

# A Study of 1 & 2 Thessalonians

# 1 Thessalonians – Chapter 1

- Verse 8: For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything.
  - What does Paul mean about “the word of the Lord sounded forth”?
  - How could their “faith” go forth, especially “everywhere”?
  - Why does Paul feel the need to say he won’t say anything?

# 1 Thessalonians – Chapter 1

- Verse 9: For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,
  - Who is the “they themselves”?
  - What did they report?
  - Did they just change from one idol to another or did they go from idols to the real God?

# 1 Thessalonians – Chapter 1

- Verse 9: For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,
  - Why does Paul describe God as “living”?
    - Compared to idols who are...?
  - Why say “true”?
    - Compared to what?

# 1 Thessalonians – Chapter 1

- Verse 10: and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *even* Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.
  - How should we view our waiting for Jesus?
    - In a hurry for Him to come?
    - Dreading His return?
  - Why does Paul bring up the resurrection?
    - How important is this to Christianity?
    - To the Gospel?
  - Who delivers us?
    - From what to come?
    - Why describe it as wrath?

# 1 Thessalonians – Chapter 1

Thought Question: How far reaching will the effects of the gospel be which has been preached to you; what may some day be the results of the gospel which has been preached to you?

# 1 Thessalonians – Chapter 2

- Verse 1: For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you was not in vain.
  - Does Paul call them “brothers” because they were also Jews or because they were fellow Christians?
  - What does “vain” mean?
  - Why was Paul’s coming to them not in vain?
  - What would have made it in vain?

# 1 Thessalonians – Chapter 2

- Verse 2: But even after we had suffered before and were spitefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict.
  - Why does Paul mention their suffering at Philippi?
  - Who and what was the boldness in?
  - The boldness led Paul to declare what subject?
  - In the middle of what?
  - What's the lesson for us today from this verse?



# 1 Thessalonians – Chapter 2

- Verse 3: For our exhortation *did not come* from error or uncleanness, nor *was it* in deceit.
  - What is impurity?
  - Did Paul have impure motives?
  - How does Paul feel about using deception in advancing the Gospel?

# 1 Thessalonians – Chapter 2

- Verse 4: But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts.
  - What was Paul entrusted with?
  - Are we entrusted with the Gospel?
  - How important is it according to Romans 1:16?
    - What did Jesus tell His disciples to do with the Gospel in Mark 16:15?
    - How important is it as far as changing it (Gal 1:6-9)?
  - Who was Paul concerned about making happy?
  - Do you think it is right that God tests our hearts?
    - Why would He do that?

# 1 Thessalonians – Chapter 2

- Verse 5: For neither at any time did we use flattering words, as you know, nor a cloak for covetousness—God *is* witness.
  - Isn't a little flattery ok?
  - Didn't Paul flatter the Athenians on Mars Hill by talking about how religious they were?
  - What does greed have to do with Paul's preaching or anyone else's preaching?
  - To call God as a witness means what?
    - How accurate is God?
    - So if you call God as your witness, how right must you be?

# 1 Thessalonians – Chapter 2

- Verse 6: Nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, when we might have made demands as apostles of Christ.
  - How could Paul have been given glory?
    - What powers did he have?
    - Who taught Paul the truth?
  - Did Paul have the right to demand things as an apostle?
  - Would it have been wrong for him to do so?

# 1 Thessalonians – Chapter 2

- Verse 7: But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing *mother* cherishes her own children.
  - Why did he not demand?
  - How different is “demand” and “gentleness”?
  - What’s the visual image Paul uses to describe how gentle he was with them?
  - Has Paul ever described a Christian as being his child?

# 1 Thessalonians – Chapter 2

- Verse 8: So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.
  - What was Paul willing to share in addition to gospel?
  - Why?
  - How was that possible given the short time Paul knew them?