

Revelation 21:1 - 1 And **I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away**, and there is no longer any sea. NASB

2 Thessalonians 1:10-12 - 10 when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed — for our testimony to you was believed. 11 To this end also we pray for you always, that our God will count you worthy of your calling, and fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power, 12 so that the name of our Lord Jesus will be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. NASU

A. 10 when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed — for our testimony to you was believed. – See here that for the “*saints*,” (here specifically the whole company of believing people), the Second Coming of Christ will be a day of glory and marvel. For those who do not know God or obey the Gospel, it will be a day of terror and tragedy. But for those who are eagerly awaiting His return, it will be a time “*when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day.*” First notice, it is Christ who will be “*glorified.*” All through the Bible we see God telling us there will come a day when Christ will come “*in glory*” and “*the Lord alone will be exalted in that day.*” (see Psalm 2, 110, Daniel 7, Isaiah 2, 24, 66,

Isaiah 2:17-19 - 17 And **the pride of man will be humbled, And the loftiness of men will be abased, And the Lord alone will be exalted in that day.** 18 But the idols will completely vanish. 19 And men will go into caves of the rocks, And into holes of the ground Before the terror of the Lord, And **before the splendor of His majesty**, When He arises to make the earth tremble. NASB

Matthew 16:27 - 27 **"For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels;** and will then recompense every man according to his deeds. NASB

Mark 13:26-27 - 26 "And then **they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory.** 27 "And then He will send forth the angels, and will gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest end of the earth, to the farthest end of heaven. NASB

Philippians 2:9-11 - 9 Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and **bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.** NASB

Notice however, in this text Paul mentions the way Christ will be glorified. This he describes as “*be glorified in His saints on that day.*” The phrase is loaded with meaning as the unique way in which Christ will be glorified will be “*in His saints.*” This is no doubt a reference to the humbling of the whole world of unbelievers before Christ when He stands apart from them, but with His “*saints*,” those who have faithfully trusted and obeyed Him during their lifetime in history, who will be gathered together “*in the air*” to be witnessed by all the nations.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 - 16 For **the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout**, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and **the dead in Christ shall rise first.** 17 Then we who are alive and remain **shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air**, and thus we shall always be with the Lord. NASB

The saints will in fact be partakers in the glory of Christ, before all the nations as they are manifested to be His holy people, visibly for all the world to see. At this time, the Christians of all ages will be vindicated by God in full view of the world, and all their labor and efforts both to witness and to serve the Lord, will be manifested as genuine, for which they will be glorified “*in Christ*,” and He in them, but the unbelieving world in utter shame will seek to “*hide in the caves of the rocks, And into holes of the ground, Before the terror of the Lord, And before the splendor of His majesty*” (Isaiah 2:18-19). At this time, the holy church will be “*glorified*” with and in Christ, and their hope shall be realized and rewarded before all eyes.

Colossians 3:4 - 4 **When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.** NASB

Philippians 2:14-16 - 14 Do all things without grumbling or disputing; 15 that you may prove yourselves

to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, 16 holding fast the word of life, **so that in the day of Christ I may have cause to glory** because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain. NASB

1 Thessalonians 2:19-20 - 19 For who is our hope or joy or crown of exultation? **Is it not even you, in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming?** 20 For you are our glory and joy. NASB

1 Thessalonians 3:13 - 13 so that **He may establish your hearts unblamable in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus** with all His saints. NASB

1 Peter 2:12 - 12 Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, **they may on account of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.** NASB

Romans 8:18-19 - 18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared **with the glory that is to be revealed to us.** 19 For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. NASB

It is also at this time that the saints shall also be eternally glorified, having their bodies transformed into the likeness of Christ, and for them, sin and death swallowed up forever.

Glorification has its fulfillment at the *parousia* of Christ for the church of all ages past.

Philippians 3:19-21- 20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also **we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; 21 who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory,** by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself. NASB

1 Corinthians 15:50-56 - 50 Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and **we shall be changed. 53 For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "Death is swallowed up in victory.** 55 "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" NASB

1 Peter 4:12-13 - 12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; 13 but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; **so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exultation.** NASB

1 John 3:2 - 2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. **We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him,** because we shall see Him just as He is. NASB

Paul goes on from here saying that Christ will ***“be marveled at among all who have believed — for our testimony to you was believed.”*** Imagine here, for ***“all who have believed,”*** their faith will finally become sight as they will be united with Christ in His presence eternally, having a full disclosure of His glory and power and Kingship, when He comes again to ***“make His enemies His footstool”*** and put to flight all rebel forces of evil. At that time will come about the saying,

Habakkuk 2:14 - 4 "For **the earth will be filled With the knowledge of the glory of the Lord,** As the waters cover the sea. NASB

Consider the rejoicing of God’s people on this great day of victory, as they ***“marvel at”*** Him and glory in His greatness and power. What a day of rejoicing that will be! Never again to be plagued by sin, but immortally free from all that is evil, eternally transformed into His perfect state, and glorified by His power. Notice that Paul identifies these who will be marveling as those who believed His Gospel when he says, ***“for our testimony to you was believed.”***

B. 11 To this end also we pray for you always, that our God will count you worthy of your calling, and fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power, - As usually follows when speaking of Christ’s coming, the apostle now directs us to the goal of our faith while we do live, that is that we might glorify God and Christ by the way we live. He refers to this glory as the end or goal of our living when he says, ***“to this end.”*** Is it ***“to this end,”*** that Paul mentions his unceasing prayers, ***“we pray for you always.”*** Here see Paul encouraging the Thessalonians to see both their final assurance and the present fruitfulness as primarily God’s

work. He says, ***“that our God will count you worthy of your calling,”*** expressing his desire that their lives currently reflect their profession of faith in Christ, will surely show that God has counted them worthy. For all people whom God ***“counts worthy,”*** He also makes worthy by the imputation of Christ perfect righteousness through faith. The result of this justifying work of God is sanctification, the ongoing process of being conformed into Christ’s image, which will come to full fruition at glorification, when Christ comes again to receive us unto Himself. Paul is here encouraging them to remain steadfast in the faith, having consoled them over their persecution, that they will be vindicated by Christ at His coming. He is praying that they will ***“fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power,”*** hoping that ***“God will”*** cause these things to happen, so that Christ will be glorified (v-12). The idea behind ***“fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power,”*** is that God will bring to fruition all the desires for goodness which live in their hearts by the Holy Spirit, who is goodness Himself, along with all good works motivated by their faith. See here that God is not only the One who gives us the desires of our hearts for doing good, but also who brings them to pass by His sovereign Providence. This is one great purpose of our salvation is that we would fulfill good works which God has foreordained that we should walk in. Consider how Paul describes in Ephesians 2 that God has predestined even our good works.

Ephesians 2:10 - 10 For we are His workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.** NASB

C. 12 so that the name of our Lord Jesus will be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ – And of course the goal of our goodness and works of faith is the very glory of the Lord Jesus Himself. This is why we live, the great purpose of our lives and all our good works of service unto the Lord is ***“so that the name of our Lord Jesus will be glorified in you, and you in Him.”*** Why should Christians be so willing to help the poor, oppressed and defenseless in the world? Why is the great majority of organizations that rush to the aid of victims of tragedy and calamity Christian groups? Why do we have these innate desires to help people and to do good, and make sacrifices of our own time, talent and treasure for no benefit of our own? It is because we have had a supernatural transformation of our hearts by the Holy Spirit of God whereby God’s very nature has come to live inside of us by the Spirit. And these things we do seeking not that we would be glorified, for we do our deeds in secret whenever possible, but rather ***“so that the name of our Lord Jesus will be glorified in you, and you in Him.”*** We desire for God and Christ to be glorified by our humble service to others. This is one great purpose of our lives.

Matthew 5:16 - 16 "Let your light shine before men in such a way **that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.** NASB

1 Corinthians 10:31 - 31 Whether, then, you eat or drink **or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.** NASB

In this context of 2 Thessalonians 1:5-12, Paul is bringing his point to a conclusion. That is that, their suffering and all their service and good works are going to be vindicated in the end at the Second Coming of Christ, at which time their *union with Christ* will be plainly seen at the revelation of His glory. That Christ will be glorified ***“in you,”*** as all their good works and service of faith will be seen to be the genuine power of God at work in them, and the saints will be ***“glorified.... in Him,”*** as He is seen to be the One that called them and spurred them on to all their works of faith, which they performed by His power and for His glory. All of this will be ***“according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.”*** All of the Christian life is a result of the blessing of God’s grace upon us, and not a result of any work we have done. We deserve God’s wrath, and instead we have been made partakers in His kingdom and glory.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-4 - 1 Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord