



# THE IRON ROD

Hold to the rod, the iron rod; 'Tis strong, and bright, and true.  
The iron rod is the word of God; 'Twill safely guide us through.



March/April 2022

## THE SECOND EPISTLE TO THE THESSALONIANS

That this Second Epistle ( ) was written shortly after the first and from the same place is very probably from this circumstance, that the same persons, Paul, Silvanus, and Timotheus, who addressed the church at Thessalonica in the former Epistle address the same church in this; and as three apostolic men were rarely long together in the same place, it is very likely that the two Epistles were written not only in the same year, but also within a very short time of each other. It appears that the person who carried the First Epistle returned speedily to Corinth, and gave the apostle a particular account of the state of the Thessalonian church; and, among other things, informed him that many were in expectation of the speedy arrival of the day of judgment; and that they inferred from his Epistle already sent, chap. 4:15, 17 and vv. 4, 6, that it was to take place while the apostle and themselves should be yet alive. And it appears probable, from some parts of this Epistle, that he was informed also that some, expecting this sudden appearance of the Lord Jesus, had given up all their secular concerns as inconsistent with a due preparation for such an important and awful event; see chap. 3:6-13. To correct such a misapprehension and redeem them from an error which, if appearing to rest on the authority of an apostle, must in its issue be ruinous to the cause of Christianity, Paul would feel himself constrained to write immediately; and this is a sufficient reason why these Epistles should appear to have been written at so short a distance from each other. What rendered this speedy intervention of the apostle's authority and direction the more necessary was that there appear to have been some in that church who professed to have a revelation concerning this thing, and to have endeavored to confirm it by a pretended report from the apostle himself, and from the words already referred to in the former Epistle; see here on chap. 2:1-2: "We beseech you, brethren ... 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."

Some scholars believe Paul wrote this epistle, but others reject its authenticity based on what they see as differences in style and theology between this and the First Epistle to the Thessalonians.

Scholars who support its authenticity view it as having been written around 51-52 AD, shortly after the First Epistle. Those who see it as a later composition assign a date of around 80-115 AD.

Well, that's enough for this time around. I hope you enjoy this and the following discussions. I pray that they are helpful to you in your endeavors in studying the scriptures.

*Before you speak ...*

*T - is it True? H - is it Helpful? I - is it Inspiring?*

*N - is it Necessary? K - is it Kind?*



*It's what's on the inside not what's on the outside. Be gracious.*

### SCRIPTURE MEMORY CORNER

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 2:3)

**NOTE: All verses quoted from the Bible are from the Authorized or King James Version (KJV). Other references are from the Book of Mormon, Doctrine & Covenants, and Pearl of Great Price. These books of Scripture are the Standard Works of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.**

The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. (Isaiah 24:5)

Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men: (Isaiah 29:13)

For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. (Isaiah 60:2)

Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord: (Amos 8:11)

For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. (Matthew 24:5)

For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. (Matthew 24:24)

For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. (Acts 20:29)

For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it. (1 Corinthians 11:18)

I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: (Galatians 1:6)

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; (1 Timothy 4:1)

Eternity, Atonement, Sacrifice, Truth, Exhilaration, Resurrection

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Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some. (2 Timothy 2:18)

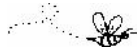
They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate. (Titus 1:16)

From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? (James 4:1)

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. (2 Peter 2:1)

Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. (2 Peter 3:17)

Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. (1 John 2:18)



Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. (1 John 4:1)

For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ. (Jude 1:4)

I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: (Revelation 2:2)

And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. (Revelation 13:7)

Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. (2 Timothy 3:5)

And after they go forth by the hand of the twelve apostles of the Lamb, from the Jews unto the Gentiles, thou seest the formation of that great and abominable church, which is most abominable above all other churches; for behold, they have taken away from the gospel of the Lamb many parts which are plain and most precious; and also many covenants of the Lord have they taken away. (1 Nephi 13:26)

But, behold, in the last days, or in the days of the Gentiles -- yea, behold all the nations of the Gentiles and also the Jews, both those who shall come upon this land and those who shall be upon other lands, yea, even upon all the lands of the earth, behold, they will be drunken with iniquity and all manner of abominations -- (2 Nephi 27:1)

## h.o.p.e. = hold on, pain ends

### HYMNS OF FAITH

#### WHAT GLORIOUS SCENES MINE EYES BEHOLD

Hymns 1985, #16



What glorious scenes mine eyes behold!  
What wonders burst upon my view!  
When Ephraim's records I unfold,  
All things appear divinely new.  
All things appear divinely new.



Good news to earth have angels borne  
Which fills our souls with joy and peace.  
Good tidings comfort those who mourn  
And bring the captive full release,  
And bring the captive full release.



The scattered sheep, who once were sold  
In darkness o'er the mountains far,  
Shall now return unto their fold  
And there their waiting hearts prepare,  
And there their waiting hearts prepare.



Now Israel, long oppressed and grieved  
In ev'ry land, in ev'ry clime,  
Shall hear the word of God and live;  
This is the time, the chosen time.  
This is the time, the chosen time.

### BIBLE TRIVIA

1. What courageous woman risked her life to keep her royal nephew alive?
2. What Jewish Christian woman had lived at Rome, Corinth, and Ephesus?
3. Who called herself Marah, a name meaning "bitter"?
4. Who asked her royal son to surrender his father's concubine to another son?
5. What wealthy woman made her living selling purple dye?
6. What woman had such an influential life that Israel had forty years of peace?
7. Who was better to her widowed mother-in-law than any seven sons could be?
8. Who bore three sons and two daughters after giving up her first son to serve the Lord at Shiloh?
9. What wife of David had no children because she had criticized her husband's jubilant dancing?
10. Who married David after her stupid husband died out of fear?

### Questions About the Bible

1. Describe Abigail. (1 Samuel 25)
2. Describe Nabal. (See also 1 Samuel 25:3a, 25a)
3. Why did David send ten young men to Nabal?
4. How were these young men received by Nabal? (See also v. 14b)
5. What did Abigail say to David?
6. How did David receive Abigail's message and gift?
7. When did Nabal die?
8. What did David say when he heard of Nabal's death?
9. What did David do after Nabal died?
10. How many men did Saul take with him to slay David? (1 Samuel 26)

Questions are taken from *A Reading Guide to the Old Testament* by David H. Mulholland, published by Deseret Book Company, 1989

Do not ask God what He can do for you,  
but Ask God what you can do for Him.