

Questions

1. What comes to mind when you think of the phrase "the last days"? When did the last days begin? What does the New Testament mean by "the day of the Lord" (cf. Acts 2:20; 1 Cor 5:4-5; 1 Thess 5:2)?
2. Read Matthew 24:9-14. What did Jesus warn about concerning the last days? Why is that a serious warning for all who profess faith in Jesus Christ?
3. What do Acts 16:6-10 & Acts 17:1-9 teach about the birth of the church in Thessalonica (the capital of the province of Macedonia)? What might have been some of Paul's concerns for the Thessalonian believers?
4. Read 1 Thessalonians 1:6 & 3:2-4 and 1 Peter 2:20-21 & 4:12-13. Summarize the teaching about believers and suffering.
5. When things go wrong, or when you are suffering or dealing with injustice, how is your faith in God tempted? What questions are you likely to ask?
6. When things go wrong, or when you are suffering or dealing with injustice, how is your love for others tested (keeping in mind that biblical love is active sacrifice)?
7. When things go wrong, or when you are suffering or dealing with injustice, how is your spiritual and emotional endurance tempted?

*After each service, if you need prayer,
someone will be available up front to pray with or for you.*

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THE LAST DAYS LIVING IN WAITING FOR JESUS

2 THESSALONIANS & 2 PETER

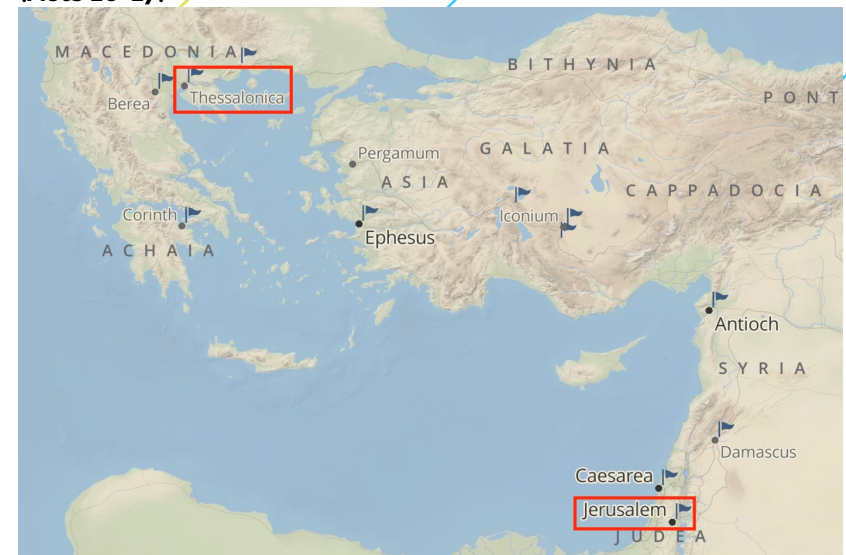
**Flourishing in
the Last Days**
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4
Doug Sachtleben,
Lead Pastor
September 3, 2023

2 Thessalonians 1:3-4 shows that our faith in God, our love for one another, and our endurance in trials should be flourishing even while we are living in the last days.

The Last Days and the Day of the Lord

We are in the last days, which began with the incarnation of Jesus (Hebrews 1:1-2). During these days God is patiently and mercifully saving sinners (2 Peter 3:9) until the return of Jesus and the Day of the Lord.

The Birth of the Church in Thessalonica and its Early Persecution (Acts 16-17)



The hatred and persecution that were first aimed at Paul and Silas was turned on the new believers in Thessalonica.

While we're living in the last days...

Our faith in God should be flourishing.

Our steadfastness should endure through persecution and affliction

Our love for one another should be increasing (more than enough)