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*Simply teaching the Word simply*

# Through The Bible

## Session 42

# 1 & 2 Thessalonians

## Our Blessed Hope

*From the miracle of our origin to the mystery of our destiny*



# Thessalonica - History

- Thessalonica was the capital of Macedonia Secunda ('second Macedonia')
- It was founded in 315 B.C. by Cassander,
  - Son-in-law of Philip of Macedon
  - Became one of Alexander's four key generals,
- He named it after his wife Thessalonike,
  - Half-sister of Alexander the Great.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Missionary Journey:

Following their time at Philippi, Paul & Silus head to Thesalonica

Acts 17:1

# Thessalonica - History

- Strategic location: It had a natural harbour
- Situated on *Via Egnatia*
  - the main route between Rome and the East.
- It was the most populous town of Macedonia,
  - and practically the capital of Greece, Illyricum, and Macedonia.
- Estimated 200,000 lived there in Paul's day.
  - Thessalonica was almost made the capital of the world;
- Today the 2<sup>nd</sup> most important city in Greece.

<sup>1</sup> Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews:

<sup>2</sup> And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,

**Acts 17:1-10**

**3** Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ.

**4** And some of them believed, and consorted with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few.

**Acts 17:1-10**

<sup>5</sup> But the Jews which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people.

<sup>6</sup> And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;

**Acts 17:1-10**



7 Whom Jason hath received: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, one Jesus.

8 And they troubled the people and the rulers of the city, when they heard these things.

9 And when they had taken security of Jason, and of the other, they let them go.

10 And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea:

**Acts 17:1-10**

# 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians

- The first book by any famous author is usually highly prized as indicating earliest emphasis and gift of communication...
- The amazing amount of Christian teaching that the apostle was able to fit into his short stay at Thessalonica is clearly indicated by the many doctrines he discusses as already known by the Thessalonians.

William MacDonald, *Believer's Bible Commentary*

# 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians

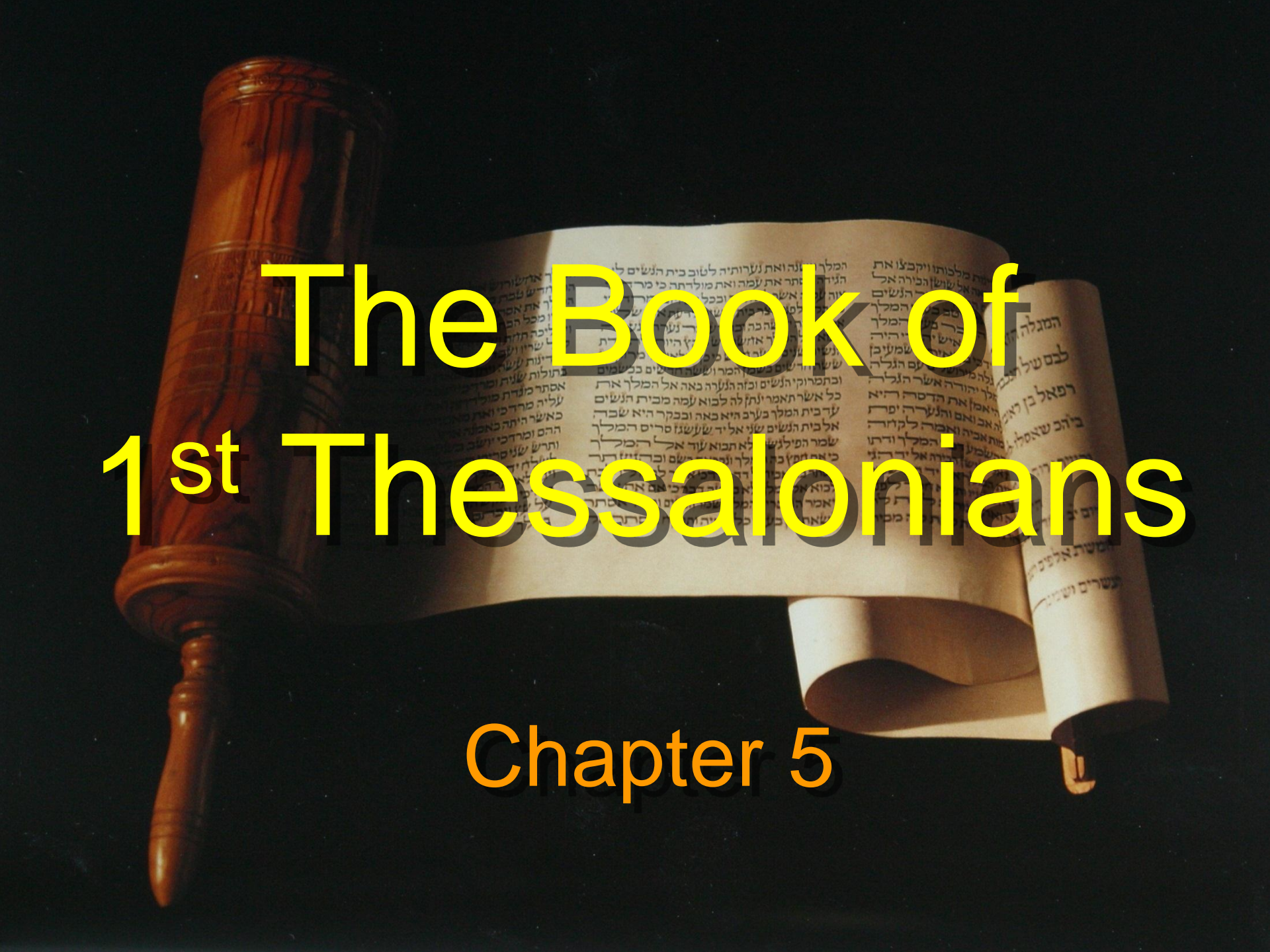
- Today the Rapture and Second Advent of our Lord are widely believed and looked for by evangelical Christians. This was not always so. The revival of interest in this doctrine, especially through the writings of the early Brethren in Great Britain (1825–1850) was largely based on 1 Thessalonians. Without this short Letter we would be terribly deprived in our understanding of the various aspects of Christ's return.

William MacDonald, *Believer's Bible Commentary*

# Outline

- Coming of Christ Is an Inspiring Hope,  
Chapter 1
- Coming of Christ Is a Working Hope,  
Chapter 2
- Coming of Christ Is a Purifying Hope,  
Ch 3:1–4:12
- Coming of Christ Is a Comforting Hope,  
Ch 4:13–18
- Coming of Christ Is a Rousing Hope,  
Chapter 5  
J Vernon McGee,





# The Book of 1st Thessalonians

## Chapter 1

**1** Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**2** We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers;

**3** Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;

**1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**



- 4 Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.
- 5 For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.
- 6 And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:
- 7 So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia.

**1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

<sup>8</sup> For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing.

<sup>9</sup> For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;

<sup>10</sup> And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

**1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**



# The Wrath To Come

- Throughout the OT God has foretold of a day when His wrath would be poured out on an unbelieving and wicked world
- In contrast, repeated assurance are given to the righteous that they will be delivered from the day of wrath.

# The day of the LORD

- 6 Howl ye; for the day of the LORD is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty.*
- 7 Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt:*
- 8 And they shall be afraid: pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth: they shall be amazed one at another; their faces shall be as flames.*

Isaiah 13:6-11

# The day of the Lord

9 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall **destroy the sinners thereof out of it.**

10 For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.

Isaiah 13:6-11

# The day of the Lord

**11** And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.

**12** I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir.

**13** Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the LORD of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger.



# The Righteous Delivered

*<sup>23</sup> And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?*

*<sup>24</sup> Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?*

*<sup>25</sup> That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?*

# The Righteous Delivered

*20* Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast.

*21* For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.

Isaiah 26:20-21

# The Righteous Delivered

<sup>3</sup> Seek ye the LORD, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the LORD's anger.

Zephaniah 2:3

# The Righteous Delivered

*5 For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.*

**Psalm 27:5**



# The Righteous Delivered

5 And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.

**Genesis 7:5**

# The Righteous Delivered

<sup>36</sup> Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to **escape all these things** that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Luke 21:36

- ‘These things’:
- All nations in distress
- Global turmoil
- ‘The day of the Lord’ ‘Tribulation’



# The Book of 1st Thessalonians

## Chapter 2

“The greatest missionary manual  
ever written”

Chuck Missler

# Chapter 2

- Paul reminds them of his example
  - How he had suffered v.2
  - How he had been honest in all things v.3
  - How he had not tried to please men v.4
  - How he had not tried to take advantage v.5
  - That he had not used them to further himself v.6
  - How he had been gentle v.7
  - How he had dedicated his life to serve v.8
  - How he had worked to pay his own way v.9
  - How he had been ‘unblamable’ v.10
- All of this so that he could exhort them:  
*“That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory”*



**13** For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

**1 Thessalonians 2:13**

- Contrast this with Acts 17:11
- The Bereans are commended for diligently checking everything out for themselves
- But are not the Thessalonians more so for a simple child-like faith?



<sup>19</sup> For *what* is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?

<sup>20</sup> For ye are our glory and joy.

**1 Thessalonians 2:19-20**

- Why did Paul contend to hard to see these believers abide in the faith?
- *Because he did not want to lose his prize!*
- Who have you brought to the LORD?
  - Or whom has the LORD entrusted to your care?
- What have you done to nurture them?
  - Have you made your own life an example?



# The Book of 1st Thessalonians

## Chapter 3



- 1 Wherefore when we could no longer forbear, we thought it good to be left at Athens alone;
- 2 And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith:
- 3 That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto.
- 4 For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know.

1 Thessalonians 3:1-7

5 For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.

6 But now when Timotheus came from you unto us, and brought us good tidings of your faith and charity, and that ye have good remembrance of us always, desiring greatly to see us, as we also to see you:

7 Therefore, brethren, we were comforted over you in all our affliction and distress by your faith:

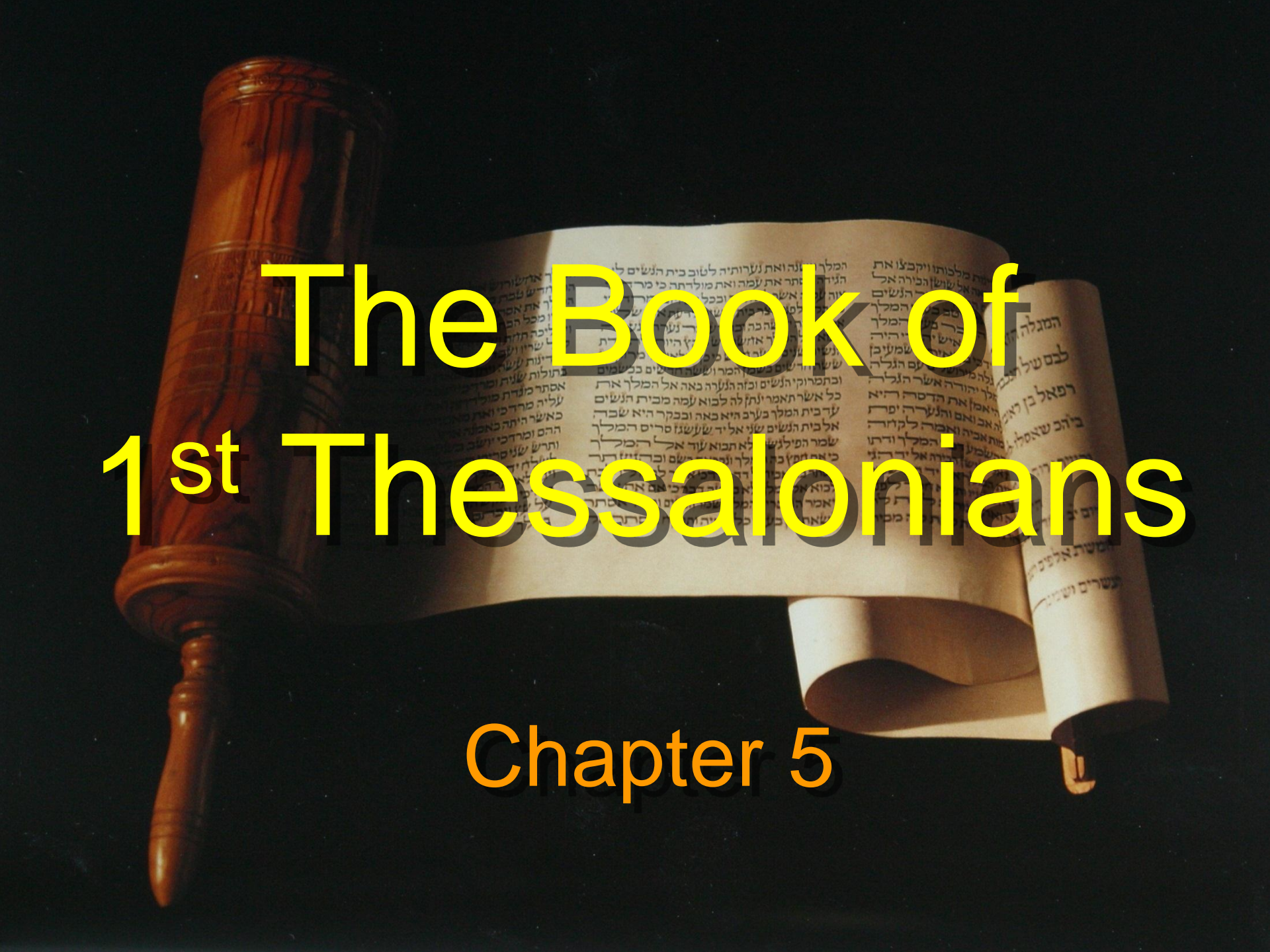
1 Thessalonians 3:1-7

**12** And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you:

**13** To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

**1 Thessalonians 3:12-13**





# The Book of 1st Thessalonians

## Chapter 4

**1** Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.

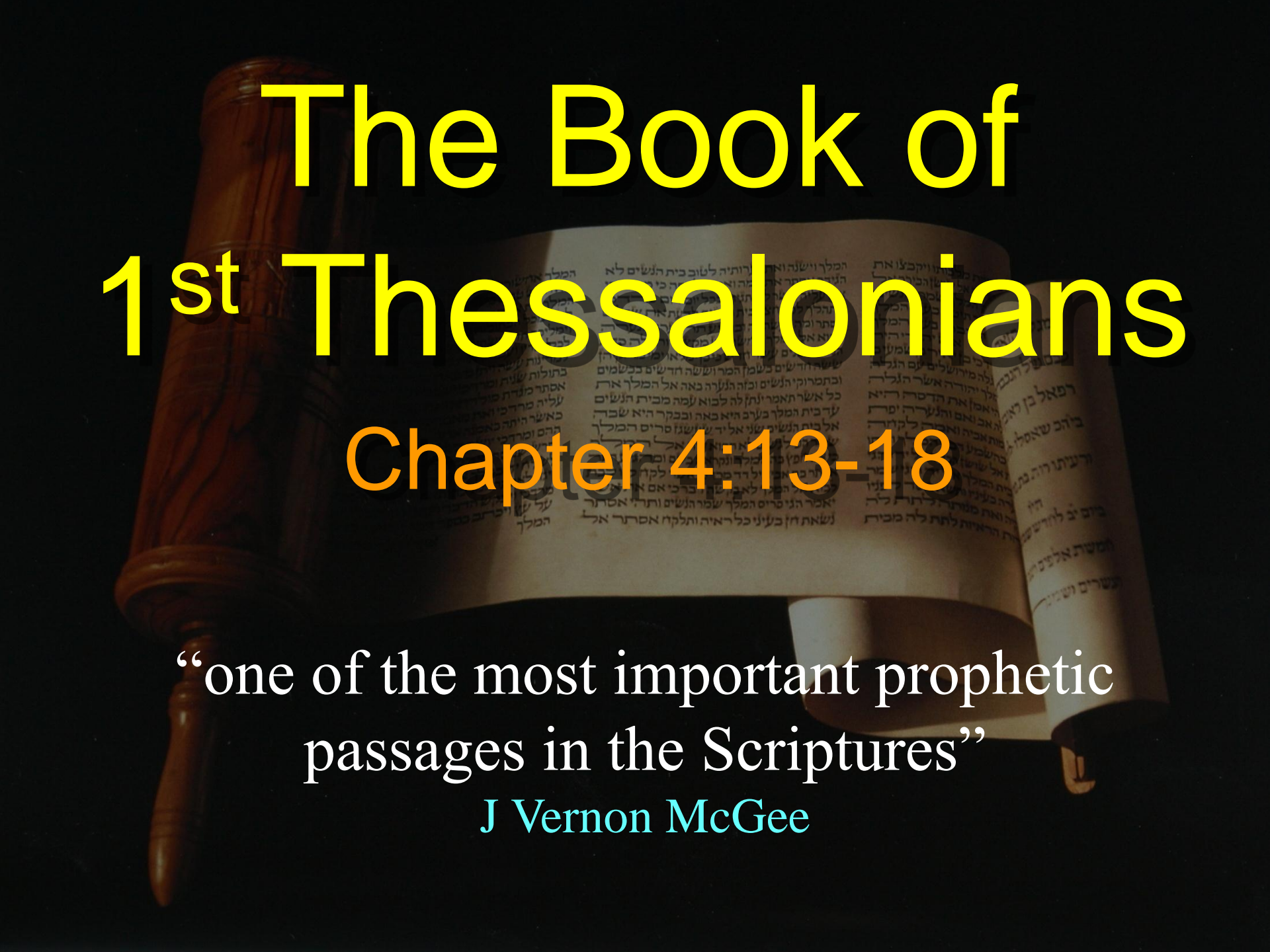
**2** For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus.

**3** For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:

**1 Thessalonians 4:1-3**

- Let us go on to spiritual maturity!





# The Book of 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians

## Chapter 4:13-18

“one of the most important prophetic passages in the Scriptures”

J Vernon McGee

# The Rapture of the Church

- Controversial Doctrine?
- or
- Our Blessed Hope?

# The Rapture of the Church

- What does 'rapture' mean?
  - To be translated from earth to heaven, without dying
    - Examples: Enoch / Elijah / Jesus / 2 Witnesses
- Does the word 'rapture' occur in the Bible?



# Harpazo

- 1 Thes 4:17 – “Caught up”
- Translated from the Greek word ‘*harpazo*’
  - to snatch away, to lift, transport, pluck, carry away or rapture.
- In the Latin Vulgate translation, ‘*harpazo*’ is actually translated as ‘*rapturus*’,
  - from which we derive the word ‘rapture’
- So whilst the word ‘rapture’ is not found in English translations, it is in the Bible

# The Rapture of the Church

- What does 'rapture' mean?
  - To be translated from earth to heaven, without dying
    - Examples: Enoch / Elijah / Jesus / 2 Witnesses
- Does the word 'rapture' occur in the Bible?
- Does the Bible teach that the Church will be Raptured?
  - If so, Why?
  - When?

# The Rapture of the Church

<sup>13</sup> But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

<sup>14</sup> For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

<sup>15</sup> For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

# The Rapture of the Church

**16** For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

**17** Then we which are alive and remain shall be **caught up** together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

**18** **Wherefore comfort one another with these words**

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

# The Rapture of the Church

- The Church will be Raptured at some point in the future
- We can be as sure of this as we can of Christ's resurrection
- This should be a great comfort to the Church
- We will be united with our loved ones
  - who have died in the faith
- Paul elaborates in Corinthians...



# The Rapture of the Church

*50* Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

*51* Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

*52* In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

1 Corinthians 15:50-55

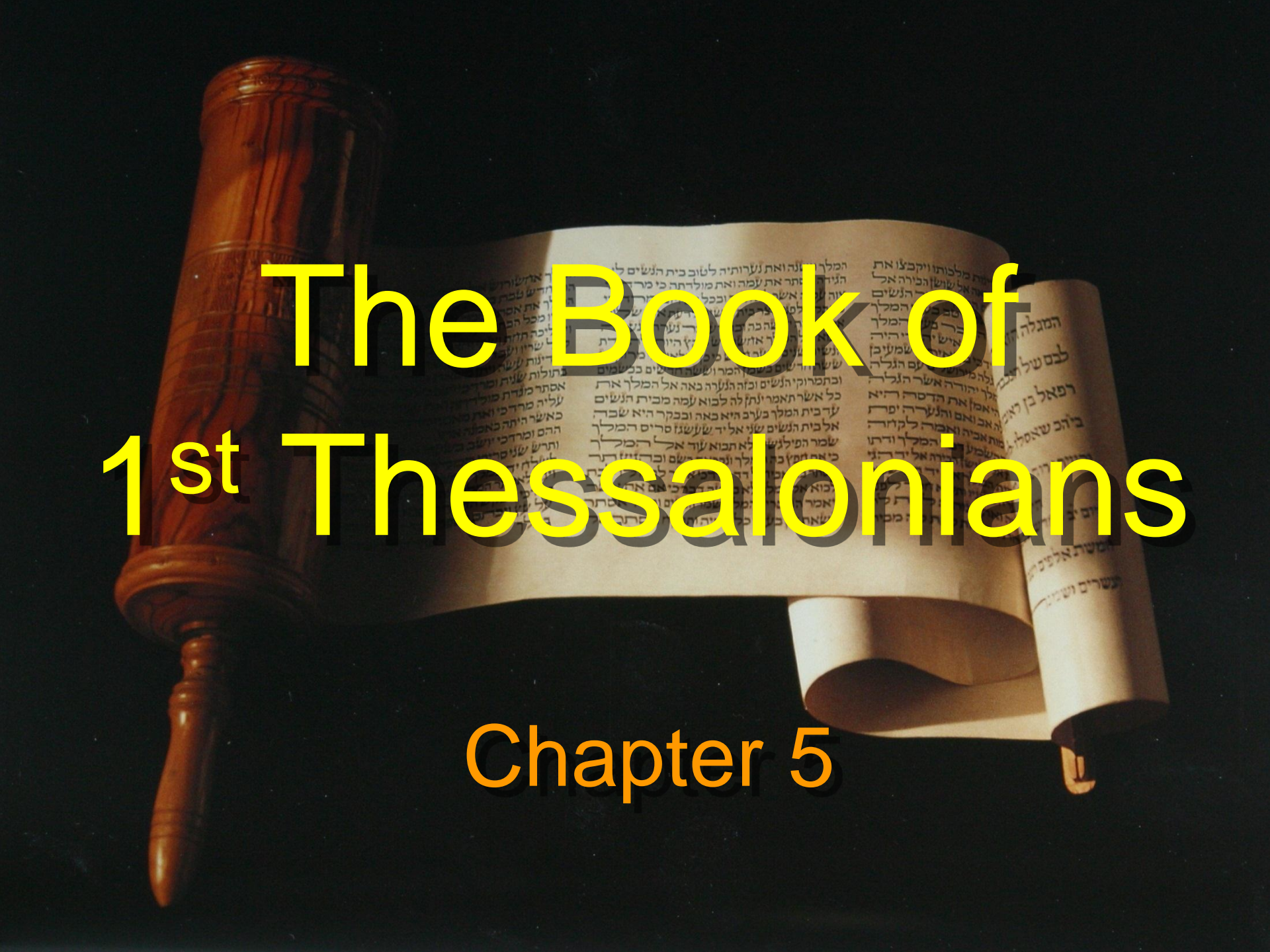
# The Rapture of the Church

54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

1 Corinthians 15:50-55





# The Book of 1st Thessalonians

## Chapter 5

# The Purpose of The Rapture

- 1 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.*
- 2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.*
- 3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.*

1 Thessalonians 5:1-9



# The Purpose of The Rapture

- 4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.
- 5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.
- 6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.
- 7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-9

# The Purpose of The Rapture

<sup>8</sup> But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

<sup>9</sup> For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

<sup>10</sup> who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.

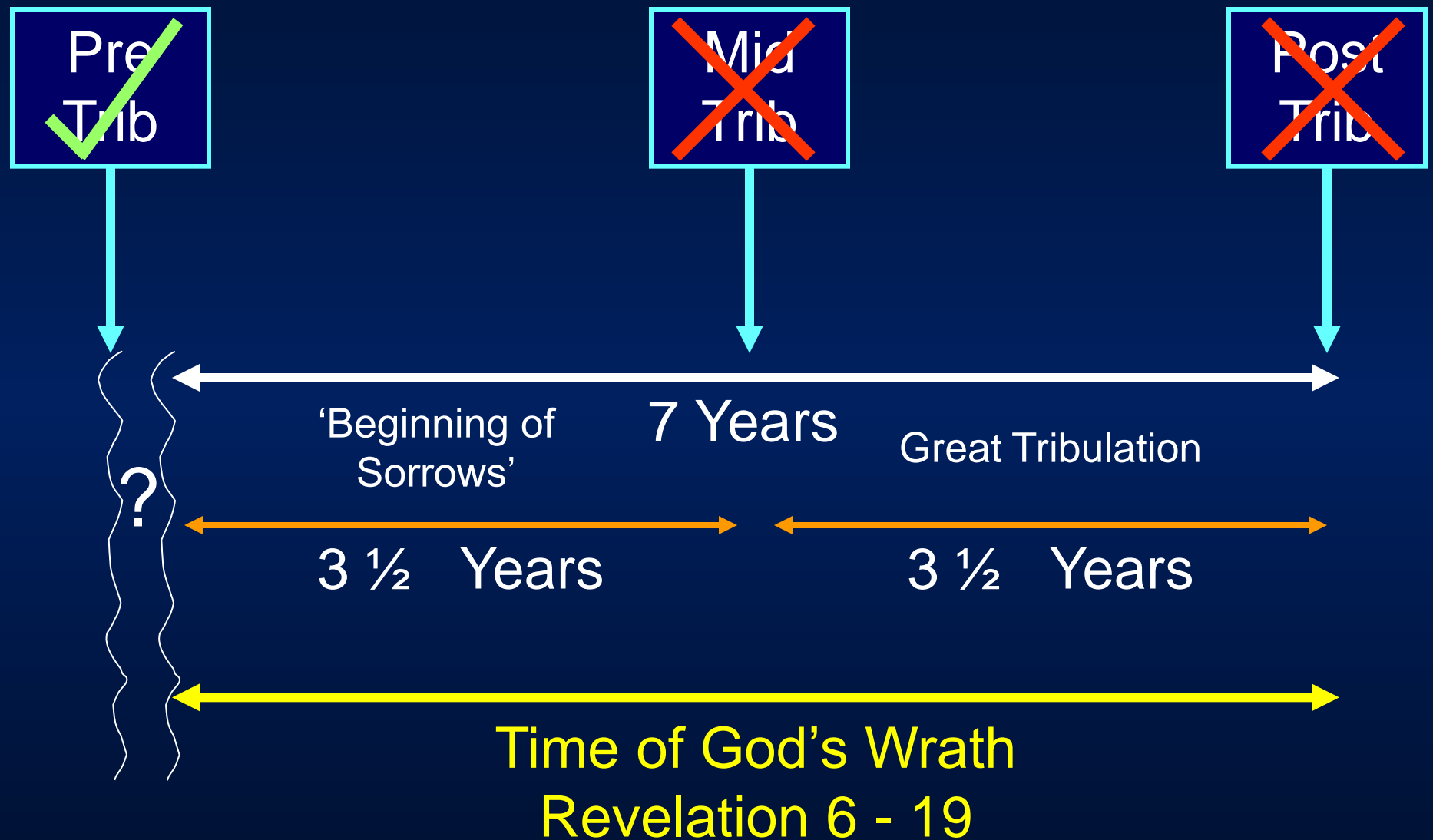
**1 Thessalonians 5:1-10**

- Note: Wrath is not persecution
- The 'Wrath' is 'The day of the Lord'

# The Purpose of The Rapture

- #1 to receive resurrection bodies fit for eternity
- #2 to fulfil the promise Christ made in John 14
- #3 to deliver us from the Wrath to come

# The Tribulation





# Mid Trib. ('Pre Wrath')

- It denies the doctrine of imminence
  - that Christ could return at any time
- It agrees that the Church must be raptured before God's wrath...
- But ignores the fact that the whole tribulation period is a time of wrath

(Rev 6)

# Post Trib. (2<sup>nd</sup> Coming)

- At the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming Jesus puts His feet on the earth and stays to establish His kingdom (Rev 19 / Matt 24/5)
- At the Rapture He meets the Church in the air and takes her back to heaven (John 14 / 1 Thes 1)

# Post Trib. (2<sup>nd</sup> Coming)

- At the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming Jesus comes with His saints (Rev 19 / Jude)
- At the Rapture Jesus comes for His saints (John 14 / 1 Thes 4)

# Post Trib. (2<sup>nd</sup> Coming)

- At the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming Jesus comes to intercede on behalf of Israel at the battle of Armageddon (Hos 5:15/Zech 14)
- At the Rapture Jesus comes to take the Church back to Heaven  
(John 14 / 1 Thes 4)



# Post Trib. (2<sup>nd</sup> Coming)

- At the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming every eye will see Him (Rev 19 / Matt 24)
- At the Rapture only the resurrected believers see Him (Acts 1 / 1 Thes 4)

# Post Trib. (2<sup>nd</sup> Coming)

- At the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming Jesus will judge the nations (Matt 25)
- At the Rapture Jesus will judge (reward) the Church (1 Cor 3 / Ps 50)
- The Judgement seat of Christ takes place in heaven and we are rewarded with crowns that Jesus wears at His Second Coming. (2 Cor 5 / Rev 19)

# Post Trib. (2<sup>nd</sup> Coming)

- The book of Revelation clearly shows the Church in heaven before the throne before the Tribulation begins (Rev 4/5)
- The Marriage Supper of the Lamb takes place in Heaven before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming (Eph 5 / Rev 19)

# The Biggest Problem?

- Was the death of Christ sufficient to pay for all our sin?
- ‘Tetelastai’ – ‘Paid in full’ (John 19:30)
- Then Jesus took the wrath of God upon Himself for us (Isaiah 53:10 / 2 Cor 5:21)
- If the Church remains for a moment of God’s wrath, it is a denial of the completed work of Christ



**14** Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

**15** See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.

**1 Thessalonians 5:14-24**

- 16 Rejoice evermore.
- 17 Pray without ceasing.
- 18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.
- 19 Quench not the Spirit.
- 20 Despise not prophesyings.
- 21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.
- 22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.

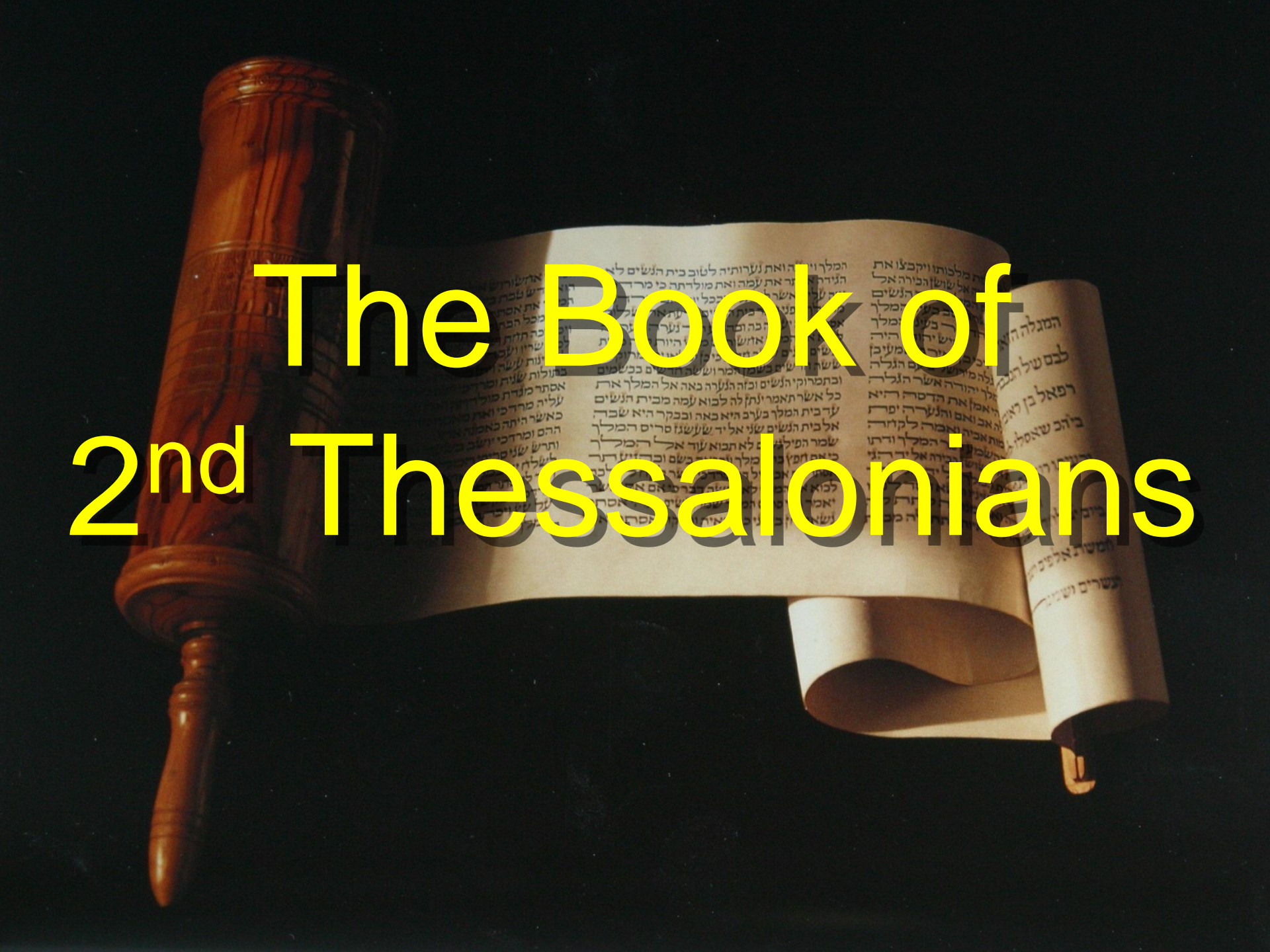
**1 Thessalonians 5:14-24**

**23** And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**24** Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

**1 Thessalonians 5:14-24**





# The Book of 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians

- Reason for writing:
- There were three principal reasons for another Letter, even so soon after the first.
  - The saints were being persecuted and needed to be encouraged **Chapter 1**
  - They were being misled as to the Day of the Lord and needed to be enlightened **Chapter 2**
  - Some were living in idleness in view of the Lord's Return and needed to be corrected **Chapter 3**

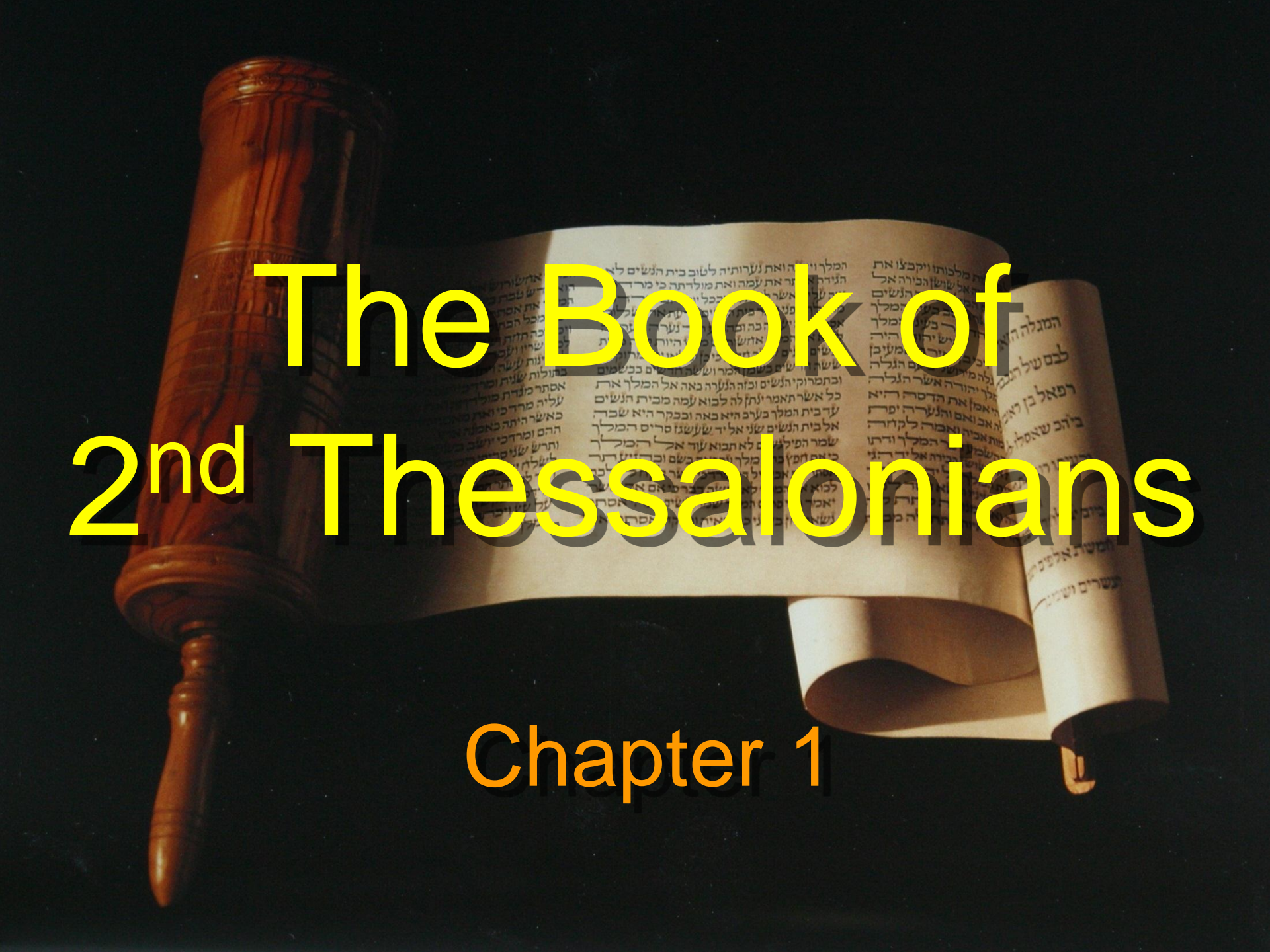
William MacDonald, *Believer's Bible Commentary*



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians

- Reason for writing:
- *“With regard to the Day of the Lord, the believers were fearful that they were already in it. Their fears were strengthened by false rumours to the effect that Paul himself was teaching that the Day was now present. So the apostle sets the record straight.*
- *It should be apparent that the Day of the Lord is not the same as the coming of the Lord, that is, the Rapture. The saints were not fearful that the Lord had come; they were fearful that they were in the Tribulation, the first phase of the Day of the Lord.”*

*William MacDonald, Believer's Bible Commentary*



# The Book of 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians

## Chapter 1

*7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,*

*8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:*

**2 Thessalonians 1:7-12**

- The church at Thessalonica had been ‘troubled’ by those teaching things contrary to that which God had revealed through Paul
- Paul once again returns their focus on to the great hope and expectation we have



*9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;*

*10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.*

**2 Thessalonians 1:7-12**

- Hell is eternal
- Hell will attest to God's unchanging nature
- Hell will ultimately bring glory to God

# A god to suite you

*“Excellent topic! I truly enjoyed reading “Does Heaven Exist?” I am a devout Christian, and don’t give much thought to heaven. My spirituality isn’t based on an anthropomorphic, kick-butt God who will throw four generations of children into eternal damnation because some distant forefather ticked him off. Heaven is the flip side of the absolutely barbaric notion of hell that evolved under that kick-butt mindset... To me, God is a symbol for something unfathomable, an utter mystery that fills my heart with joy and my spirit with song.”*

Letter published in Time magazine



# A god to suite you

*“Notice the use of the words “To me...” That is the key. To be an idolater, you make a god to suit yourself, one devoid of reference to sin, righteousness, and judgment. Make sure he or she likes the things you like and hates the things you hate. If you like lust, so will your god, If your god doesn’t mind lying and stealing, then you can lie, steal, and lust to your hearts content. Your god will fill your heart with joy and your spirit with song... right up until Judgment Day!*

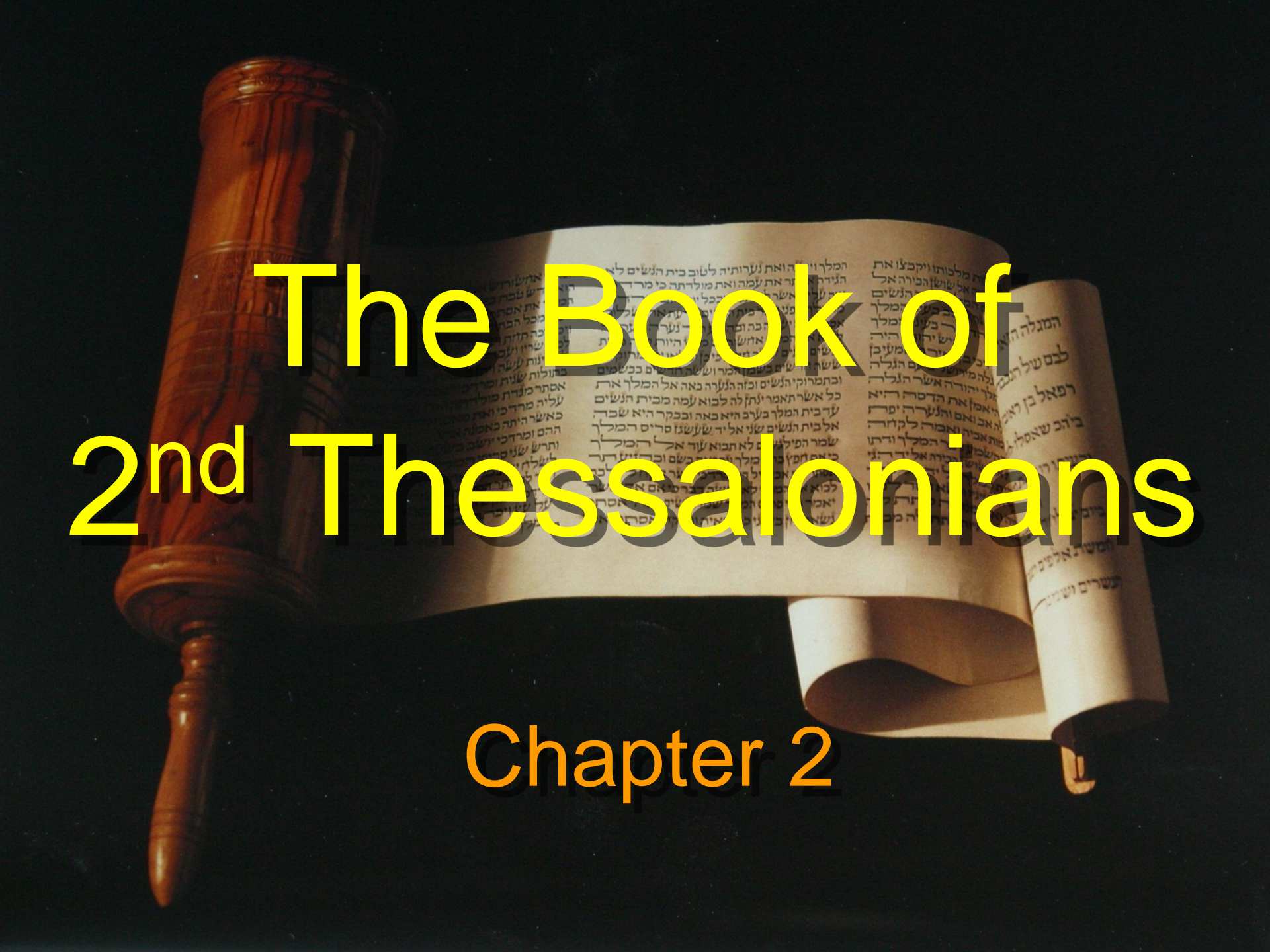
Response by Ray comfort

**II** Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power:

**I2** That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**2 Thessalonians 1:7-12**

- Once again... *'Because of this...'*
- The reality of what we profess is the reason we profess it!



# The Book of 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians

## Chapter 2



*I Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him...*

**2 Thessalonians 2:1-12**

- Two events highlighted:
- 1) The Second Coming of Jesus
- 2) The Gathering of the saints to Him

<sup>1</sup> Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,

<sup>2</sup> That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

**2 Thessalonians 2:1-12**

- Paul alludes to a letter they had received purportedly from him, suggesting they had missed the Day of Christ.
- This was the hope of the early Church



<sup>3</sup> Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a **falling away** first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

**2 Thessalonians 2:1-12**

- A falling away? From the faith
- Gr. Apostasia – Lit. a departing
- It *can* be used to indicated a departing from the faith...
- But equally can refer to leaving a location
- Two events are here identified:
  - 1) the departing of the Saints
  - 2) the unveiling of Anti-Christ (the man of sin)

4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

**2 Thessalonians 2:1-12**

- Just as Antiochus Epiphanies had done
- Antichrist will have an image of himself erected in the Temple
  - Which means a Jewish Temple must be rebuilt

# Antichrist's Abomination

**15** And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

**Revelation 13:15**

# Antichrist's Abomination

**15** When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

**16** Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

**Matthew 24:15-16**

5 Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

6 And now ye know what withholdeth **that he** might be revealed in his time.

7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, **until he** be taken out of the way.

**2 Thessalonians 2:1-12**

- Who is the restrainer? The Holy Spirit!
  - **Note: He will be taken out of the way.**
- Why?
- So that iniquity on earth will abound
- This will then set the scene for God's wrath to be poured out during the Tribulation



# The Holy Spirit

A Special treasure for the Church

*16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;*

*17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.*

**John 14:16-17**

- The Holy Spirit was given as a gift to the Church... **forever!**
- If the Holy Spirit departs, so must the Church

<sup>8</sup> And then shall that Wicked [one] be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

**2 Thessalonians 2:1-12**

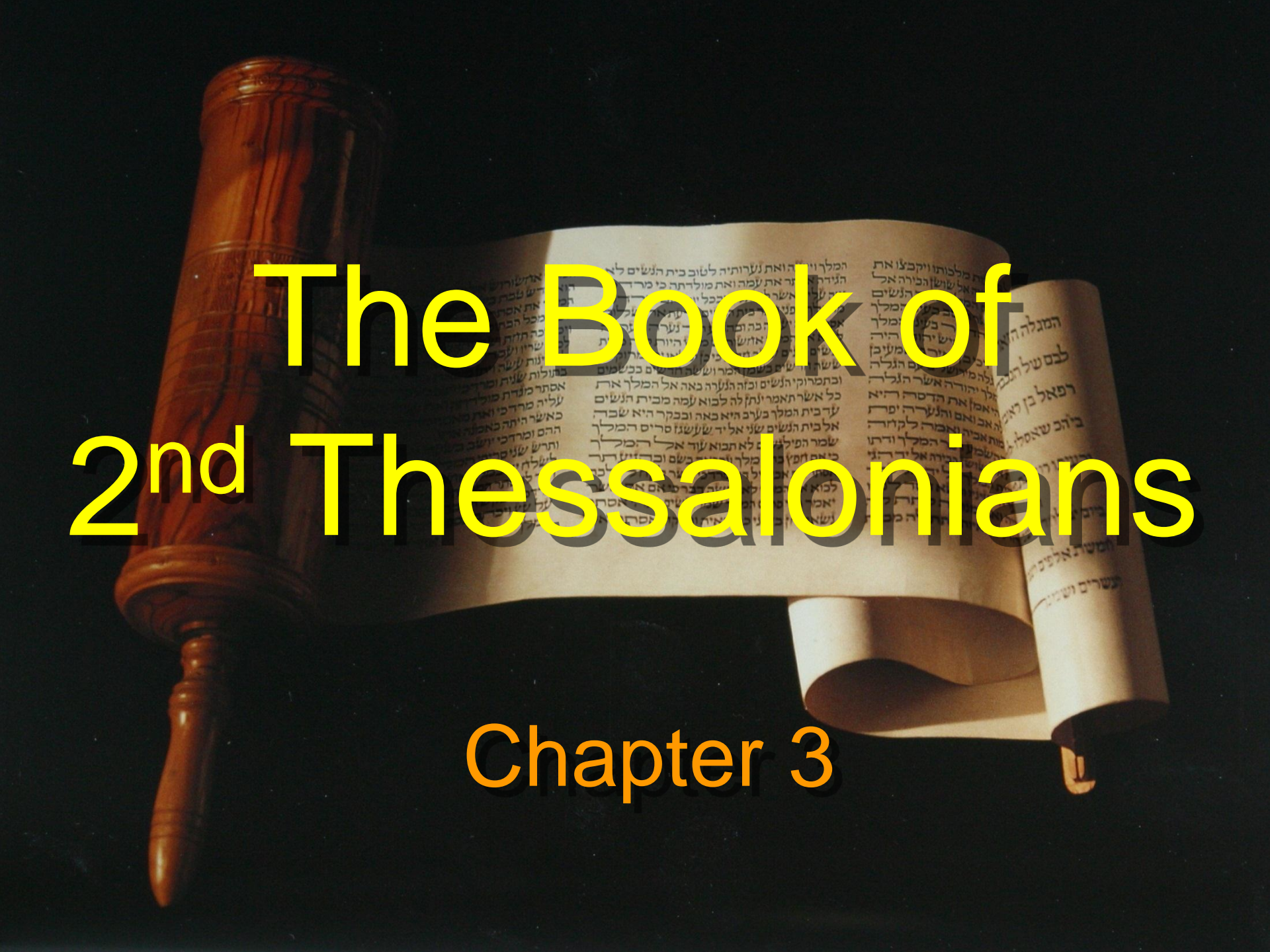
- That wicked one? = Antichrist
  - See Daniel 2:34-35
  - Also Revelation 20:20

*9* Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,  
*10* And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.  
*11* And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:  
*12* That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

**2 Thessalonians 2:1-12**

- Antichrist will deceive the whole world
- God will allow the unrighteous to be deceived





# The Book of 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians

## Chapter 3

<sup>1</sup> Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you:

<sup>2</sup> And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith.

<sup>3</sup> **But the Lord is faithful,** who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.

**2 Thessalonians 3:1-18**

- How important to lift each other up in prayer!
- There are plenty of unreasonable people
  - We should not be shaken by them



4 And we have confidence in the Lord touching you, that ye both do and will do the things which we command you.

5 And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ.

6 Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us.

**2 Thessalonians 3:1-18**

- If someone professes Christ with their lips but not with their life, keep away from them!

*7 For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you;*

**2 Thessalonians 3:1-18**

- Paul once again points to his own life as an example to follow.
- (would we be confident enough with our own Christian walk to do the same?)

**8** Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you:

**9** Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow us.

**10** For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.

**2 Thessalonians 3:1-18**

- Following Paul's visit, some had stopped working, waiting for the LORD's return instead
- Paul condemns laziness in a believer!

**II** For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.

**I2** Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread.

**2 Thessalonians 3:1-18**



**13** But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing.

**14** And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed.

**15** Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

**2 Thessalonians 3:1-18**

**16** Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all.

**17** The salutation of Paul with mine own hand, which is the token in every epistle: so I write.

**18** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Amen.

**2 Thessalonians 3:1-18**



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