

Letters to the Thessalonians

Feb 26, 2020 to April 1, 2020

First Redeemer Church

Wednesday nights

SESSION 6 – April 1, 2020

In Studio

Jim Lay

Schedule for Letters to the Thessalonians

	Dates	Chapters covered	
✓	Feb 26, 2020	1 Thess Intro - Ch 1 & 2A	
✓	Mar 4, 2020	1 Thess Ch 2B -3	
✓	Mar 11, 2020	1 Thess Chapters 4-5A	
✓	Mar 18, 2020	1 Thess Chapter 5	
✓	Mar 25, 2020	2 Thess Ch 1-2A	
✓	Apr 1, 2020	2 Thess Ch 2B-3	

Tonight's Discussion

- Review key points in 2 Thessalonians Ch 2:1-8
- Finish 2 Thessalonians Ch 2
- 2 Thessalonians Ch 3
 - Verse by verse discussion
- Recap what we have discussed
- Review differences in the Rapture and the Second Coming of the Lord
- Close

2 Thessalonians Ch2:1-8 The Man of Lawlessness

2 Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our **being gathered to him**, we ask you, brothers and sisters,

2 **not to become easily unsettled or alarmed** by the teaching allegedly from us—whether by a **prophecy or by word of mouth or by letter**—**asserting that the day of the Lord has already come.**

3 Don't let **anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs** and the **man of lawlessness is revealed**, the man doomed to destruction.

4 He will **oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God** or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, **proclaiming himself to be God.**

5 Don't you remember that when I was with you, I used to tell you these things?

6 **And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time.**

7 For the **secret power of lawlessness is already at work**; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so **till he is taken out of the way.**

8 **And then the lawless one will be revealed**, whom the Lord Jesus **will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming.**

Revelation 19:11-16 The Coming of Christ

¹¹ And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it *is* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war.

¹² His eyes *are* a flame of fire, and on His head *are* many diadems; and He has a name written *on Him* which no one knows except Himself.

¹³ *He is* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

¹⁴ And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white *and* clean, were following Him on white horses.

¹⁵ From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.

¹⁶ And on His robe and on His thigh, He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

2 Thessalonians 2:9-12

⁹ The coming of the lawless one will be in **accordance with how Satan works**. He will use **all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders** that serve the lie,

¹⁰ and **all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing**. They perish because they **refused to love the truth and so be saved**.

¹¹ For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie

¹² and so that all will be **condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness**.

2 Thessalonians Ch 2:13-17

¹³ But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters **loved by the Lord**, because **God chose you as firstfruits** to be saved through the **sanctifying work of the Spirit** and through **belief in the truth**.

¹⁴ He **called you** to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹⁵ **So then**, brothers and sisters, **stand firm and hold fast** to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.

¹⁶ May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, **who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope**,

¹⁷ **encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word**.

2 Thessalonians Ch 3:1-5 - Request for Prayer

3 As for **other matters**, brothers and sisters, **pray for us** that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you.

2 And **pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil people**, *for not everyone has faith*.

3 But the **Lord is faithful**, and he will **strengthen you and protect you from the evil one**.

4 We have confidence **in the Lord** that you **are doing and will continue to do** the things we command.

5 May the **Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance**.

2 Thessalonians Ch 3:6-10 Warning Against Idleness

⁶ In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers and sisters, to **keep away from every believer who is idle and disruptive and does not live according to the teaching you received from us.**

⁷ For you yourselves know how **you ought to follow our example. We were not idle** when we were with you,

⁸ **nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it.** On the contrary, we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you.

⁹ We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but **in order to offer ourselves as a model for you to imitate.**

¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: **"The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat."**

2 Thessalonians Ch 3:11-15

¹¹ We hear that some among you are **idle and disruptive**. They are **not busy; they are busybodies**.

¹² Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the food they eat.

¹³ And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good.

¹⁴ **Take special note** of anyone who does not obey our instruction in this letter. **Do not associate with them,** in order that they may feel ashamed.

¹⁵ Yet **do not regard them as an enemy** but warn them as you would a fellow believer.

2 Thessalonians 3:16-18 *Final Greetings*

¹⁶ Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.

¹⁷ I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand, which is the distinguishing mark in all my letters. This is how I write.

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

What have we learned from these letters?

- God has chosen them, and they responded
- They were on fire for the Lord
- They needed more instruction on those who had died in their midst as believers
- They were so excited about the imminent return of Christ that they had to be instructed on how to wait
- We also learned from Paul, that the Call Is to All, but only those who respond are believers, and that they must have the Holy Spirit in them
- We also learned about the Rapture, the Day of the Lord, and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ

Key Differences between the Rapture and 2nd Coming

Rapture	Second Coming
Saints Raptured to Clouds then Heaven	Saints in Heaven come to Earth w Christ
Imminent and signless	Follows predicted events
Believers Only taken	All People affected ; non-believers taken for judgment, believers left
Before Day of Wrath	After Day of Wrath
Jesus comes to clouds	Jesus comes to earth
Only His own see Him	All people see Him
Earth not judged	Earth judged & righteousness established
Tribulation begins	Tribulation ends and Millennial Kingdom begins
Not in OT	Predicted in NT
No reference to Satan	Satan bound
Christ claims His Bride	Christ comes with His Bride

John Walvoord* concludes that these differences clearly point to two events, and their timing is separated by the Tribulation period, and the Rapture occurs before the Tribulation/Day of the Lord.

*Former Dean Emeritus of **Dallas Theological Seminary** until his death, and leading NT and End Times scholar and writer.

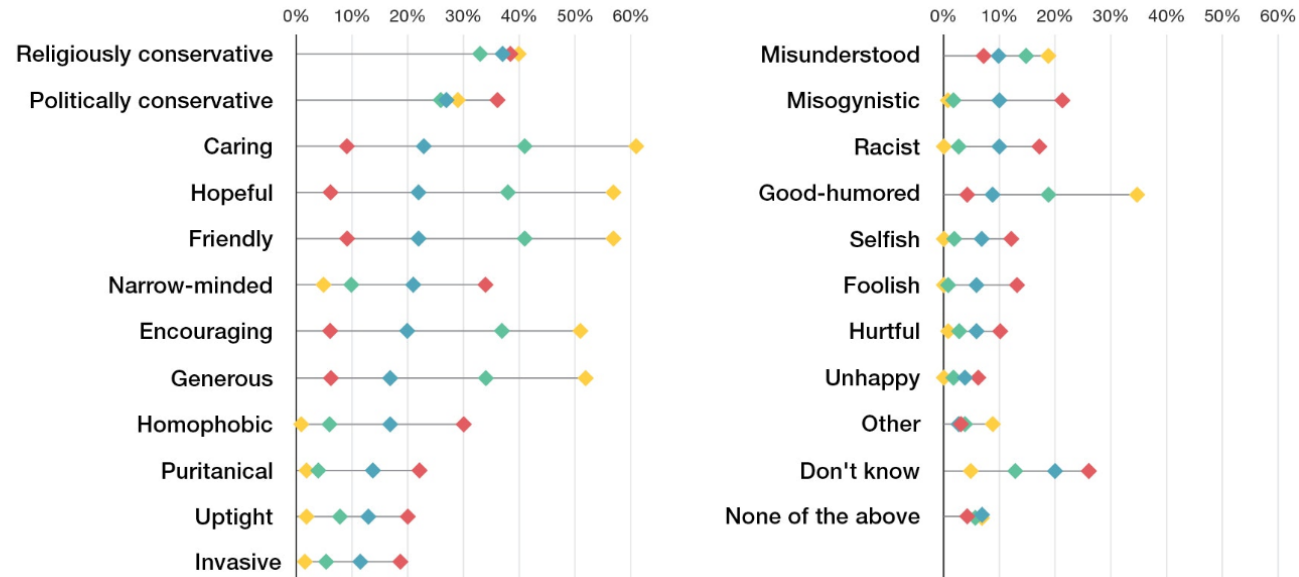
Who do you think you are?

PERCEPTIONS OF EVANGELICALS AMONG U.S. ADULTS

Barna

Which of the following words, if any, would you use to describe evangelicals in general?

◆ All U.S. adults ◆ Non-Christians ◆ Practicing Christians ◆ Evangelicals



n = 1,067 U.S. adults | November 12-19, 2018

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