

November 25 Answers

- 1) Paul's second letter to the church in Thessalonica. Paul first dealt with the timing of the Day of the Lord (the seven-year **Tribulation** period). He told them that Day must be preceded by a final **apostasy** and the coming of the "man of **lawlessness**" (2 Thess 2:3). Paul next addressed the **spiritual** condition of the Thessalonian believers. He assured them that they were "brothers beloved by the Lord," chosen as "the **firstfruits** to be saved," and he encouraged them to "stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us" (2 Thess 2:13–15). This meant they should **admonish** those who had become idle and **imitate** Paul's example of hard work. Those who did not obey should not be fed by the others; instead, they should be **avoided** (2 Thess 3:6–10). This teaches us two lessons: (1) we need to carefully **examine** any claim concerning the timing of the Tribulation and make sure it's in harmony with Scripture, and (2) we need to be focused on **working** hard and providing for our families, not on doomsday scenarios and fears about the end of the world.