

1 THESSALONIANS

Chapter 1

1 ¶ Paul, ^aSilas and Timothy to the church of the ^bThessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving

2 ¶ ^cWe give thanks to God always for you all, making mention *of you* in our prayers,

3 remembering without ceasing ^dyour work of faith and ^elabor of love and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of God and our Father,

4 knowing, beloved brethren, ^fyour election by God.

5 For ^gour gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and ^hin the Holy Spirit and ⁱin much conviction, as you know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.

6 ¶ And ^jyou became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction ^kwith joy of the Holy Spirit,

7 so that you were examples to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

8 For the word of the Lord ^lhas sounded forth from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also ^min

every place your faith toward God has spread abroad, so that we do not need to speak anything.

9 For they themselves report about us, ⁿwhat manner of entry we had to you, and ^ohow you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,

10 and ^pto wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, who delivers us ^qfrom the wrath to come.

Chapter 2

Paul's Ministry in Thessalonica

1 ¶ For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you was not in vain.

2 But after we had suffered before and were shamefully treated in ^aPhilippi, as you know, we were ^bbold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God with much opposition.

3 ^cFor our exhortation *did not come* from error or uncleanness or by way of deceit.

4 ¶ But as ^dwe have been approved by God ^eto be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, ^fnot as pleasing men, but God ^gwho tests our hearts.

5 For ^hneither at any time did we use flattering words, as you know, nor a cloak of covetousness. ⁱGod *is* witness.

Chapter 1: a 1 Pt 5:12 b At 17:1-9 c Rm 1:8 d Jn 6:29 e Rm 16:6 f Cl 3:12 g Mk 16:20 h 2 Co 6:6 i Hb 2:3 j 1 Co 4:16; 11:1 k At 5:41; 13:52 l Rm 10:18 m Rm 1:8; 16:19 n 1 Th 2:1 o 1 Co 12:2 p Rm 2:7 q Rm 5:9 **Chapter 2:** a At 14:5; 16:19-24 b At 17:1-9 c 2 Co 7:2 d 1 Co 7:25 e Ti 1:3 f Gl 1:10 g Pv 17:3 h 2 Co 2:17 i Rm 1:9

6 ^jNor did we seek glory from men, neither from you or from others, even though ^kwe might have been ^lburdensome to you ^mas apostles of Christ.

7 But ⁿwe were gentle among you, even as a nurse tenderly cares for her own children.

8 So affectionately longing for you, we were well-pleased ^oto impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also ^pour own souls, because you had become very dear to us.

9 For you remember, brethren, our ^qlabor and hardship, for laboring night and day, ^rbecause we would not be a burden to any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God.

10 ¶ ^sYou *are* witnesses, and God *also*, ^thow devoutly and justly and blamelessly we behaved ourselves among you who believe,

11 just as you know how we exhorted and comforted and implored every one of you as a father *does* his own children,

12 ^uso that you would walk worthy of God, ^vwho has called you unto His kingdom and glory.

13 For this reason we also thank God ^wwithout ceasing, because when you ^xreceived the word of God that you heard from us, you did ^ynot receive *it as* the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God that also effectively ^zworks in you who believe.

14 For you, brethren, became imitators of ^athe churches of God in Judea

that are in Christ Jesus, for ^byou have also suffered the same things from your own countrymen, even as they *did* from the Jews,

15 ^cwho both killed the Lord Jesus and ^dtheir own prophets, and have persecuted us. And they do not please God ^eand are contrary to all men,

16 ^fforbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they might be saved, ^gto heap up their sins always, ^hfor wrath has come upon them to the uttermost.

Longing for the Thessalonians

17 ¶ But we, brethren, having been taken from you for a short time ⁱin presence, not in heart, endeavored more eagerly to see your face with great desire.

18 Therefore, we wanted to come to you, even I, Paul, once and again, but ^jSatan hindered us.

19 For ^kwhat *is* our hope or joy or ^lcrown of rejoicing? *Is it* not you in the ^mpresence of our Lord Jesus Christ ⁿat His coming?

20 For you are our glory and joy.

Chapter 3

1 ¶ Therefore, when we could no longer endure *it*, we thought it good to be left at Athens alone.

2 And we sent ^aTimothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen you and to comfort you concerning your faith,

3 so ^bthat no one should be moved

j 1 Tm 5:17 k 1 Co 9:4 l 2 Co 11:9 m 1 Co 9:1 n 1 Co 2:3 o Rm 1:11 p 2 Co 12:15 q At 18:3; 20:34,35 r 2 Co 12:13 s 1 Th 1:5 t 2 Co 7:2 u Ep 4:1 v 1 Co 1:9 w 1 Th 1:2,3 x Mk 4:20 y Gl 4:14 z 1 Pt 1:23 a Gl 1:22 b At 17:5 c At 2:23 d Mt 5:12; 23:34,35 e Et 3:8 f Lk 11:52 g Gn 15:16 h Mt 24:6 i 1 Co 5:3 j Rm 1:13; 15:22 k 2 Co 1:14 l Pv 16:31 m Jd 24 n 1 Co 15:23 **Chapter 3:** a Rm 16:21 b Ep 3:13

by these afflictions, for you yourselves know that ^cwe are appointed for this.

4 ^dFor indeed, when we were with you, we told you in advance that we would suffer tribulation, even as it came to pass as you know.

5 For this reason, when I could no longer endure it, I sent to know your faith, ^elest by some means the tempter had tempted you and ^four labor might have been in vain.

Encouraging Report

6 ¶ ^gBut now that Timothy has come from you to us, and brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always have good remembrance of us, desiring greatly to see us, ^has we also *to see you*,

7 for this reason, brethren, in all our affliction and distress ⁱwe were comforted concerning you through your faith.

8 For now we live, if you ^jstand firm in the Lord.

9 ¶ For what thanks can we render to God for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sakes before our God,

10 praying exceedingly night and day that we might see your face ^kand might perfect what is lacking in your faith?

11 ¶ Now may our God and our Father Himself and our Lord Jesus Christ, ^ldirect our way to you.

12 And may the Lord cause you to increase and ^mabound in love for one another, and toward all, even as we

do toward you.

13 May He strengthen ⁿyour hearts *to be* blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

Chapter 4

Godly Living

1 ¶ Finally, brethren, we request and exhort *you* by the Lord Jesus ^athat as you have received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, ^byou should abound more and more.

2 For you know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus.

3 ¶ For this is ^cthe will of God, ^dyour sanctification, ^ethat you should abstain from fornication;

4 ^fthat every one of you should know how to control his own body in sanctification and honor,

5 ^gnot in lustful passion ^hlike the Gentiles ⁱwho do not know God;

6 *and* that no *one* go beyond and defraud his brother in *any* matter because the Lord ^jis the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified.

7 For God has not called us to impurity, ^kbut in holiness.

8 ^lTherefore, he who rejects does not reject man, but God, ^mwho has also given His Holy Spirit to you.

9 ¶ But concerning brotherly love, you have no need that I write to you, for ⁿyou yourselves are taught by God ^oto love one another.

c At 9:16; 14:22 d At 20:24 e 1 Co 7:5 f Gl 2:2 g At 18:5 h Ph 1:8 i 2 Co 1:4 j Ph 4:1 k 2 Co 13:9 l Mk 1:3 m Ph 1:9 n 2 Th 2:17 Chapter 4: a Ph 1:27 b 1 Co 15:58 c Rm 12:2 d Ep 5:27 e 1 Co 6:15-20 f Rm 6:19 g Cl 3:5 h Ep 4:17,18 i 1 Co 15:34 j 2 Th 1:8 k Lv 11:44 l Lk 10:16 m 1 Co 2:10 n Jr 31:33,34 o Mt 22:39

10 And indeed you practice it toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, ^pthat you increase more and more,

11 that you make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and ^qto do your own business and ^rto work with your own hands, as we commanded you,

12 ^sso that you may walk honestly toward those who are outsiders and *that* you may have lack of nothing.

Resurrection and Ascension

13 ¶ But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who are asleep, so that you do not grieve ^tas others ^uwho have no hope.

14 For ^vif we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him ^wthose who have fallen asleep in Jesus.

15 For this we say to you ^xby the word of the Lord, that ^ywe who are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord will not go before those who have fallen asleep.

16 For ^zthe Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with ^athe trumpet of God. ^bAnd the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 ^cThen we who are alive *and* remain will be caught up together with them in ^dthe clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so ^ewe will always be with the Lord.

18 ^fTherefore, comfort one another with these words.

Chapter 5

1 ¶ But concerning ^athe times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that *anything* be written to you.

2 For you yourselves know perfectly that ^bthe day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night.

3 For when they say, "Peace and safety," then ^csudden destruction comes upon them ^das birth pains upon a woman with child. And they will not escape.

4 ^eBut you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that the day should overtake you as a thief.

5 You are all ^fthe children of light and the children of the day. We are not of the night, nor of darkness.

6 ^gTherefore, let us not sleep as others *do*, but ^hlet us watch and be sober.

7 For ⁱthose who sleep, sleep in the night. And those who are drunken, ^jare drunken in the night.

8 But let us who are of the day be sober, ^kputting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation.

9 For ^lGod has not appointed us to wrath, ^mbut to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

10 ⁿwho died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we should live together with Him.

11 Therefore, comfort one another and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

p 1 Th 3:12 q 2 Th 3:11 r At 20:35 s Rm 13:13 t Lv 19:28 u Ep 2:12 v 1 Co 15:13 w 1 Co 15:20,23 x 1 Kg 13:17; 20:35 y 1 Co 15:51,52 z Mt 24:30,31 a 1 Co 15:52 b 1 Co 15:23 c 1 Co 15:51-53 d At 1:9 e Jn 14:3; 17:24 f 1 Th 5:11 **Chapter 5:** a Mat 24:3 b 2 Pt 3:10 c Is 13:6-9 d Hs 13:13 e 1 Jn 2:8 f Ep 5:8 g Mt 25:5 h 1 Pt 5:8 i Lk 21:34 j At 2:15 k Ep 6:14 l Rm 9:22 m 2 Th 2:13 n 2 Co 5:15

Closing Instructions

12 ¶ And we urge you, brethren, ^oto know those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you,

13 and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. ^pLive in peace among yourselves.

14 ¶ Now we exhort you, brethren, ^qwarn those who are unruly. ^rComfort the fainthearted. ^sSupport the weak. ^tBe patient toward all *men*.

15 ^uSee that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always ^vfollow what is good, both among yourselves and to all.

16 ¶ ^wRejoice always.

17 ^xPray without ceasing.

18 In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

19 ¶ ^yDo not quench the Spirit.

20 ^zDo not despise prophecies.

21 ^aProve all things. ^bHold fast to what is good.

22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.

23 ¶ Now may ^cthe God of peace ^dsanctify you wholly. And may your whole spirit and soul and body ^ebe preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

24 ^fFaithful *is* He who calls you, who also will ^gdo *it*.

25 ¶ Brethren, pray for us.

26 ¶ Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss.

27 I charge you by the Lord that this letter be read to all the brethren.

28 ¶ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you. Amen.

o 1 Co 16:18 p Mk 9:50 q 2 Th 3:6,7,11 r Hb 12:12 s Rm 14:1; 15:1 t Gl 5:22 u Lv 19:18 v Gl 6:10 w 2 Co 6:10 x Ep 6:18 y Ep 4:30 z 1 Co 14:1,31 a 1 Jn 4:1 b Ph 4:8 c Ph 4:9 d 1 Th 3:13 e 1 Co 1:8,9 f 1 Co 10:13 g Ph 1:6