalonians 1:1a** - *Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy....*

a. *Paul*

b. *Silvanus*

c. *Timothy*

2. The _____ – **2 Thessalonians 1:1b** - *To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ*

a. Their geographical location – *to the Church of the Thessalonians*

b. Their spiritual location – *In God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ*

3. The _____ – **2 Thessalonians 1:2** - *Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

a. Its substance

- *Grace*

- *Peace*

b. Its source

- *God our Father*

- *The Lord Jesus Christ.” ...*

B. The _____ – **2 Thessalonians 1:3-4** - *We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing.* ⁴ *Therefore we ourselves boast about you in the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith in all your persecutions and in the afflictions that you are enduring*

1. The _____ of the Commendation – **2 Thessalonians 1:3a** - *We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as is right...*

a. Its constraint – “*We ought...to give thanks to God...*”

b. Its continuity - |”*always*”

c. Its content – “*...for you brothers...*”

d. Its consistency – “*as it is right*”

2. The _____ of the Commendation – **2 Thessalonians 1:3b** - *because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing.*

a. Their faith – “*Your faith is growing abundantly*”

b. Their love – “*And the love of every one of you for one another is increasing*”

3. The _____ of the Commendation – **2 Thessalonians 1:4** - *Therefore we ourselves boast about you in the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith in all your persecutions and in the afflictions that you are enduring.*

a. The what – “*Therefore we ourselves boast about you...*”

b. The where – “*in the churches of God*”

c. The why – “*for your steadfastness and faith in all your persecutions and in the afflictions that you are enduring.*”

