

Questions

1. How can suffering from another person's evil display that God is just (Hint: Think about the context of the Day of the Lord and what that suffering will mean on that day, as explained in verse 5)?
2. Read 2 Thessalonians 1:6-9. What feelings do you have as you read about God's justice poured out on unbelievers? Do these verses encourage you to be bolder with your faith in Jesus?
3. What does it mean to you that God promises a day of rest/relief for all who belong to Him? Does it encourage you to spend more of your life in service to Him today when you know this rest is to come?
4. Read 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12. In what ways do we see that God is sovereign in bringing about His purposes in our lives, while we remain responsible to be obedient and to live in a manner worthy of our calling?
5. Pray for another believer this week using 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12, and let that person know you prayed for him/her.

THE \sqsupseteq WAITING LAST \sqsupseteq LIVING DAYS \sqsupseteq FOR JESUS

2 THESALONIANS & 2 PETER

Suffering & God's Justice

2 Thessalonians 1:5-12

Doug Sachtleben,

Lead Pastor

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2 Thessalonians 1:5-12 continues to build on the theme of suffering in the last days with four lessons that help us see God's justice at work in and through our suffering.

A chief reason Paul wrote 2 Thessalonians was to assure the young believers that God had not forgotten them or left them behind, and to teach them about God's justice when His people are made to suffer by the evil of others.

Four lessons for believers about suffering and God's justice:

1. Purification (2 Thess. 1:5; cf. 1 Peter 4:14-18)

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

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2. Punishment

4. Purpose (to glorify Jesus even in our suffering)

3. Promise (of rest)