

LESSON 1

YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN!

2 THESSALONIANS INTRODUCTION



1 What do you think the statement "I'll meet you there at half past" means?

2 How could the above statement be misunderstood?

3 Why do people sometimes misunderstand clear messages?



Read the introductory material to 2 Thessalonians and the following note:

☐ 1:1

4 What message did the Thessalonians have trouble understanding correctly?

5 What problems were created by this misunderstanding?

6 How did persecution complicate the situation?

7 How did Paul help them clear up the misunderstanding and the problems created by it?

The Thessalonian Christians were like most of us—subject to misunderstanding the Word of God. When Paul taught them about the return of Christ, many of them misunderstood. As a result, they misinterpreted and misapplied what he had told them. Paul had to write again to clear up their confusion and head off the errors being created by it—especially laziness and fear. It is perfectly human to misunderstand a message. Sometimes we may misunderstand the Bible, read into it what we want it to say, or use a passage out of context to support our opinion. That is why we, like the Thessalonians, need help understanding the message God has for us.



8 Why do people misunderstand the Bible?

9 What provision has God made for us to understand his message to us?

10 Where can a Christian turn when confused about what God wants?



11 What passages from the Bible have you found confusing or difficult to understand, either now or at some time in the past?

12 What have you done to find answers to your questions about the Bible?

13 Who might be able to help you understand biblical passages?



14 What passage or idea in Scripture is still difficult for you to understand?

15 What will you do this week to gain a better understanding of this passage or idea?

- A** How can we strike a proper balance between serving Christ daily and waiting expectantly for his return?
- B** How can we keep our Christian friends mindful of the fact that Christ could return soon?
- C** If Christ were to come within the next three hours, what would you need to do to be ready?

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