

**SUFFER PERSECUTION WITH HOPE**

**Introduction:** Paul received a report from Timothy about the church in Thessalonica that it was sound in their faith, which was a blessing to him. He encouraged them to remain firm in their faith in spite of the persecution that they were suffering.

**Lesson Aim:** Expect to suffer when you live a godly life and witness for Jesus Christ.

**Memory Verse:** "All that live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." (2 Timothy 3:12)

**Outline of the Lesson and Questions to Answer:****I. Special Thanks — 1:1-4**

1. Who were with Paul when he wrote his second letter to the church at Thessalonica? 1:1
2. In what divine person was this church founded? 1:1
3. From what divine person were they to receive grace and peace? 1:2
4. What did Paul and his companion do regarding this church? 1:3
5. What two things were growing well in this church? 1:3
  - a.
  - b.
6. Why was Paul praising this church? 1:4

**II. Savage Persecution — 1:5-10**

7. Why were these Christians counted worthy of the kingdom of God? 1:5
8. What was a righteous thing for God to do? 1:6
9. When Christ comes to earth after the gathering of the church Saints in the air (Rapture) and after the Tribulation, who will accompany him at His Second coming to defeat Satan and to establish His Kingdom on earth?
  - a. 1 Thess 4:16-17 (Rapture) -
  - b. 2 Thess 1:7 (2<sup>nd</sup> Coming) -
10. How will the ungodly suffer the vengeance of God? 1:8
11. How are the ungodly described? 1:8
12. How long will the ungodly suffer? 1:9
13. How else do we know this coming of Christ is at the end of the Tribulation? 1:10

**III. Spiritual Request — 1:11-12**

14. What was Paul's prayer for this church? 1:11
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
15. What would be the result of his prayer? 1:12