

ΠΡΟΣ ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΕΙΣ Β΄

Opening Considerations

Greeting

1:1 Παῦλος καὶ Σιλουανὸς καὶ Τιμόθεος τῇ ἐκκλησίᾳ Θεσσαλονικέων ἐν Θεῷ Πατρὶ ἡμῶν καὶ Κυρίῳ Ἰησοῦ Χριστῷ· **2** Χάρις ὑμῖν καὶ εἰρήνη ἀπὸ Θεοῦ Πατρὸς ἡμῶν¹ καὶ Κυρίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Commendation and encouragement

3 Εὐχαριστεῖν ὀφείλομεν τῷ Θεῷ πάντοτε περὶ ὑμῶν, ἀδελφοί, καθὼς ἄξιόν ἐστιν, ὅτι ὑπεραυξάνει ἡ πίστις ὑμῶν, καὶ πλεονάζει ἡ ἀγάπη ἐνὸς ἐκάστου πάντων ὑμῶν εἰς ἀλλήλους· **4** ὥστε ἡμᾶς αὐτοὺς² ἐν ὑμῖν καυχᾶσθαι³ ἐν ταῖς ἐκκλησίαις τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὑπὲρ τῆς ὑπομονῆς ὑμῶν καὶ πίστεως ἐν πᾶσιν τοῖς διωγμοῖς ὑμῶν, καὶ ταῖς θλίψεσιν αἷς ἀνέχεσθε **5**—ἐνδειγμα τῆς δικαίας κρίσεως τοῦ Θεοῦ, εἰς τὸ καταξιοθῆναι ὑμᾶς τῆς βασιλείας τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὑπὲρ ἧς καὶ πάσχετε· **6** εἴπερ δίκαιον παρὰ Θεῷ ἀνταποδοῦναι τοῖς θλίβουσιν ὑμᾶς θλίψιν, **7** καὶ ὑμῖν τοῖς θλιβομένοις, ἄνεσιν (μεθ’ ἡμῶν) ἐν τῇ ἀποκαλύψει τοῦ Κυρίου Ἰησοῦ⁴ ἀπ’ οὐρανοῦ μετ’ ἀγγέλων δυνάμεως αὐτοῦ ἐν πυρὶ φλογός, **8** διδόντος ἐκδίκησιν τοῖς μὴ εἰδόσιν⁵ Θεὸν καὶ τοῖς μὴ ὑπακούουσιν τῷ εὐαγγελίῳ τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ,⁶ **9** οἵτινες δίκην τίσουσιν· ὄλεθρον αἰώνιον, ἀπὸ προσώπου τοῦ⁷ Κυρίου καὶ ἀπὸ τῆς δόξης τῆς ἰσχύος αὐτοῦ, **10** ὅταν ἔλθῃ ἐνδο-ξασθῆναι ἐν τοῖς ἁγίοις αὐτοῦ, καὶ θαυμασθῆναι ἐν πᾶσιν τοῖς πιστεύσασιν⁸ (ὅτι ἐπιστεύθη τὸ μαρτύριον ἡμῶν ἐφ’ ὑμᾶς)· ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ.

A model prayer

11 Εἰς ὃ καὶ προσευχόμεθα πάντοτε περὶ ὑμῶν, ἵνα ὑμᾶς ἀξιώσῃ τῆς κλήσεως ὃ Θεὸς ἡμῶν καὶ πληρώσῃ πᾶσαν εὐδοκίαν ἀγαθωσύνης⁹ καὶ ἔργον πίστεως ἐν δυνάμει, **12** ὅπως ἐνδοξασθῇ τὸ ὄνομα τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ¹⁰ ἐν ὑμῖν, καὶ ὑμεῖς ἐν αὐτῷ, κατὰ τὴν χάριν τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν καὶ Κυρίου, Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.

The Day of Christ

2:1 Ἐρωτῶμεν δὲ ὑμᾶς, ἀδελφοί, ὑπὲρ τῆς παρουσίας τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ καὶ ἡμῶν ἐπισυναγωγῆς ἐπ’ αὐτόν, **2** εἰς τὸ μὴ ταχέως

¹ ἡμῶν f³⁵ NA,I [98%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP[N]U | --- B [2%]

² ἡμᾶς αὐτοὺς f³⁵ A [96%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | ~ 21 NB [3%] NU | 1 [1%]

³ καυχᾶσθαι f³⁵ [97%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | ἐγκαυχᾶσθαι N(A,B) [3%] NU

⁴ ἰησοῦ rell | 1 χριστοῦ [10%] CP

⁵ εἰδοσιν f³⁵ NA,B [70%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP, NU | 1 τον [30%]

⁶ χριστοῦ f³⁵ NA [60%] HF, OC, TR, CP | --- B [40%] RP, NU (OC uses small print.)

⁷ τοῦ rell | --- [10%] CP

⁸ πιστεύσασιν f³⁵ NA,B [93%] RP, HF, OC, CP, NU | πιστευουσιν [7%] TR

⁹ ἀγαθωσύνης rell | ἀγαθοσύνης [30%]

¹⁰ χριστοῦ f³⁵ A [45%] OC, TR, CP | --- NB [55%] RP, HF, NU (OC uses small print.)

σαλευθῆναι ὑμᾶς ἀπὸ τοῦ νοῦς μήτε¹ θροεῖσθαι,² μήτε διὰ³ πνεύματος μήτε διὰ λόγου μήτε δι' ἐπιστολῆς ὡς δι' ἡμῶν, ὡς ὅτι ἐνέστηκεν ἡ ἡμέρα τοῦ Χριστοῦ.⁴

The man of sin

3 Μή τις ὑμᾶς ἐξαπατήσῃ κατὰ μηδένα τρόπον· ὅτι ἐὰν μὴ ἔλθῃ ἡ ἀποστασία πρῶτον καὶ ἀποκαλυφθῇ ὁ ἄνθρωπος τῆς ἀμαρτίας,⁵ ὁ υἱὸς τῆς ἀπωλείας, **4** ὁ ἀντικείμενος καὶ ὑπεραιρόμενος ἐπὶ πάντα λεγόμενον θεὸν ἢ σέβασμα, ὥστε αὐτὸν εἰς τὸν ναὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ ὡς Θεὸν καθίσαι,⁶ ἀποδεικνύντα⁷ ἑαυτὸν ὅτι ἐστὶν Θεός. **5** (Οὐ μνημονεύετε ὅτι ἔτι ὢν πρὸς ὑμᾶς ταῦτα ἔλεγον ὑμῖν;)

The Restrainer

6 Καὶ νῦν τὸ κατέχον οἶδατε, εἰς τὸ ἀποκαλυφθῆναι αὐτὸν ἐν τῷ ἑαυτοῦ⁸ καιρῷ. **7** Τὸ γὰρ μυστήριον ἤδη ἐνεργεῖται τῆς ἀνομίας· μόνον ὁ κατέχων ἄρτι ἕως ἐκ μέσου γένηται. **8** Καὶ τότε ἀποκαλυφθήσεται ὁ ἄνομος, ὃν ὁ Κύριος⁹ ἀναλώσει¹⁰ τῷ πνεύματι τοῦ στόματος αὐτοῦ καὶ καταργήσῃ τὴν ἐπιφανείαν τῆς παρουσίας αὐτοῦ. **9** οὗ ἔστιν ἡ παρουσία κατ' ἐνέργειαν τοῦ Σατανᾶ ἐν πάσῃ δυνάμει καὶ σημείοις καὶ τέρασιν ψεύδους, **10** καὶ ἐν πάσῃ ἀπάτῃ τῆς¹¹ ἀδικίας ἐν¹² τοῖς ἀπολλυμένοις, ἀνθ' ὧν τὴν ἀγάπην τῆς ἀληθείας οὐκ ἐδέξαντο εἰς τὸ σωθῆναι αὐτούς.

Believing 'the lie'

11 Καί, διὰ τοῦτο πέμψει¹³ αὐτοῖς ὁ Θεὸς ἐνέργειαν πλάνης εἰς τὸ πιστεῦσαι αὐτοὺς τῷ ψεύδει, **12** ἵνα κριθῶσιν πάντες οἱ μὴ πιστεύσαντες τῇ ἀληθείᾳ ἀλλ' εὐδοκήσαντες ἐν¹⁴ τῇ ἀδικίᾳ.

¹ μήτε f³⁵ [94%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | μηδε xA, B [5%] NU | μηποτε [1%]

² θροεῖσθαι rell | θροεῖσθε [10%]

³ δια rell | 1 του [10%] OC (The addition of the article presumably makes the reference be to the Holy Spirit, which is clearly wrong here.)

⁴ χριστου f³⁵ [85%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | κυριου xA, B [15%] NU (Might this be a doctrinally motivated variant?)

⁵ αμαρτίας f³⁵ A (93.8%) RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | ανομίας xB (5.4%) NU | long omissions (0.8%)

⁶ ως θεον καθισαι f³⁵ (82.3%) RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | ~ 312 (8.2%) | 3 xA, B (9.2%) NU | two other variants (0.3%) (Scattered around the variants, 4.9% have καθησαι.)

⁷ αποδεικνυντα f³⁵ xB [88%] RP, HF, OC, TR, NU | αποδεικνουντα (A) [12%] CP

⁸ εαυτου f³⁵ B [80%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP, NU | αυτου xA, I [20%]

⁹ κυριος f³⁵ B (86.6%) RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | 1 ιησους xA (13.4%) [NU]

¹⁰ αναλωσει f³⁵ (92.9%) RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | ανελοι B (6.1%) NU | ανελοι (0.7%) | αναλοι x | αναλlei A

¹¹ της f³⁵ [95%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | --- xA, B [5%] NU

¹² εν f³⁵ [96%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | --- xA, B [4%] NU

¹³ πεμψει f³⁵ [97%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | πεμπει xA, B [3%] NU

¹⁴ εν f³⁵ A [90%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | --- xB [10%] NU

To be Saved is Different

2:13 Ἡμεῖς δὲ ὀφείλομεν εὐχαριστεῖν τῷ Θεῷ πάντοτε περὶ ὑμῶν, ἀδελφοί ἡγαπημένοι ὑπὸ Κυρίου, ὅτι εἴλετο¹ ὑμᾶς ὁ Θεὸς ἀπ' ἀρχῆς,² εἰς σωτηρίαν, ἐν ἁγιασμῷ πνεύματος καὶ πίστει ἀληθείας, **14** εἰς ὃ³ ἐκάλεσεν ὑμᾶς διὰ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου ἡμῶν, εἰς περιποίησιν δόξης τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.

15 Ἄρα οὖν, ἀδελφοί, στήκετε καὶ κρατεῖτε τὰς παραδόσεις ἃς ἐδιδάχθητε, εἴτε διὰ λόγου εἴτε δι' ἐπιστολῆς ἡμῶν.

Another model prayer

16 Αὐτὸς δὲ ὁ Κύριος ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦς Χριστός, καὶ ὁ⁴ Θεὸς καὶ⁵ Πατὴρ ἡμῶν, ὁ ἀγαπήσας ἡμᾶς⁶ καὶ δοὺς⁷ παράκλησιν αἰωνίαν καὶ ἐλπίδα ἀγαθὴν, ἐν χάριτι, **17** παρακαλέσαι ὑμῶν τὰς καρδίας καὶ στηρίζαι ὑμᾶς⁸ ἐν παντὶ λόγῳ καὶ ἔργῳ⁹ ἀγαθῷ.

A request for prayer

3:1 Τὸ λοιπὸν προσεύχεσθε, ἀδελφοί, περὶ ἡμῶν, ἵνα ὁ λόγος τοῦ Κυρίου τρέχῃ καὶ δοξάζεται, καθὼς καὶ πρὸς ὑμᾶς, **2** καὶ ἵνα ῥυσθῶμεν ἀπὸ τῶν ἀτόπων καὶ πονηρῶν ἀνθρώπων· οὐ γὰρ πάντων ἡ πίστις.

3 Πιστὸς δέ ἐστιν ὁ Κύριος, ὃς στηρίζει ὑμᾶς καὶ φυλάξει ἀπὸ τοῦ πονηροῦ. **4** Πεποίθαμεν δὲ ἐν Κυρίῳ ἐφ' ὑμᾶς, ὅτι ἂ παραγγέλλομεν¹⁰ ὑμῖν¹¹ καὶ¹² ποιεῖτε καὶ ποιήσετε. **5** Ὁ δὲ Κύριος κατευθύναι ὑμῶν τὰς καρδίας εἰς τὴν ἀγάπην τοῦ Θεοῦ καὶ εἰς τὴν¹³ ὑπομονὴν τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Instructions

Don't be irresponsible or lazy

3:6 Παραγγέλλομεν δὲ ὑμῖν, ἀδελφοί, ἐν ὀνόματι τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν¹⁴ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, στέλλεσθαι ὑμᾶς ἀπὸ παντὸς ἀδελφοῦ ἀτάκτως περιπατοῦντος καὶ μὴ κατὰ τὴν παράδοσιν ἣν παρέλαβον¹⁵ παρ' ἡμῶν. **7** Αὐτοὶ γὰρ οἶδατε πῶς

¹ εἴλετο f³⁵ [95%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | εἴλατο xA, B [5%] NU

² ἀπ ἀρχῆς f³⁵ x [94%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | ἀπαρχὴν B [6%] NU ('Firstfruits' when and where? Is not the reading of NU inferior?)

³ ο f³⁵ A, B [94%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | 1 καὶ x [6%] [NU]

⁴ ο f³⁵ xA, I [94%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP [NU] | --- B [6%]

⁵ καὶ f³⁵ A, I [97%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | ο xB [2%] NU | καὶ ο [1%]

⁶ ἡμας *rell* | υμας [5%] CP

⁷ δοὺς f³⁵ xA, B [90%] RP, HF, OC, TR, NU | διδοὺς [10%] CP

⁸ υμας f³⁵ [92%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | --- xA, B [8%] NU

⁹ λογῳ καὶ ἐργῳ f³⁵ [89%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | ~ 321 xA, B [10%] NU | two other readings [1%]

¹⁰ παραγγέλλομεν *rell* | παραγγελομεν CP

¹¹ υμιν f³⁵ A [97%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP | --- xB [3%] NU

¹² καὶ f³⁵ B (96.2%) RP, HF, OC, TR, CP [NU] | --- xA (3.8%) (There are four variations on ποιεῖτε that together garner (8.2%); codex B conflates.)

¹³ τὴν *rell* | --- [5%] TR

¹⁴ ἡμῶν f³⁵ xA [99%] RP, HF, OC, TR, CP [NU] | --- B [1%]

¹⁵ παρελαβον f³⁵ [92%] RP, HF, OC, CP | παρελαβοσαν xA [2%] NU | παρελαβετε B [3%] |

δεῖ μιμεῖσθαι ἡμᾶς, ὅτι οὐκ ἠτακτήσαμεν ἐν ὑμῖν· **8** οὐδὲ δωρεὰν ἄρτον ἐφάγομεν¹ παρά τινος· ἀλλ' ἐν κόπῳ καὶ μόχθῳ, νύκτα καὶ ἡμέραν,² ἐργαζόμενοι πρὸς τὸ μὴ ἐπιβαρῆσαί τινα ὑμῶν· **9** οὐχ ὅτι οὐκ ἔχομεν ἐξουσίαν, ἀλλ' ἵνα ἑαυτοὺς τύπον δώμεν ὑμῖν εἰς τὸ μιμεῖσθαι ἡμᾶς. **10** Καὶ γάρ, ὅτε ἦμεν πρὸς ὑμᾶς τοῦτο παρηγγέλλομεν ὑμῖν· ὅτι εἴ τις οὐ θέλει ἐργάζεσθαι μηδὲ ἐσθιέτω. **11** Ἀκούομεν γάρ τινας περιπατοῦντας ἐν ὑμῖν ἀτάκτως· μηδὲν ἐργαζομένους, ἀλλὰ περιεργαζομένους. **12** Τοῖς δὲ τοιοῦτοις παραγγέλλομεν καὶ παρακαλοῦμεν διὰ τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ³ ἵνα μετὰ ἡσυχίας ἐργαζόμενοι τὸν ἑαυτῶν ἄρτον ἐσθίωσιν.

Isolate the disobedient

13 Ὑμεῖς δέ, ἀδελφοί, μὴ ἐκκακήσητε⁴ καλοποιοῦντες. **14** Εἰ δέ τις οὐχ ὑπακούει τῷ λόγῳ ἡμῶν διὰ τῆς ἐπιστολῆς, τοῦτον σημειοῦσθε καὶ⁵ μὴ συναναμίγνυσθε⁶ αὐτῷ, ἵνα ἐντραπῇ· **15** καὶ μὴ ὡς ἐχθρὸν ἡγεῖσθε, ἀλλὰ νοουθετεῖτε ὡς ἀδελφόν.

Conclusion

Benediction

3:16 Αὐτὸς δὲ ὁ Κύριος⁷ τῆς εἰρήνης δώῃ ὑμῖν τὴν εἰρήνην διὰ παντὸς ἐν παντὶ τρόπῳ. Ὁ Κύριος μετὰ πάντων ὑμῶν.

Sign-off

17 Ὁ ἀσπασμὸς τῇ ἐμῇ χειρί, Παύλου, ὃ ἐστὶν σημεῖον ἐν πάσῃ ἐπιστολῇ, οὕτως γράφω. **18** Ἡ χάρις τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ μετὰ πάντων ὑμῶν. Ἀμήν.^{8,9}

παρελαβεν [3%] TR

¹ εφάγομεν f³⁵ XA,B [80%] RP,HF,OC,TR,CP,NU | ελαβομεν [20%]

² νυκτα και ημεραν f³⁵ A,I [96%] RP,HF,OC,TR,CP | νυκτος 2 ημερας XB [4%] NU

³ δια του κυριου ημων ιησου χριστου f³⁵ [96%] RP,HF,OC,TR,CP | εν κυριω 5 χριστω XA,B [4%] NU

⁴ εκκακησητε f³⁵ [97%] RP,HF,OC,TR,CP | εγκακησητε XA(B) [2%] NU | two other variants [1%]

⁵ και f³⁵ [97%] RP,HF,OC,TR,CP | --- XA,B [3%] NU

⁶ συναναμιγνυσθε f³⁵ [96%] RP,HF,OC,TR,CP | συναναμιγνυσθαι XA,B [4%] NU

⁷ κυριος f³⁵ XA,B [90%] RP,HF,OC,TR,CP,NU | θεος [10%]

⁸ αμην f³⁵ A [98%] RP,HF,OC,TR,CP | --- XB [2%] NU

⁹ The citation of f³⁵ is based on thirty-eight MSS—18, 35, 201, 204, 328, 386, 394, 444, 604, 757, 824, 928, 959, 986, 1072, 1075, 1100, 1248, 1249, 1250, 1503, 1548, 1637, 1725, 1732, 1761, 1768, 1855, 1864, 1865, 1876, 1892, 1897, 2080, 2466, 2554, 2587 and 2723—all of which I collated myself. 18, 35, 204, 394, 928, 1072, 1075, 1249, 1503, 1637, 1768, 1864, 1865, 2554 and 2723 are ‘perfect’ representatives of f³⁵ in 2 Thessalonians, as they stand, as were the exemplars of another fifteen. The uniformity is impressive. Since these MSS come from all over the Mediterranean world (Sinai, Jerusalem, Patmos, Constantinople, Bucharest, Aegean, Trikala, Athens, Mt. Athos [seven different monasteries], Grottaferrata, Vatican, etc.) they are certainly representative of the

family, giving us the precise family profile—it is reflected in the Text without exception.

In the statements of evidence I have included the percentage of manuscript attestation for each variant, within either () or []. I have used () for the evidence taken from *TuT*, which I take to be reasonably precise. For the variant sets that are not covered there I had to revert to von Soden and the apparatus of N-A²⁷, supplementing from other sources where possible (Scrivener and Tischendorf)—the percentages offered, I have used [] for these, are extrapolations based on a comparison of these sources.

I venture to predict, if complete collations ever become available, that for any non-Byzantine variants listed with 5 to 1% support (in my apparatus) the margin of error should not exceed $\pm 1\%$; for non-Byzantine variants listed with 10 to 6% support the margin of error should hardly exceed $\pm 3\%$; where there is some division among the Byzantine witnesses the margin of error should rarely exceed $\pm 15\%$. However, I guarantee the witness of Family 35. Please see the last footnote for Matthew for further information.