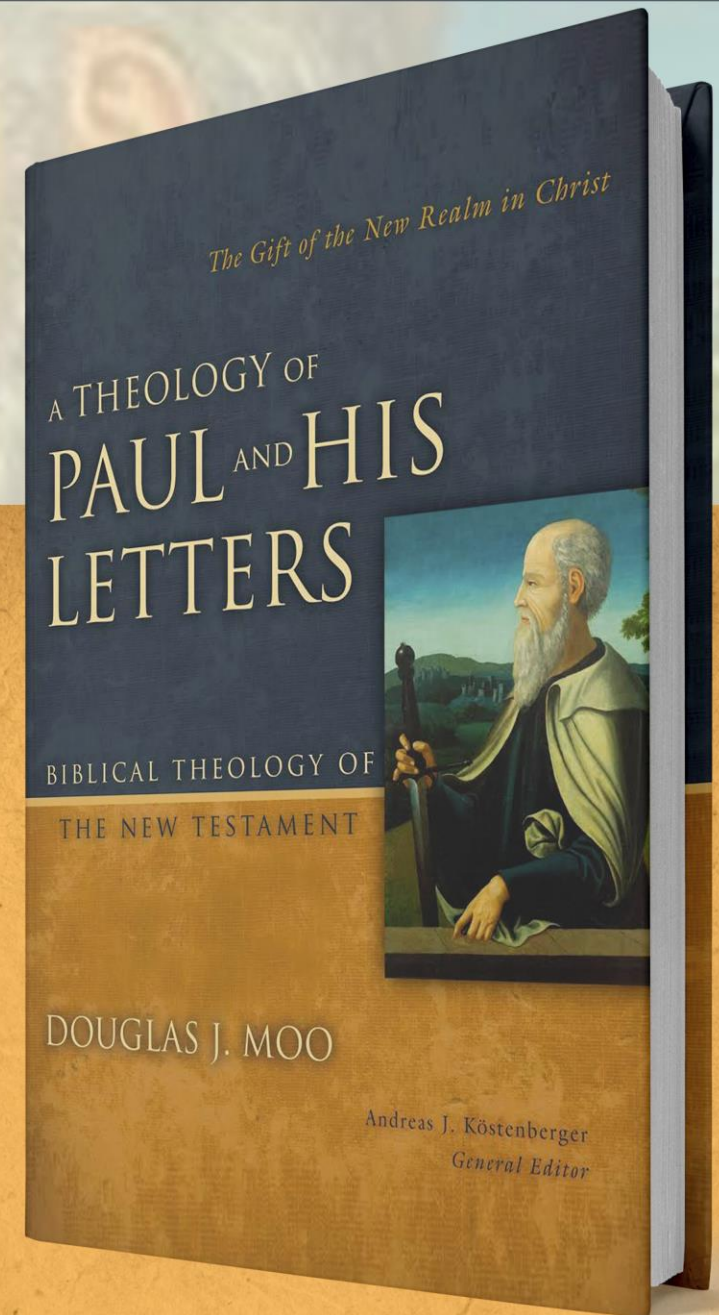


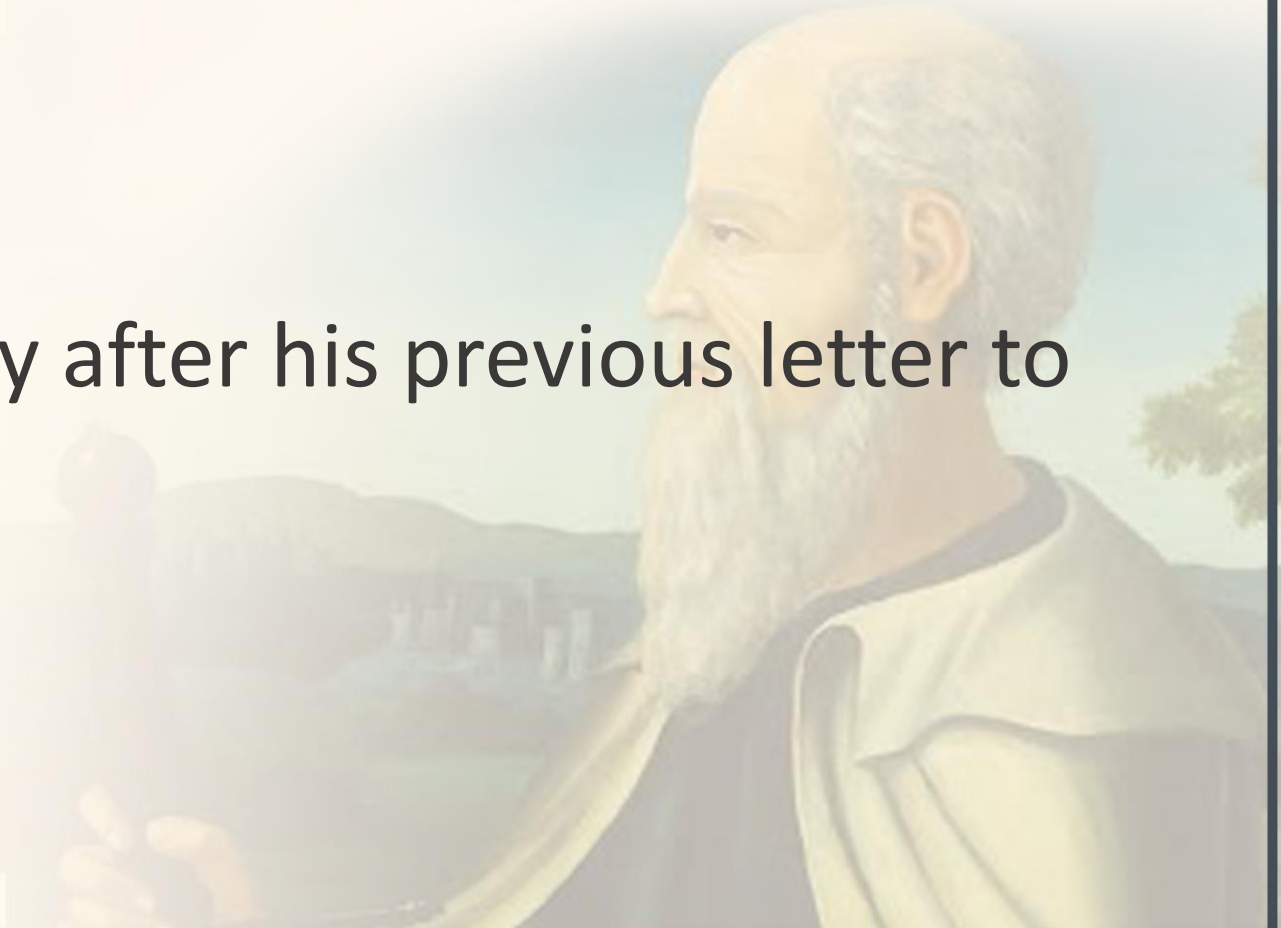
CHAPTER 6

2 Thessalonians



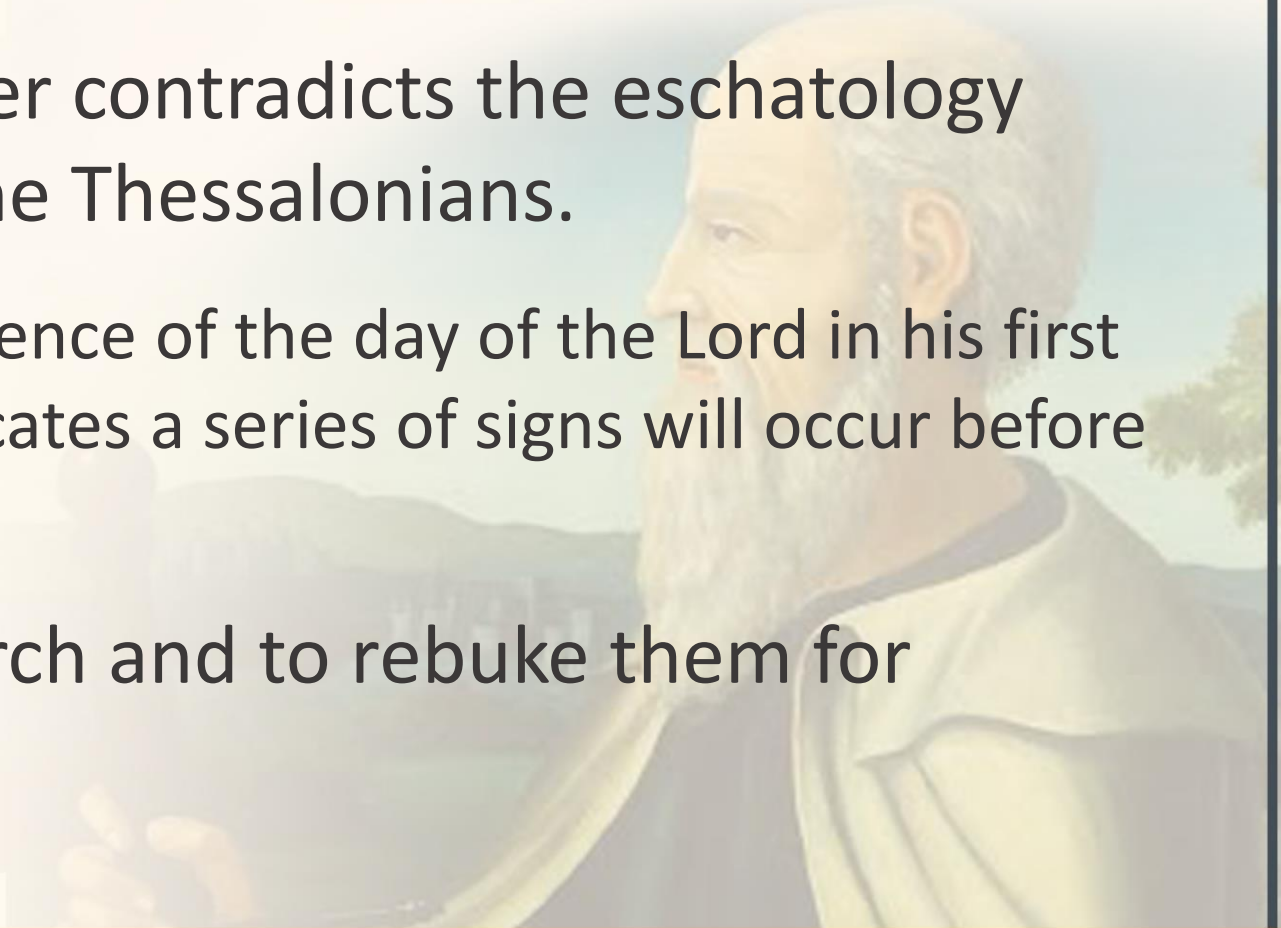
Locating the Letter

- Paul wrote this letter shortly after his previous letter to the church in Thessalonica.



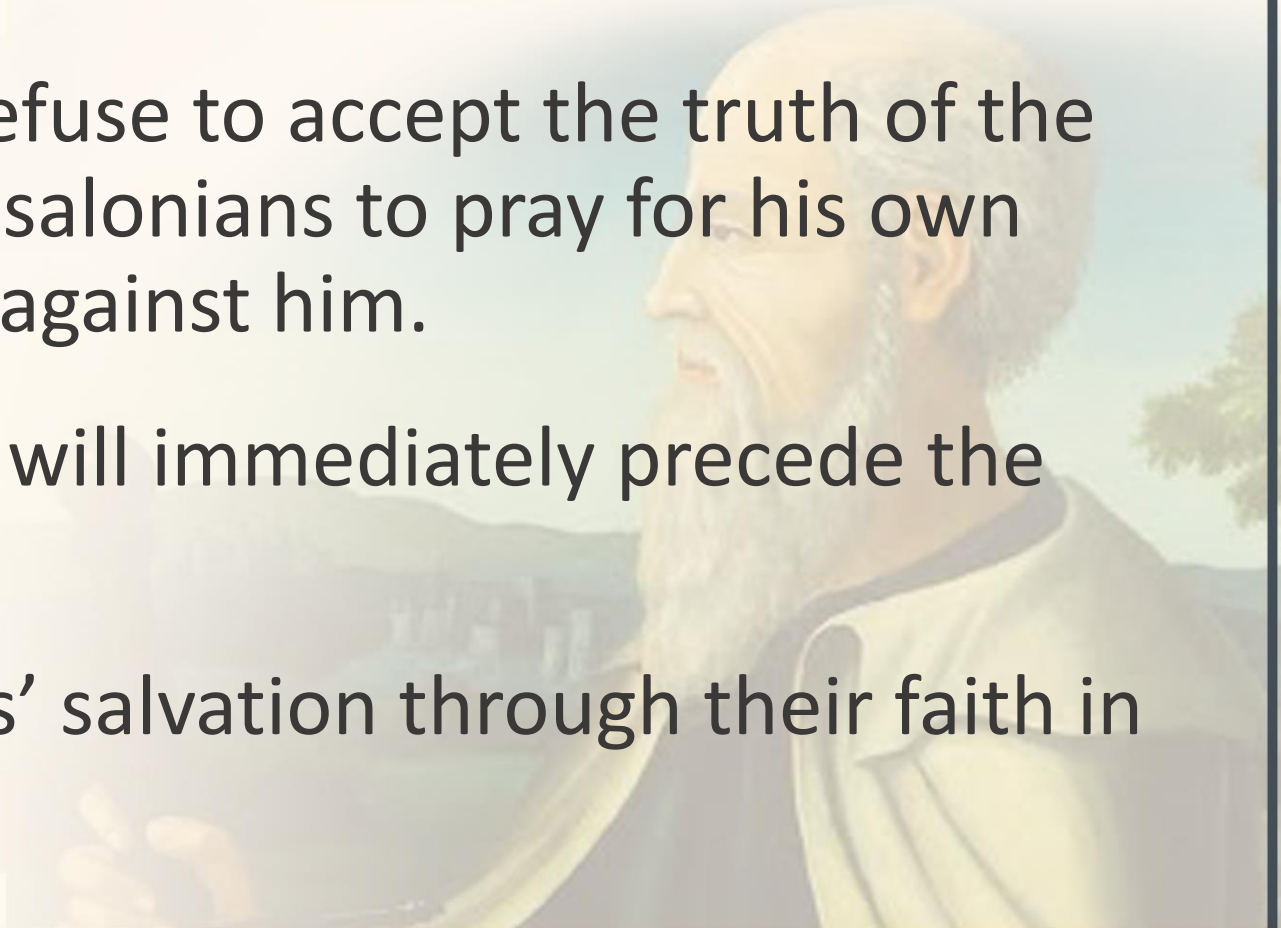
Isolating the Issues

- Some scholars believe this letter contradicts the eschatology taught in Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.
 - He wrote with a sense of imminence of the day of the Lord in his first letter, but his second letter indicates a series of signs will occur before the day of the Lord arrives.
- Paul wrote to comfort the church and to rebuke them for idleness.

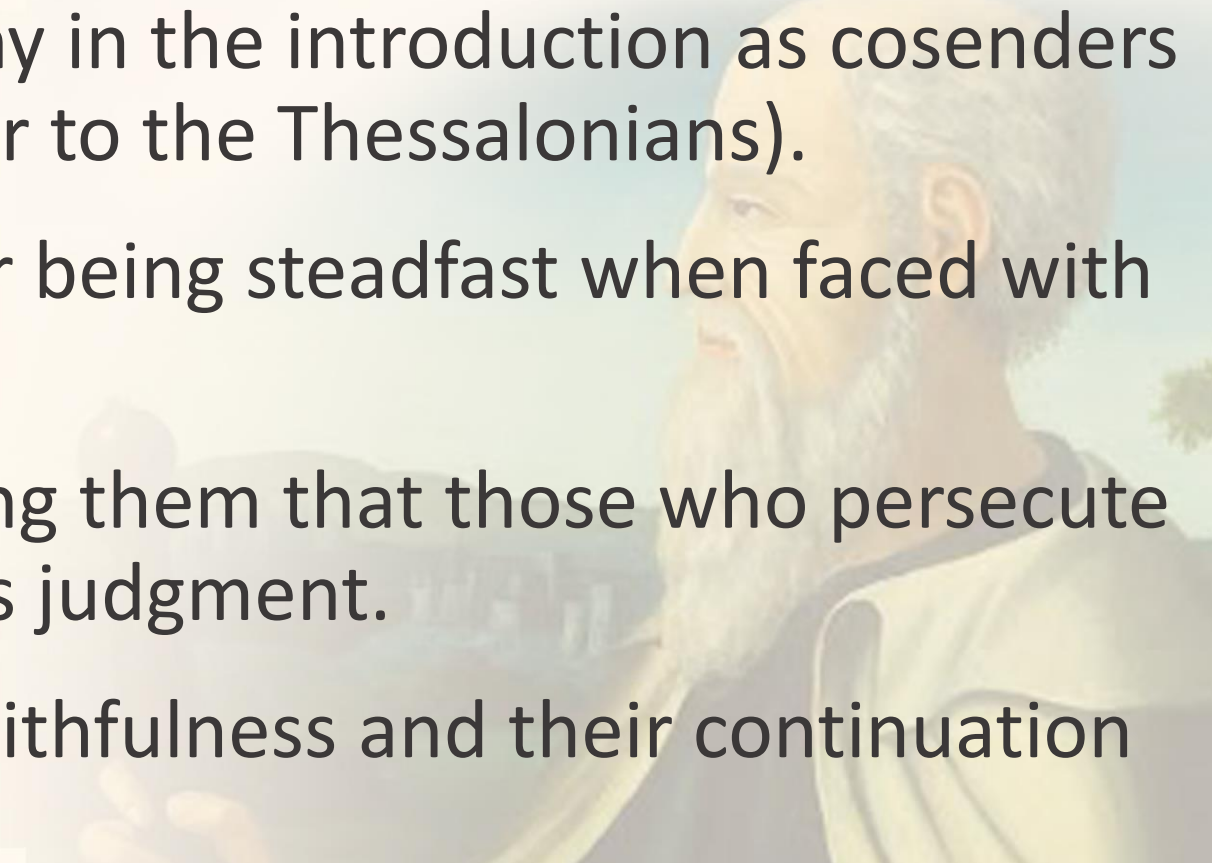


Analyzing the Argument

- Paul condemned those who refuse to accept the truth of the gospel, and he asked the Thessalonians to pray for his own battles against those working against him.
- He outlined some events that will immediately precede the parousia.
- He affirmed the Thessalonians' salvation through their faith in Christ.

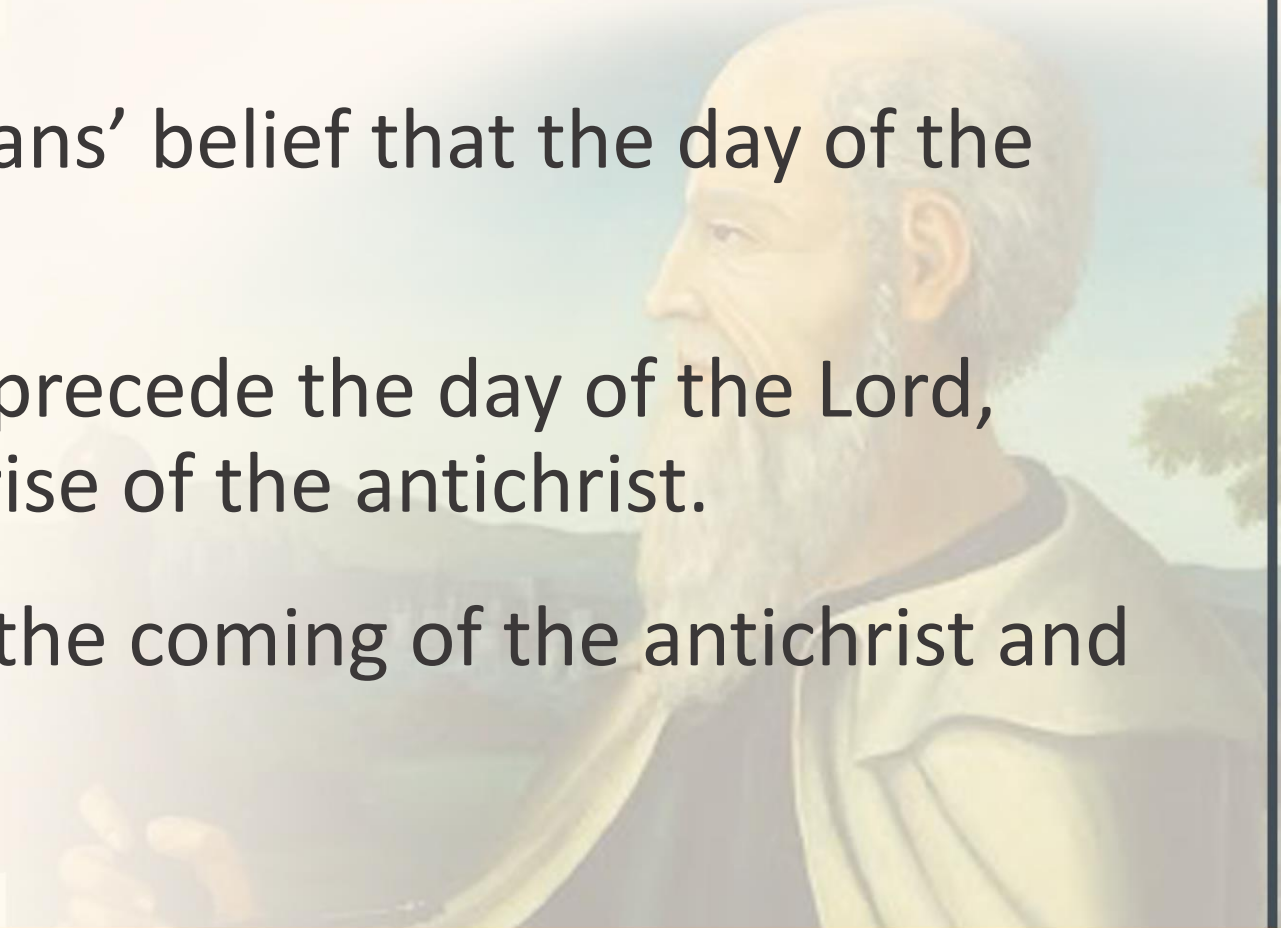


God's Retributive Judgment (1:1–12)

- Paul included Silas and Timothy in the introduction as cosenders (as he also did in the first letter to the Thessalonians).
 - He commended the church for being steadfast when faced with persecution.
 - He consoled them by reminding them that those who persecute believers will experience God's judgment.
 - Paul prayed for the church's faithfulness and their continuation of good works.
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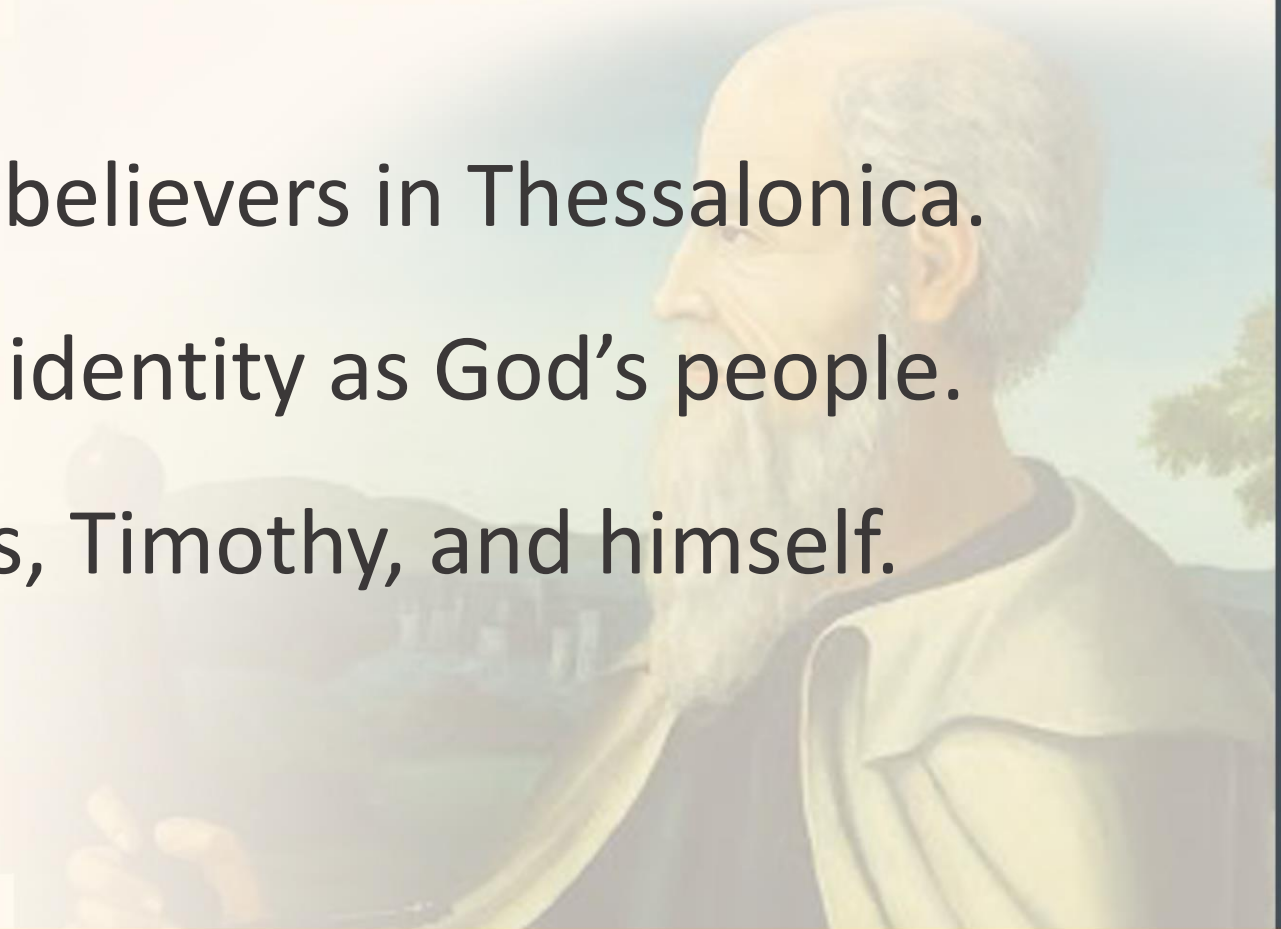
The Day of the Lord (2:1–12)

- Paul corrected the Thessalonians' belief that the day of the Lord had already come.
- He described events that will precede the day of the Lord, including a rebellion and the rise of the antichrist.
- He compared and contrasted the coming of the antichrist and the coming of Jesus.



God's Faithfulness to His Chosen Ones (2:13–3:5)

- Paul gave thanks for fellow believers in Thessalonica.
- He reminded them of their identity as God's people.
- He asked for prayer for Silas, Timothy, and himself.



Rebuke of Disruptive Idlers and Letter Conclusion (3:6–18)

- Paul rebuked the idle members of the church and reminded them that he and his associates—Silas and Timothy—supported themselves so they would not be a burden to the Thessalonians.
- He taught that the idlers should experience church discipline through disassociation.

