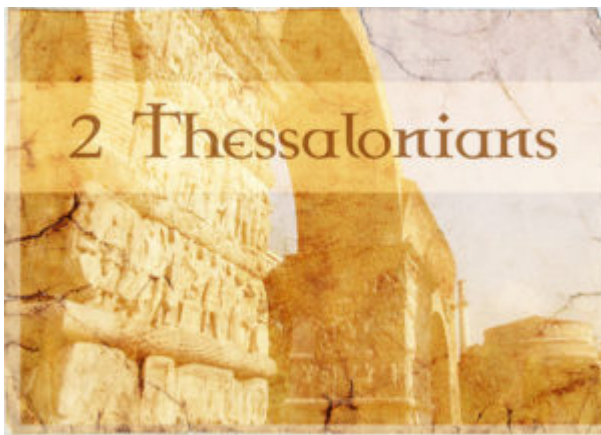


In the Bible book of 2 Thessalonians, the Apostle Paul speaks of God, Jesus Christ, and the holy Spirit. If Paul and/or the early Christians believed Jesus is God or part of a Trinity, we should be able to find evidence of this in the New Testament letters. But is this the case in 2 Thessalonians? Is the Trinity in 2 Thessalonians? Let's examine some of the pertinent verses to find out.



Paul speaks of both God, Jesus, and the holy Spirit in 2 Thessalonians. But does he believe God is a Trinity?

***“To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.” (2 Thessalonians 1:1,2,8 ).***

*In the opening greetings in these first few verses of the letter, God is clearly distinguished from Jesus Christ, as an entirely separate being and there is no mention of the holy Spirit. “God” is referred to as “our Father”, not “the Lord Jesus Christ”. Notice that Jesus is called “Lord,” not God, and there is a conspicuous absence of any greetings from the holy Spirit! If the holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity, and if the Trinity is a true doctrine, why is the Spirit not mentioned here? Because the holy Spirit isn’t a person, and he Trinity is a “false doctrine” (1 Timothy 1:3). These three verses completely exterminate the Trinity doctrine.*

***“We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.” (2 Thessalonians 1:12).*** Again, God and Jesus are spoken of above as separate and distinct. Notice how Jesus is not called “God,” but “Lord.” The phrase “Our God” is differentiated from “the Lord Jesus Christ.” The phrasing of this verse is remarkably similar to, “Through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 1:1 KJV), which Trinitarian biased translations render without the “our” to make it appear that Jesus is God. However, the New Testament writers never thought of, or presented, Jesus as God.

**“They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved . . . all will be condemned who have not believed the truth” (2 Thessalonians 2:10,12).** Salvation depends on knowing, believing, and loving “the truth” about the “Father . . . the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom [he] . . . sent” (John 17:3). In contrast, “They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised” (Romans 1:25 NIV). According to the scriptures, only “Yahweh, the Creator” (Isaiah 40:28 LSB; Matthew 4:10), is to be worshipped, not Jesus, not Trinity. Worshipping anyone, or anything, other than Yahweh God the Father ‘exchanges the truth about God for a lie’, which constitutes a ‘refusal to love and believe the truth’.

**“We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters loved by the Lord, because God chose you as first fruits to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth” (2 Thessalonians 2:13).** Trinitarians claim this verse as a “proof” text of their doctrine. If “Lord” in this verse is Jesus, then the three are named. But does that make them a Trinity? Not one aspect of the doctrine is mentioned – No Almightyness, no equality, no eternity, no three-in-one “Godhead,” nothing to indicate they’re of the same “substance”, “being”, “essence”, etc. In this verse, God uses his holy Spirit to save Christians. The holy Spirit is referred to as “the,” so it is obvious that the Spirit is not a person, and therefore, cannot be, God.

***“He [God] called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. May our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father who has given us his love, and through his grace, such ceaseless encouragement and such sure hope” (2 Thessalonians 2:14,16 NJB).*** “God” is referred to as “our Father” here. These verses show that God is in control, and he uses Jesus in a mighty way. God and Jesus are clearly shown to be two separate and distinct individuals, and there is no mention of the holy Spirit, which is a clue that it is not a person. Without Jesus being God, and the holy Spirit being a person, the Trinity doctrine vanishes!

***“May the Lord direct your hearts into God’s love and Christ’s perseverance.” (2 Thessalonians 3:5).*** God is shown to be someone other than Christ, and God and Christ are distinguished yet again in this verse, as two entirely separate and distinct individuals, who are not of the same “being”, “essence”, or “substance”, etc.

As we have seen from the book of 2 Thessalonians, Paul describes the Father as God, and Jesus Christ as Lord. He differentiates God from Jesus. And he never calls Jesus “God.” The holy Spirit is not presented as being a person. The evidence proves there is not only no Trinity in 2 Thessalonians, the Trinity doctrine is proven false by the letter.

For more information about this topic, see our series of articles: [“Are God, Jesus, and the holy Spirit a Trinity?”](#)

*All Bible verses quoted from New International Version (NIV), except where otherwise noted*