

THE SECONDE EPI- stle to the Theſſalonians.

THE ARGUMENT.

Lest the Theſſalonians ſhoulde thinke that Paul neglected them, because he went to other places, rather then came to the, he writeth vnto them and exhorteth the to patience and other frutes of faith, neither to be moued with that vaine opinion of ſuche as taught that the comming of Chriſt was at hand, forasmuche as before that day there shoulde be a falling away from true religion, euen by a great parte of the worlde, and that Antichriſt ſhoulde reigne in the Temple of God finally commending him ſelf to their prayers, & encouraging them to conſtancie, he willethe the to correcte ſuche ſharpeſy, as liue idelly of oher mens labours, w^home, if they do not obey his admonitions, he comman- deth to excommunicate.

CHAP. I.

- 1 He thanketh God for their faith, loue and patience.
11 He praieth for the encrease of the same. 12 And ſheweth what frute ſhal come thereof.

PAUL and Siluanus, and Timotheus vnto the Church of the Theſſa- lonians, which is in God our Father, and in the Lord Ieſus Chriſt:
Grace be with you, and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Ieſus Chriſt.

1. Theſſ. 1. 2.

- 3 *We ought to thake God alwayes for you, brethren, as it is mete, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the loue of euerie one of you towarde another abundeth,

a Which proceedeth of your faith as a more notable frute.

Iude 6.

b The faithful by their afflictions ſe, as in a cleare glaſſe y^e end of Gods iuſt iudgement, when as they ſhal reigne w^h Chriſt which haue ſuffered with him, and the wicked ſhal feeſe his extreme wrath and vengeance

1. Theſſ. 4. 16.
c By whome he declareth his might.

- 4 So that we our ſelues reioyce of you in the Churches of God, because of your^a patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye ſuffre,
5 *Which is a^b token of the righteous iudgement of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdome of God, for y^e which ye alſo ſuffre.

- 6 For it is a righteous thing with God, to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you,

- 7 And to you which are troubled, reſt with vs^a when the Lord Ieſus ſhal ſhewe him ſelf from heauen with his^c mightie Angels,

- 8 In flaming fyre, rendring vengeance vnto them, that do not knowe God, & which obey not vnto the Goſpel of our Lord Ieſus Chriſt,

d As God is euerlaſting, ſo ſhal their puniſhment be euerlaſting: and as he is moſte mightie of power, ſo ſhal their puniſhment be moſte ſore.

- 9 Which ſhal be puniſhed with^d euerlaſting perdition, from the preſence of the Lord, and from the glorie of his power,
10 When he ſhal come to be glorified in his Saintes, and to be made marueilous in all the that beleue (because our teſtimonie towarde you was beleued) in that day.

- 11 Wherefore, we alſo praye alwayes for you, that our God may make you worthy

of his calling, and fulfil all the good pleaſure of his goodnes, & the^e worke of faith with power,

- 12 That y^e Name of our Lord Ieſus Chriſt may be glorified in you, & ye in him, according to the grace of our God, and of the Lord Ieſus Chriſt.

tion: and all theſe he worketh of his mere grace through Chriſt. f Faith is Gods wonderful worke in vs. g As the head with the bodie.

e The free beneuolence of Gods goodnes, comprehendeth his purpoſe, his predeſtination and vocation: the worke of faith containeth our iuſtification, to the which God addeth glorification.

CHAP. II.

- 3 He ſheweth them that the day of the Lord ſhal not come, til the departing from the faith come firſt. 9 And the kingdome of Antichriſt. 11 And therefore he exhorteth them not to be deceived, but to ſtand ſtedfaſt in the things that he hath taught them.

NOW we beſeeche you, brethren, by y^e comming of our Lord Ieſus Chriſt, and by our aſſembling vnto him,

- 1 That ye be not ſuddenly moued fro^a your minde, nor troubled nether by^a ſpirit, nor by^b worde, nor by letter, as it were from vs, as though the daye of Chriſt were at hand.

a As falſe reuelation, or dreames.

b Which are ſpoken or writ ten.

- 3 *Let no man deceiue you by any means: for that day ſhal not come, except there come a^c departing firſt, and that that^d man of ſinne be diſcloſed, euen y^e ſonne of^e perdition,

c A wonderful departing of the moſte parte from the faith.

d This wicked Antichriſt comprehendeth the whole ſucceſſion of the perſecuters of the Church, & all that abominable kingdome of Satan, whereof ſome were beares, ſome Lyons, others Leopards, as Daniel deſcribeth, and is called y^e man of ſinne because he ſet teth him ſelf vp againſt God.

- 4 Which is an aduerſarie, and exalteth him ſelf againſt all that is called God, or that is worſhipped: ſo that he doeth ſit as God in the Temple of God, ſhewing him ſelf that he is God.

- 5 Reméber ye not, that whé I was yet with you, I tolde you theſe things?

- 6 And now ye knowe what^f withholdeth, that he might be reueiled in his time.

- 7 For the myſterie of iniquitie doeth alreadie worke: onely he which^h now with-

deſtroyeth others, ſo ſhal he be deſtroyed him ſelf. f Because the falſe apoſtles had perſuaded after a ſorte the Theſſalonians, that the day of the Lord was nere, and ſo the redemption of the Church, Paul teacheth them to loke for this horrible diſſipation before, and therefore rather to prepare them ſelues to patience, then to reſt and quietneſſe: for as yet there was a let, that is, that the Goſpel ſhoulde be preached throughout all, Mat 24. 14. g To wit, priuily, and is therefore called a myſterie because it is ſecret. h Which ſhal ſay for a time.

holdeth,

holdeth, *shal* let til he be taken out of the waye.

8 And then shal the wicked man be reueiled, * whome the Lord shal consume with the Spirit of his mouth, and shal abolish with the brightnes of his comming,

9 Euen him whose * comming is by the working of Satan, with all power and signes, and lying wonders,

10 And in all deceiueablenes of vnrighteousnes, amōg thē that perish, because they receiued not the loue of the trueth, that they might be sauēd.

11 And therefore God shal send thē strong delusion, that they shulde beleue lyes,

12 That all they might be damned which beleued not the trueth, but had ^m pleasure in vnrighteousnes.

13 But we ought to giue thanks alway to God for you, brethren ^a beloued of the Lord, because that God hathe from ^o the beginning chosen you to saluaciō, through sanctification of the Spirit, and the faith of ^r trueth,

14 Whereunto he called you by ^q our Gospel, to obreine the glorie of our Lord Iesus Christ.

15 Therefore, brethren, stand fast and kepe the ^r instructions, which ye haue bene taught, ether ^r by worde, or by our Epistle.

16 Now the same Iesus Christ our Lord & our God euen the Father which hathe loued vs, and hathe giuen vs euerlasting consolation and good hope through grace,

17 Comforte your hearts, and stablish you in euerie worde and good worke.

CHAP. III.

^h He desireth them to pray for him, that the Gospel may prosper, ^o And giueth them warning to reprove the idle, ¹⁶ And so wisheth them all wealth.

1 ^Furthermore, brethren, * pray for vs, ^y the worde of the Lord may haue fre passage, and be glorified, euen as ^{it} is with you,

2 And that we may be deliuered from vnreasonable and euil men: for all men haue not ^a faith.

3 But the Lord is faithful, which wil stablish you, and kepe you from ^b euil.

4 And we are persuaded of you through the Lord, that ye bothe do, and wil do the things which we ^c commande you.

5 And the Lord guide your hearts to the loue of God, & the waiting for of Christ.

6 We commande you, brethren, in the Name of our Lord Iesus Christ, that ye withdrawe your selues frō euerie brother that walketh inordinately, and not after the

^d instruction, which he receiued of vs.

7 For ye your selues knowe * how ye ought to folowe vs: * for we behaued not our selues inordinately among you,

8 Nether toke we bread of anie man for noight: but we wrought with labour & trauaile night & day, because we wolde not be chargeable to anie of you.

9 Not but that we had autoritie, * but that we might make our selues an ensample vnto you to folowe vs.

10 For euen when we were with you, this we warned you of, that if there were anie, which wolde not ^e worke, that he shulde not eat.

11 For we heard, that there are some which walke among you inordinately, and worke not at all, but are busie bodies.

12 Therefore them that are suche, we commande and exhorte by our Lord Iesus Christ, that they worke with quietnes, and eat their owne bread.

13 * And ye, brethren, be not wearie in wel doing.

14 If anie man obey not our sayings, note him by a lettre, * and haue no companie with him, that he maie be ashamed.

15 Yet count him not as an ^femie, but admonish him as a brother.

16 Now the Lord of peace giue you peace alwaies by all meanes. The Lord be with you all.

17 The salutacion of me Paul, with mine owne hand, which is the token in euerie Epistle: so I write,

18 The grace of our Lord Iesus Christ be with you ail, Amen.

The seconde Epistle to the Thessalonians, written from Athens.

^c By ³ worde of God.

^d Which is, to trauail, if he wil eat, Chap. 2.15.

^e 1. Cor. 4.12.

^f 1. thes. 4.12.

^g Act. 20.34.

^h 1. cor. 4.12.

ⁱ 1. thes. 3.9.

^j 1. Cor. 11.1.

^e Then by the worde of God none ought to liue idelly, but ought to giue him self to some vocation, to get his liuing by, and to do good to others

^f Mat. 18.27. 1. cor. 5.9.

^f The end of excommunication is not to drine from the Church: suche as haue fallen, but to winne them to the Church by amendment. ^g Whether they be mine Epistles or other mens.

^h Isa. 13.4. ⁱ That is, with his worde.

^k Meaning the whole time ^j he shal remaine.

^l Satans power is limited that he ca not hurt the elect to their destruction

^m Delired in fallie doctrine.

ⁿ The soueraine of our electio is the loue of God: the sanctification of ^o Spirit, & beleuing the trueth are testimonies of the same election.

^o Before the fundacion of the worlde.

^p And Gospel.

^q By our preaching.

^r That is, the doctrine.

^s The 2.2. chap 3.6.

^t That is, by my preaching of the Gospel.

^u Ephes. 6.18. ^v 1. cor. 4.1.

^u Although they booke them selues thereof. ^v From the flights of Satan.

THE FIRST EPI- stle of Paul to Timotheus.

THE ARGUMENT.

IN writing this Epistle Paul seemed not onely to haue respect to teache Timotheus, but chiefly to kepe other in awe, which wolde haue rebelled against him, because of his youth. And therefore he doth arme him against those ambitious questionistes, which vnder pretence of zeale to the

BBb.i.