



2 THESSALONIANS: RETURN OF THE KING

“A Church You’d Want
to Be Part Of”

2 Thessalonians 1:1-5

April 7, 2024

The Context

- ✓ **The Creator:** Apostle Paul
- ✓ **The City:** Thessalonica
- ✓ **The Circumstances** Written from Corinth, a few months after 1 Thessalonians, somewhere around 51 A.D.
- ✓ **The Church:** Church @ Thessalonica
- ✓ **The Cause:** (1) Challenge to stand firm & faithful in the midst of persecution (2) Instruction on the end times (3) The need for a balanced perspective with end time issues.

A Church that had...

- 1) A **faith** that was **flourishing** Vs 3a
1 Thessalonians 3:10; 1 Peter 1:6-7; James 1:2-4; 1 Peter 5:10
- 2) A **love** that was **growing** Vs 3b
1 Thessalonians 3:12; 4:9-10; John 13:34-35; 1 John 2:10 James 2:14-18
- 3) A **hope** that was **deepening** Vs 4
2 Corinthians 12:9-10; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18; James 5:11
- 4) An **understanding** that was **strengthening** Vs 5
2 Timothy 3:12; John 15:20-21; Philippians 1:27-29; Hebrews 7:7-12

RESPONSE QUESTIONS:

1. Why is it so important to have a faith that is flourishing; a love that is growing; and a hope that is deepening? What difference does it make?
2. Name some various ways that your hope enables you to face both your challenges and opportunities?
3. What are some of the reasons Paul was willing to boast about the Thessalonian church? How might someone boast (in the right way) about Petal FBC?
4. What are some specific ways you can grow in your love for those who are a part of the body of Christ, specifically right here at Petal FBC?
5. How does this passage challenge the way you view the presence of pain and difficulty in your life? What can hardship and pain teach you about how God deals with those He loves?