

# God's Providence AND HIS CARE FOR THE CHURCH

## A Study of 2 Thessalonians I

### 1. Recognition of the satisfactory Position and Condition of the Church – 2 Thess. 1:1-4

- a. Position
  - i. In God our Father vs. the Devil
  - ii. The Lord Jesus Christ vs. the Lord of Self
  - iii. Grace and Peace vs. Vanity and Doubt
- b. Condition
  - i. Thankfulness
  - ii. Faith Growing Abundantly
  - iii. Love for Others Increasing
  - iv. Steadfastness in Persecution and Affliction

### 2. RECOGNITION OF THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT OF GOD – 2 THESS. 1:5-6

#### a. Applied to the Thessalonians (v. 5)

“It looked forward to their being, in the end, counted worthy of the kingdom of God.” - R. Finlayson<sup>1</sup>

#### b. Applied to their Persecutors (v. 6)

“Could it be a righteous thing with God to place them alongside of patient sufferers as worthy of the kingdom? That would be to have no regard to distinction in character, to make God the friend of cruelty as much as of patience, and in that way to contradict the very idea of righteous judgment.” - R. Finlayson<sup>2</sup>

1. Finlayson, Roderick A. “Manifestation of Solemn Interest.” *Sermons*. BibleHub. N.d. <[biblehub.com/sermons/auth/finlayson/manifestation\\_of\\_solemn\\_interest.htm](http://biblehub.com/sermons/auth/finlayson/manifestation_of_solemn_interest.htm)>. July 10, 2020. Section II. Para. 1.

2. Finlayson. Section II. Para. 2

### 3. RECOGNITION OF THE JUDICIAL PROCEDURE OF GOD – 2 THESS. 1:7-10

- a. The Judge and the Time of Judgment
- b. The Place which the Judge Reveals
- c. The Two-Fold Description of the Judge's Return (vv. 7b-8a)
  - i. Manifestation of the Justice of God
  - ii. Righteous Law and Judgment
  - iii. Description of the Ungodly
  - iv. Punishment Described (v. 9)
    - (a.) *suffering*
    - (b.) *punishment*
    - (c.) *eternal*
    - (d.) *destruction*
    - (e.) *away from the presence of the LORD*
    - (f.) *away from the glory of His might*
  - v. Event Described (v. 10)

### 4. RECOGNITION OF PRAYER IN CONNECTION WITH GLORIFICATION OF BELIEVERS – 2 THESS. 1:11-12

- a. God's Action (v. 11)
  - i. Be made worthy of His calling
  - ii. Fulfill every resolve for good
  - iii. Fulfill every work of faith
- b. Glorious Result (v. 12)
- c. Name of the Lord Jesus Glorified and the Grace of God Demonstrated

