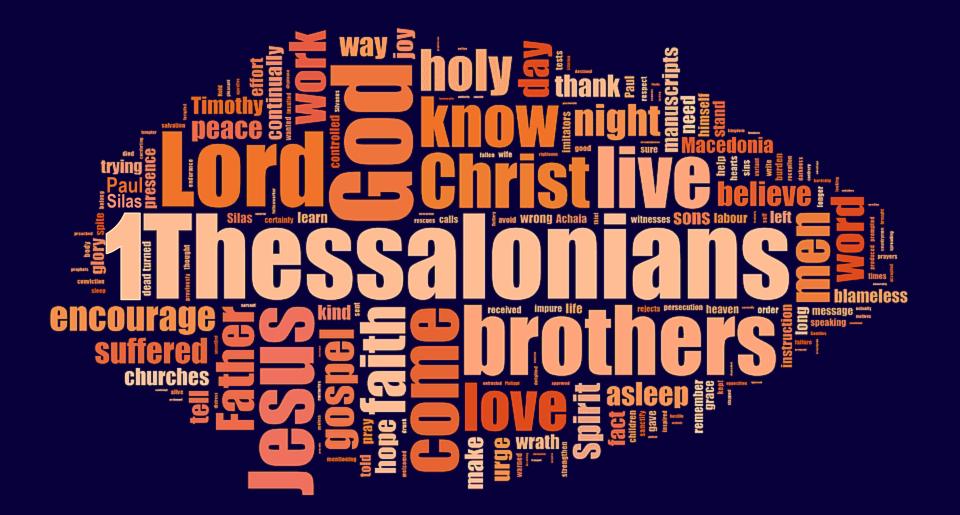




## BUBLE Is ABOUT

# Chapters 3-5 of the First Letter to the Thessalon1ans



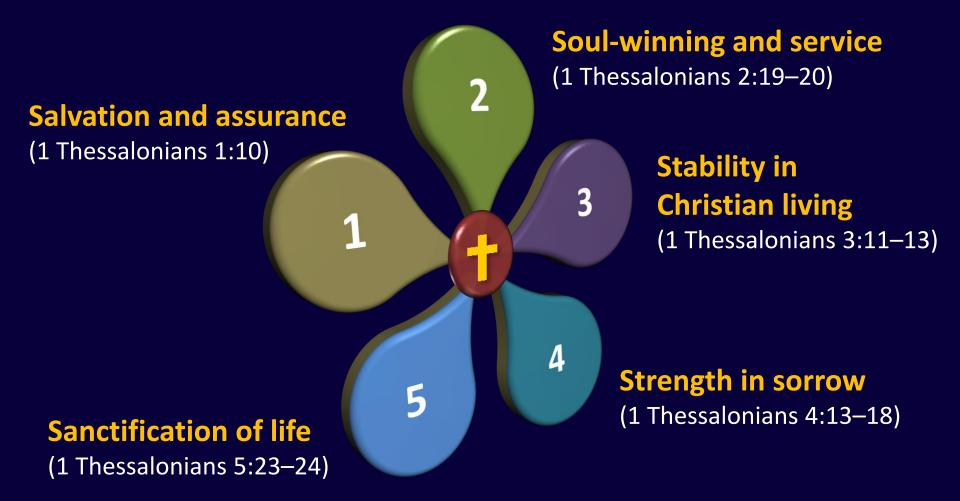








These two letters mention almost every major doctrine of the Christian faith relating to a practical aspect of Christian living. Every chapter in 1 Thessalonians ends with reference to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.



#### Paul's Ministry to Thessalonica

- Paul as Apostle to the Gentiles played a crucial role in development of Christianity away from its Jewish parent, but retaining Jewish roots.
- Silas accompanied him on his Second Journey.
- Timothy was his young disciple and messenger.

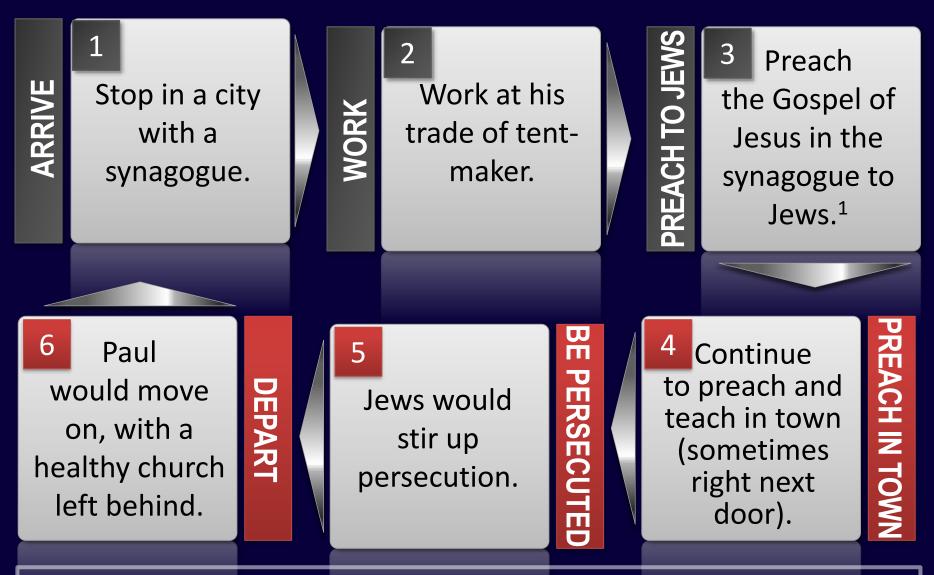
In a short time, Paul planted a healthy Thessalonian church. Forced to flee, he continued to pray for and support them.



Paul's Ministry in Thessalonica is covered in Chapters 17 and **18** of the Book of Acts

COMIC BOOK REMIX - FEATURING THE NEW KING JAMES BIBLE ADAT THE FIRST 40 YEARS OF JESUS' CHURCH Story/Art: George A. Pflaum and Crew Text/Colorize: Ray Sarlin Cover: Sarlin (2012), cartoon after Reveil (1830) engraving after Raphael (1515) painting, Saint Paul prêchant à Athènes

#### **Paul's Evangelical Approach**



NOTE 1: God-fearers" (fringe non-Jewish seekers) were most receptive to the message.
Jewish elders usually got angry and forced Paul out after 2 or 3 Sabbaths.

#### **Paul's Epistles**

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. 2 Timothy 3:16

Paul's Epistle to the	Profitable for	Aspect of Theology
Romans	Doctrine	Soteriology (study
1,2 Corinthians	Reproof	of the doctrines of
Galatians	Correction	salvation)
Ephesians	Doctrine	Ecclesiology (study
Philippians	Reproof	of the doctrines of
Colossians	Correction	the Church)
1,2 Thessalonians	Doctrine	Eschatology (study of the end times)

#### **Messages of 1 and 2 Thessalonians**

1 Thessalonians	2 Thessalonians
Focuses on the wisdom of God	Focuses on the comfort of God
The return of Jesus Christ for the ekklesia	The return of Jesus Christ with the ekklesia
Christ comes in the air for His church (4:13–18)	Christ comes to the earth with His church (1:10)
A sudden secret rapture that can occur at any time	A crisis that is part of a predicted program
Can occur today	Can occur only after certain events happen
The day of Christ	The day of the Lord



#### **Theme:** The coming of Christ for His believers

Key verses:

<sup>9</sup> For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup> who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.

(1 Thessalonians 5:9–10)

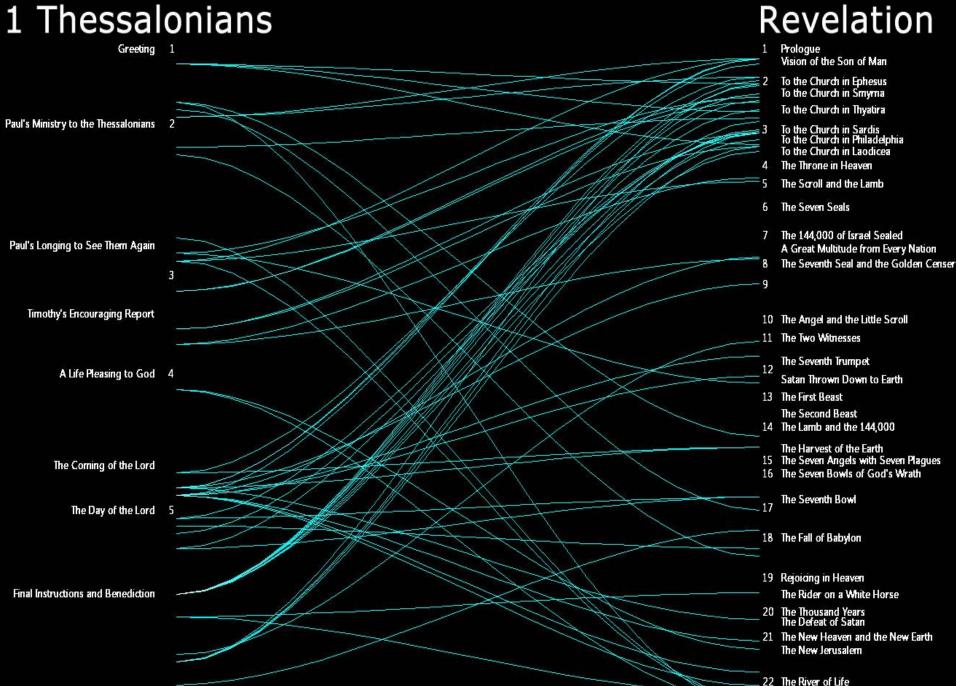
#### **Outline of 1 Thessalonians**

#### Paul Remembers (Chapters 1-3)

- How the church was born—1
- How the church was nurtured—2
- How the church was established—3

Paul exhorts the church to walk: (Chapters 4-5)

- In holiness—4:1–8
- In harmony—4:9–10
- In honesty-4:11-12
- In hope-4:13-5:11
- In helpfulness—5:12–28



<sup>22</sup> The River of

#### **Key Points**

God calls believers to stand firm and remain faithful

Believers can expect to suffer for their faith

Believers who have died will rise first when Christ returns

Christ's return like a thief in the night will surprise unbelievers

> Believers can wait expectantly for Christ's return while living holy lives

#### Paul's Themes in 1 Thessalonians

- 1. Confirm the **foundational truths** they had been taught.
- 2. Exhort them to **personal holiness**.
- 3. Comfort them concerning **departed** loved ones.
- 4. Remind them of their **Blessed Hope**.

Each chapter ends with the Second Coming.

#### A key memory verse - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



4 Masters, provide your slaves with what is right at fair, because you know that

you also have a Master in heaven.

#### Further instructions

Deve yourselves to prayer, being watch£ and thankful 3And pray for us,

see that it is also read the much of the thurch of the Laodiceans and that you when read the letter from Laodicea

17Tell Archippus: "See to it in our complete the work you have receive in the Lord.

19], Paul, write this greeting in 1000 hand. Remember my chains. Grate A with you.

## 1 Thessalonians

P.d. Silass and Timothy. To he church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Grace and peace to you.«

Some managements that he may know about sour. At Greek Solvanat, a variant of Miles fully manuscripy you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

#### Paul's Reasons for Writing his First Letter to the Thessalonians

### To express joy at the people's steadfastness.



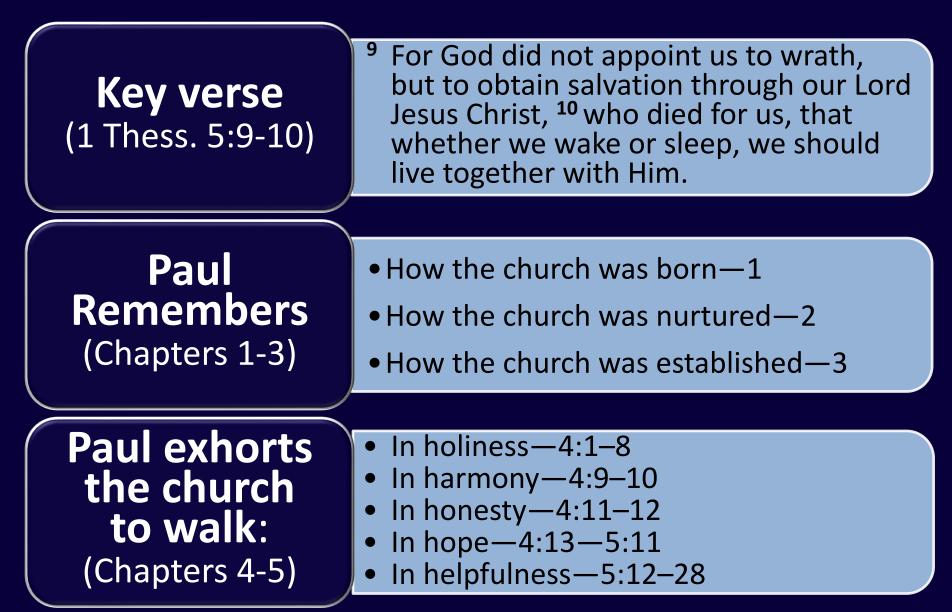


To refute certain false charges and slanderous insinuations being circulated and respond to personal attacks; assailed motives.

To assuage concern over deceased loved ones who might have missed Christ's Second Coming.



#### **The 1<sup>st</sup> Letter to the Thessalonians**



#### The Birth of the Church (1 Thess. 1)

- An Elect (Born-again) People (1:1–4)
  - Salvation begins with God. "God has chosen you to salvation."
  - Salvation involves God's love, which makes it possible.
  - Salvation involves faith, which saves the sinner.
  - Salvation involves the Trinity.
    - The Father saved when choosing before the world began.
    - The Son saved when He died on the cross.
    - The Holy Spirit saves when a sinner hears the Word, trusts Jesus, and becomes a Child of God.
  - Salvation changes the life (three evidences of salvation):
    - Work of faith you turned from Idols to God (Past)
    - Labour of love to serve the living God (Present)
    - Patience of hope to wait for His Son from heaven (Future)

#### **The Paradigm of Salvation**

- Past sense: "I have been saved."
  - Turn to God from idols (Chap. 1)

#### Justification

- Present tense: "I am being saved."
  - Serve the living and true God (Chap. 2)

#### Sanctification

- Future tense: "I will be saved."
  - Wait for His Son from heaven (Chap. 3)

Glorification

#### An Exemplary People (1:5–7)

- They received the Word.
- They followed ("imitated") their spiritual leaders.
- They suffered for Christ. Faith is always tested, and persecution is one of the tests.
- They encouraged other churches.

#### An Enthusiastic People (1:8)

- They were both receivers and transmitters of the Word.
- They took responsibility to witness to others.
- Their enthusiasm greatly encouraged Paul.

#### An Expectant People (1:9-10)

With a living hope, they awaited the Lord's return.

"The Word without the Spirit is powerless." "The Word without the Spirit is powerless "The Spirit without the Word is weaponless." "The Spirit without the Word is weaponless." The Word without the Spirit is powerless "The Spirit without the Word is weaponless." "The Spirit without the Word is weaponless." "The Word without the Spirit is powerless." "The Word without the Spirit is powerless." The Spirit without the Word is weaponless "The Word without the Spirit is powerless." "The Spirit without the Word is weaponless." "The Spirit without the Word is weaponless." "The Spirit without the Word is weaponless." "The Word without the Spirit is powerless." In the Spirit without the Word is weaponless." "The Word without the Spirit is powerless." Word is Weaponless." DOWERIESS " "The Word without the Spirit is powerless." "The Spirit without the Word is weaponless." "The Spirit without the Word is weaponless." "The Word without the Spirit is powerless." "The Word without the Spirit is powerless." "The Spirit without the Word is weaponless." "The Word without the Spirit is powerless." "The Spirit without the Word is weaponless.

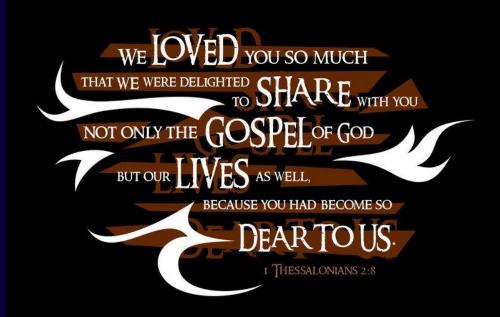
#### Nurturing the Church (1 Thess. 2)

The Faithful Steward (2:1–6) (Key word = faithful)

- The manner of his ministry (vv. 1–2).
- The message of his ministry (v. 3a).
- The motive of his ministry (v. 3b).
- The method of his ministry (vv. 3c–6).



- The Loving Mother (2:7-8) (Key words = loving, gentle)
- The Concerned Father (2:9-12) (Key word = concerned)
  - His work (v. 9).
  - His walk (v. 10).
  - His words (vv. 11–12).



#### God's Word Within Us (2:13)

- They appreciated the Word.
- They appropriated the Word.
- They applied the Word.

#### God's People Around Us (2:14–16)

- Salvation changes your life.
- God's Glory Before Us (2:14–16)



And you became imitators of us and the Lord.

#### **Paul's Encouraging Message**

Don't give up! Lay hold of the **spiritual resources** you have in Christ: the **Word of God** within you, the **people of God** around you, and the **glory of God** before you.



## BUBLE Is ABOUT

## Chapters 3-5 of the First Letter to the Thessalonians

#### **1** Thessalonians **3**

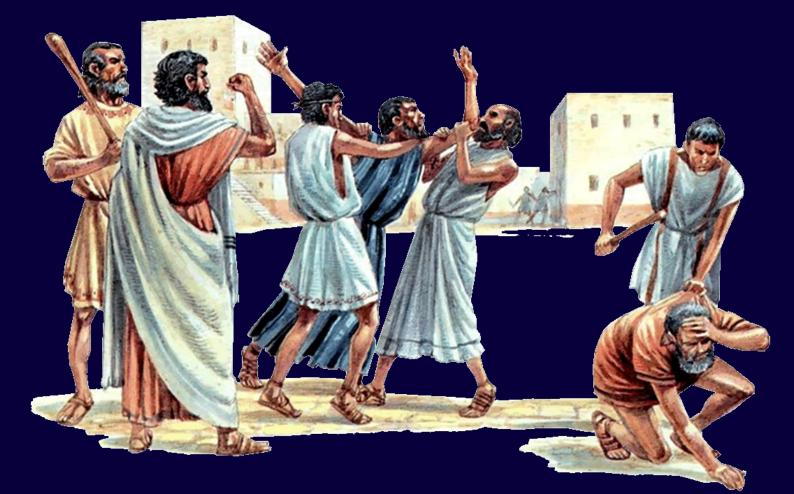
#### **Concern for Their Faith**

- <sup>1</sup> Therefore, when we could no longer endure it, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone, <sup>2</sup> and sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith,
- <sup>3</sup> that no one should be shaken by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we are appointed to this.

#### WHEN TIMOTHY CAME TO ATHENS, PAUL SENT HIM BACK TO THESSALONICA.

I CAN STAY ALONE IN ATHENS. GO, FIND OUT HOW THESSALONIAN BELIEVERS ARE DOING AND STRENGTHEN AND ENCOURAGE THEM IN THEIR FAITH.

- <sup>4</sup> For, in fact, we told you before when we were with you that we would suffer tribulation, just as it happened, and you know.
- <sup>5</sup> For this reason, when I could no longer endure it, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter had tempted you, and our labor might be in vain.





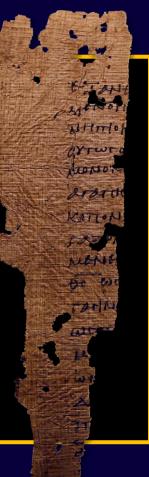
- <sup>6</sup> But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always have good remembrance of us, greatly desiring to see us, as we also *to see* you—
- <sup>7</sup> therefore, brethren, in all our affliction and distress we were comforted concerning you by your faith.



- <sup>8</sup> For now we live, if you stand fast in the Lord.
- <sup>9</sup> For what thanks can we render to God for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sake before our God, <sup>10</sup> night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and perfect what is lacking in your faith?

Paul's response was to write this letter. Paul's two letters to the Thessalonian church are a part of God's inspired Word.

This suggests that God's Word is one of the best tools for establishing new Christians in the faith. "So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter" (2 Thess. 2:15). Papyrus 65 (𝔅<sup>65</sup>) is a papyrus manuscript of 1 Thessalonians verses 1:3-2:1 and 2:6-13, dated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> century.

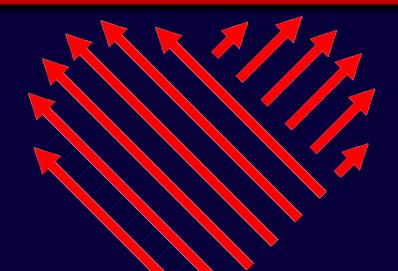


#### **Prayer for the Church**

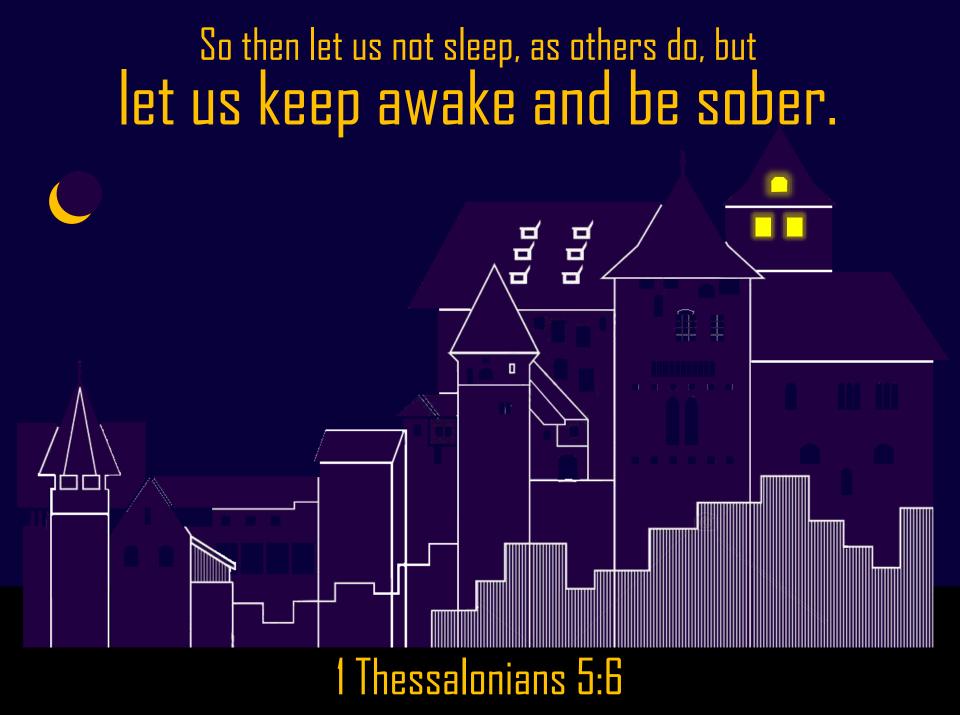
- <sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you.
- <sup>12</sup> And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we *do* to you, <sup>13</sup> so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

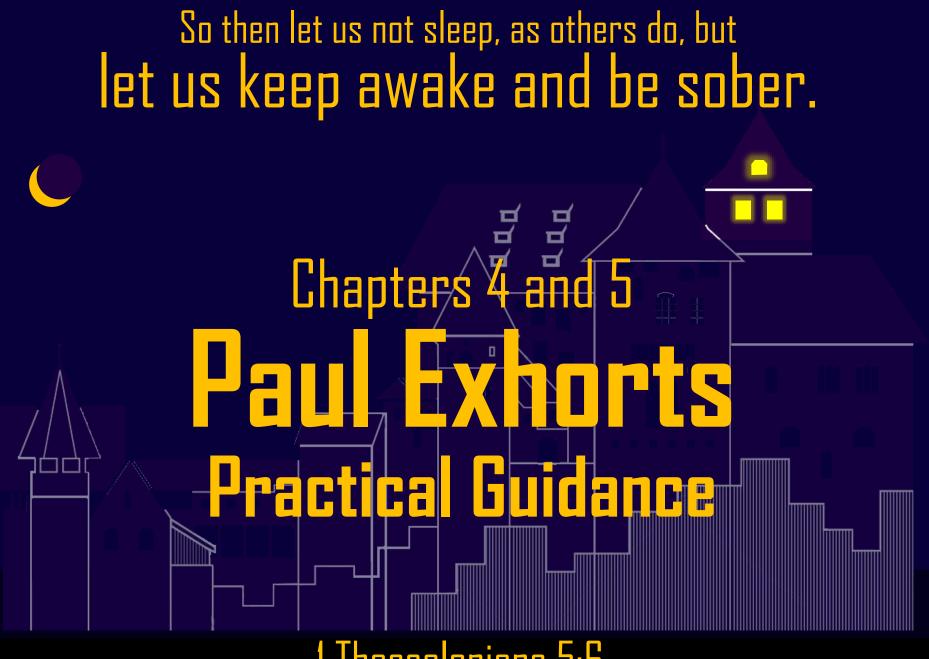
## ... and may the Lord make you INCREASE AND ABOUND IN LOVE

to one another and to all, just as we do to you....



**1 THESSALONIANS 3:12** 





#### 1 Thessalonians 5:6

# **Outline of 1 Thessalonians**

#### Paul Remembers (Chapters 1-3)

- How the church was born—1
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Paul exhorts the church to walk: (Chapters 4-5)

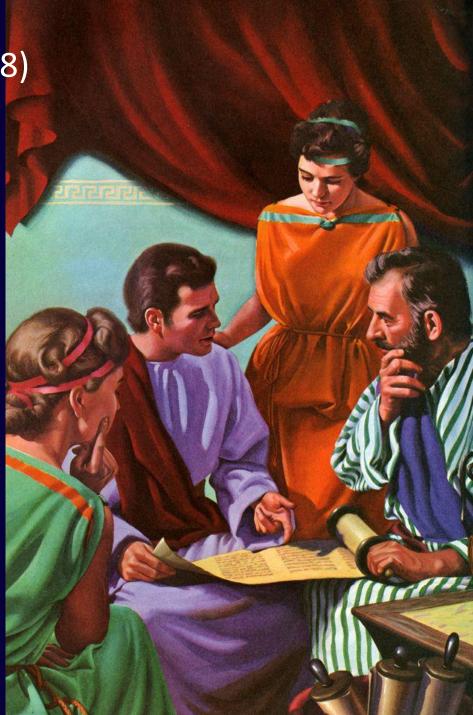
- In holiness—4:1–8
- In harmony—4:9–10
- In honesty-4:11-12
- In hope—4:13—5:11
- In helpfulness—5:12–28

#### Walk in Holiness (4:1–8)

- To please God.
- To obey God.
- To glorify God.
- To escape the judgment of God.
- Walk in Harmony (4:9–10)
- Walk in Honesty (4:11–12)
- Walk in Hope (4:13–5:11)
  - Revelation: We Have God's Truth (4:13, 15a)
  - Return: Christ Is Coming Again (4:14–15)
  - Resurrection: The Christian Dead Will Rise (4:15–16)
  - Rapture: Living Believers Caught Up (4:17)
  - Reunion: Christians Forever with the Lord (4:17–18)
- Walk in Helpfulness (5:12–28)

### Walk in Helpfulness (5:12–28)

- Family Leadership (5:12–13)
  - Accept them
  - Appreciate them
  - Love them
  - Obey them
- Family Partnership (5:14–16)
  - The unruly
  - The feebleminded
  - The weak
  - Be patient
  - Watch your motives
  - Be joyful
- Family Worship (5:17–28)
  - Prayer (v. 17)
  - The Word of God (vv. 19–21)
  - Godly living (vv. 22–24)



# **1** Thessalonians **4**

# **Plea for Purity**

<sup>1</sup> Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God; <sup>2</sup> for you know what commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus. For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 4:2

<sup>3</sup> For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; <sup>4</sup> that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, <sup>5</sup> not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; <sup>6</sup> that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord *is* the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified.

For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness.

1 Thessalonians 4:7

For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness.

8 Therefore he who rejects *this* does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.

Therefore he who rejects this instruction does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.

1 Thessalonians 4:8

# **A Brotherly and Orderly Life**

<sup>9</sup> But concerning brotherly love you have no need that I should write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; <sup>10</sup> and indeed you do so toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia.

But we urge you, brethren,

- that you increase more and more;
- <sup>11</sup> that you also aspire to lead a quiet life,
- to mind your own business, and
- to work with your own hands, as we commanded you,

- Love one another
- Increase more and more;
- Aspire to lead a quiet life,
- Mind your own business
- Work with your own hands

That you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and *that* you may lack nothing.

<sup>12</sup> that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing.

# The Comfort of Christ's Coming

<sup>13</sup> But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.

Times and seasons – God has specific plans - for Israel and for Mankind.

The Day of the Lord – that time when God will judge the world and punish the nations.

Thief in the night – describes the suddenness and the surprise involved in the coming of the day of the Lord. Paul emphasizes that the believers are "in the know," while the unbelievers live in ignorance of God's plan.

# The Comfort of Christ's Coming

- <sup>13</sup> But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.
- <sup>14</sup> For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.
- <sup>15</sup> For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep.

I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.

1 Thessalonians 4:13

- <sup>16</sup> For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.
- <sup>17</sup> 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.



<sup>18</sup> Therefore comfort one another with these words.

# **Two Themes in Paul's Thessalonian Epistles**



The Harpazo (harpazó, Greek 726)

In the clouds

"Rapture" (rapiemur, Latin )



# **Rapture and Second Coming – 1 or 2 events?**

Rapture		Second Coming	
John 14:1-3	2 Thess 2:1, 3	Dan 2:44-45	1 Thess 3:13
Rom 8:19	1 Tim 6:14	Dan 7:9-14	2 Thess 1:6-10
1 Cor 1:7-8	2 Tim 4:1	Dan 12:1-3	2 Thess 2:8
1 Cor 15:1-53	Titus 2:13	Zech 14:1-15	2 Peter 3:1-14
1 Cor 16:22	Heb 9:28	Matt 13:41	Jude 14-15
Phil 3:20-21	James 5:7-9	Matt 24:15-31	Rev 1:7
Col 3:4	1 Peter 1:7, 13	Matt 26:64	Rev 19:11-20:6
1 Thess 1:10	1 John 2:28-3:2	Mark 13:14-27	Rev 22:7, 12, 20
1 Thess 2:19	Jude 21	Mark 14:62	
1 Thess 4:13-18	Rev 2:25	Luke 21:25-28	
1 Thess 5:9	Rev 3:10	Acts 1:9-11	
1 Thess 5:23			

# **Some Key Differences**

Rapture	Second Coming	
Translation* of believers	No translation involved	
Translated saints go to	Translated saints return to	
heaven	earth	
Earth not judged	Earth judged	
Imminent, any moment, no	Follows definite predicted	
sign given	signs	
Not predicted in the Old	Predicted in the Old and New	
Testament	Testaments	
Affects believers only (the	Affects everyone on the	
"justified")	earth	
Before the Day of Wrath	Concludes the Day of Wrath	

\* Translate ( $\mu\epsilon\tau\dot{\alpha}\theta\epsilon\sigma\iota\varsigma$ , G3331, metathesis, "to transfer"): move from the earthly to heavenly state without the intervening state of death.

# Seven Biblical "Raptures"

- 1. Enoch (Genesis 5:24; Hebrews 11:25)
- 2. Elijah (2 Kings 2:1, 11.)
- 3. Philip (Acts 8:39)
- 4. Paul (2 Corinthians 12:2-4)
- 5. John (Revelation 4:1)
- 6. Jesus (Mark 16:19; Acts 1:9-11; Revelation 12:5)
- 7. The Body of Christ (1 Thessalonians 4:17; Revelation 4:5)

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. (John 14:1-3)

# **1** Thessalonians **5**

# The Day of the Lord

<sup>1</sup> But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. <sup>2</sup> For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night.

#### OLD TESTAMENT

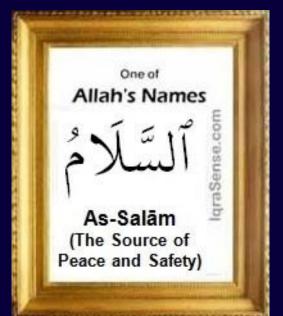


NEW TESTAMENT

# **1** Thessalonians **5**

# The Day of the Lord

- <sup>1</sup> But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. <sup>2</sup> For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night.
- <sup>3</sup> For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.
- <sup>4</sup> But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. <sup>5</sup> You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness.



<sup>6</sup> Therefore let us not sleep, as others *do*, but let us watch and be sober. <sup>7</sup> For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. Him.

- <sup>8</sup> But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.
- <sup>9</sup> For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup> who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.
- <sup>11</sup> Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.



EPHESIANS 6:12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

...put on the breastplate of faith and love, and *as* a helmet the hope of salvation. Ephesians 6 <sup>13</sup> Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

<sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth,

and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

- <sup>15</sup> And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
- <sup>16</sup> Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
- And take the helmet of salvation,
   and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:
- <sup>18</sup> Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;



# **Various Exhortations**

- <sup>12</sup> And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, <sup>13</sup> and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves.
- <sup>14</sup> Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all.



...warn those who are unruly, comfort the ὀλιγόψυχος\*, support the weak, be patient with all.



1 Thessalonians 5:14b

\* Oligopsychos (ol-ig-op'-soo-khos, G3642), little-spirited, i.e. faint-hearted or feebleminded.

<sup>15</sup> See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all. <sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup> in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

BE joyful Pray continually GIVE thanks

<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup> in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.



- <sup>19</sup> Do not quench the Spirit.
- <sup>20</sup> Do not despise prophecies.
- <sup>21</sup> Test all things;
  - hold fast what is good.
  - <sup>22</sup> Abstain from every form of evil.



# **Blessing and Admonition**

- <sup>23</sup> Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup> He who calls you *is* faithful, who also will do *it*.
- <sup>25</sup> Brethren, pray for us.
- <sup>26</sup> Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss.
- <sup>27</sup> I charge you by the Lord that this epistle be read to all the holy brethren.
- <sup>28</sup> The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you. Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

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# 2 Thessalonians

JEXT MEEK