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Structural Analysis of 2 Thessalonians via Outline

- I. INTRODUCTION: 1:1-12
 - A. Thankful for the Thessalonians faith 1:1-3
 - B. Patience and faith in persecution 1:4-5

Paul is thankful for the Thessalonian's faith through their persecution and encourages them to remain faithful during this time.
 - C. Punishment will come to the wicked at God's appointed time 1:5-10

Paul reminds the Thessalonians that the wicked will be judged by God in the end, as an encouragement to continue on in their patience through affliction.
 - D. Paul keeps the Thessalonians in prayer 1:11-12

Another reminder that the Thessalonians are not alone in their struggles, they have those, like Paul, who are praying for them.
- II. CHRIST'S SECOND COMING 2:1-12
 - A. Christ's second coming has not occurred as some false teachers claim 2:1-2
 - B. Signs will come before Christ's return 2:3-12

To help shore up the Thessalonians understanding of Christ's second coming, Paul leaves some breadcrumbs that lead up to Christ's return, to help keep them away from rumors not grounded in truth regarding Christ's return.

 - 1. The falling away 2:3
 - 2. The Anti-Christ
 - i. Man of sin, son of perdition
 - ii. Exalts himself to be worshipped 2:4
 - iii. Lawless one 2:8-10
 - 3. They (unbelievers) will believe the lie 2:11-12
- III. EXHORTATIONS & PRAYER 2:13-3:15

Paul charges the Thessalonians to stick to what they were taught, to remain in God's comfort and to continue working and living until Christ's return. He warns against becoming busybodies or keeping company with those who do not obey.

 - A. Stand Fast, hold to what was taught 2:13-15
 - B. Be comforted 2:16
 - C. Continue in good word and work 2:17
 - D. Pray for us, deliverance from wicked men 3:1-5
 - E. Command to withdraw from disorderly brethren 3:6
 - F. Continue to work until Christ's return 3:7-13
 - G. Do not keep company with the disobedient 3:14-15
- IV. CONCLUSION 3:16-18
 - A. Prayer for peace 3:16

This parallels the introduction that deals with patience and faith through affliction
 - B. Paul signs off, confirming his authorship 3:17-18