

# 2 Thessalonians

Week 6 Prayers and Affirmations

February 21, 2024

## 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5

The letter now turns to other matters. Paul through the Holy Spirit has written some powerful doctrine-concerning salvation and the end times, but now he appeals to the Thessalonian believers, asking them for prayer.

Everyone needs prayer-everyone. Romans 12:12; Ephesians 1:15-16; Ephesians 6:18.

Every ministry endeavor needs prayer. vs. 1,2; Col 4:3.

In these two verses Paul gives us some good content for our prayers!

**1. Paul asks that they pray the message of the Lord will spread rapidly and be honored.**

The Lord is Jesus. He is our master. He is Lord over all and it is to Him we belong.

His prayer is that the message of Christ will reach people with little resistance. And that wherever they go- the message- the Word of God will be honored by those who hear it.

Contrast this verse to Crossroads Church in Cincinnati, OH who for their “worship” service on Superbowl Sunday had a football game on the platform of the church, featuring the Word of God, the Bible as the football. The church has 34,000 people who regularly attend the multi-site campus. (See a commentary about this at **Wretched Radio** a video titled: *These Super Bowl “Church” Services Need to Stop*) on YouTube.



How do you think a church and its leaders can arrive at such a place in their thinking?

Let us read what is said of God’s Word, in God’s Word.

2 Timothy 3:14-16: \_\_\_\_\_ 2 Timothy 4:1-3 \_\_\_\_\_

Psalms 12:1-6 \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 7:6 \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Paul asks the Thessalonians to pray they would be delivered from wicked and evil people. Vs 2**

People of outrageous conduct: \_\_\_\_\_

People who labor to be wicked. Those who wish to do evil to others. Malevolent.

Jesus said his followers are to be as shrewd and snakes and innocent as doves. (Matt. 10:16)

**3. Paul affirms the Lord’s faithfulness and provision to them. Vs 3-4**

God is trustworthy. 1 Cor. 1:8-10 \_\_\_\_\_

He strengthens His people. Eph. 1:18-21 \_\_\_\_\_

He promises to protect his people from the evil one. 2 Timothy 1:12 \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Paul Offers a blessing over the Thessalonian Believers. Vs 5**

What directs your life? \_\_\_\_\_

Paul prays that God’s love and his sons perseverance (patient endurance) would direct the very center of who they are as a person. Remember, they were a church that was being persecuted.

They needed to have the love of God toward their enemies and one another, and to persevere as Jesus did when he was on the earth. We need both to live pleasing to God. Rev. 2:1-7