

# Praying the Powerful Prayers of Paul

Perseverance, Patience and Peace:  
Paul's Prayers in II Thessalonians

## II Thessalonians 1:11-12

- In verse 11 Paul prays that the Thessalonians would be “worthy of this calling and fulfill all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power.”
- In order to understand this “calling” that Paul prays they would be worthy of we need to look at the context.
- Verse 4-6—the Thessalonians were continuing to endure persecutions and tribulations for the sake of the gospel.
  - Acts 17:1-14

## II Thessalonians 1:11-12

- Their persecution was no doubt on two fronts: those who despised their faith for Christ's sake and false teachers who had infiltrated the congregation.
  - II Thessalonians 3:1-3
  - Philippians 1:29, II Timothy 2:3
- Verses 7-10—what is Paul's message to the Thessalonians to see them through their persecutions and tribulations? Jesus is coming again not only to be gloried in his saints but also to take vengeance on them that know not the gospel.

## II Thessalonians 3:5

- Colossians 1:11—we already saw in a previous study in this series how Paul prays that the same might and power which raised Christ from the dead would strengthen the Colossian saints unto all “patience and longsuffering and joyfulness.”
- Romans 8:23-25—we have been given the Holy Spirit as the down payment the earnest of our inheritance until the day of the redemption. In the mean time we are asked to patiently wait for the redemption of our bodies.
- I Corinthians 15:51—when will this redemption occur? When Christ appears in heaven to catch away His church. That is why we need to patiently wait for his appearing.

## II Thessalonians 3:16

- Paul concludes the book by asking the Lord of peace to give the Thessalonians peace by all means.
- Throughout Paul's writing he refers to God the Father with six different titles:
- Romans 15:5—**God of patience and consolation**
- Romans 15:13—**God of hope**
- II Corinthians 1:3-4—**God of all comfort**
- II Corinthians 11:31—**God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ**
- II Corinthians 13:11—**God of love**
- Romans 15:33, Romans 16:20, Philippians 4:9, I Thessalonians 5:23—**God of Peace**

## II Thessalonians 3:16

- Romans 5:1
- Romans 8:3-6
- Ephesians 2:13-17
- Colossians 1:19-20
- Colossians 3:15
- Philippians 4:6-9—“keep” means to guard or the set a military watch over you heart and mind. The practical working of this verse is determined by your thought life. Your emotions will respond to what you think about.

## II Thessalonians 3:16

- II Timothy 2:22—we need to run after God’s peace. Believers ought to be the most peaceful people you know.
- Ephesians 6:15—we need to suit up and put on the peace of God. There is nothing that the adversary would like more than to steal the peace from your home, family, and the assembly.
- Romans 10:13-15—how beautiful have your feet been lately? If a lack of peace been preventing you from sharing the gospel of peace with others?