



Welcome Back!

THE BOOK CONTINUES!

THE BEST IS YET TO COME!!

1 Thessalonians facts:

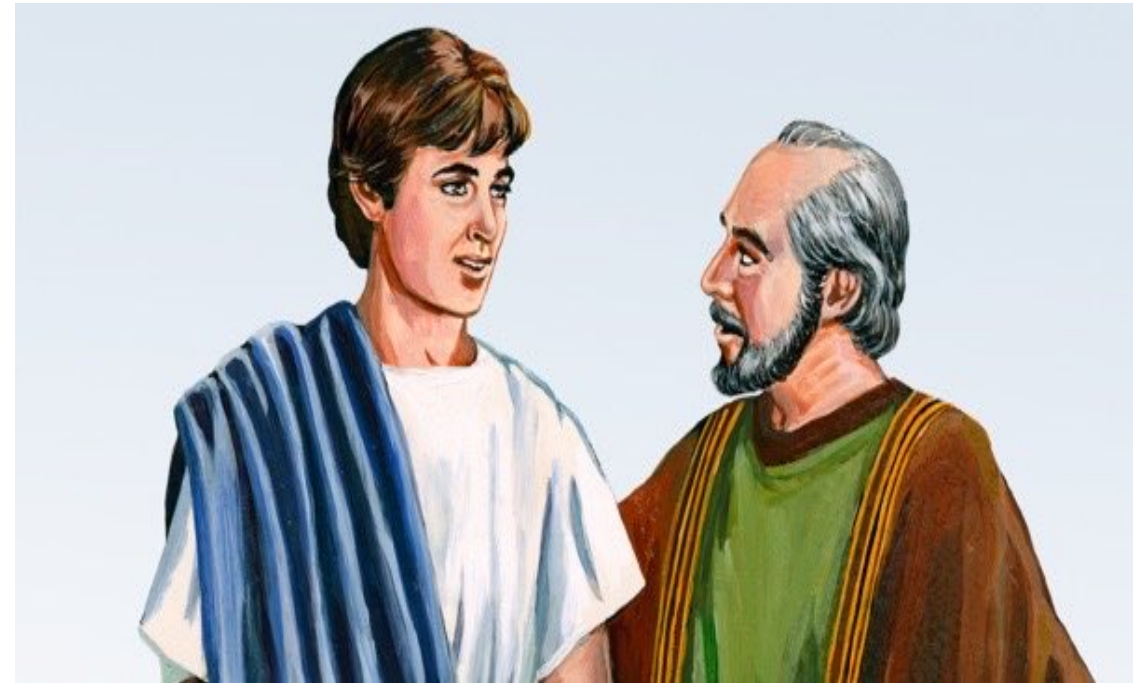
- Written to the Thessalonians
- Paul's Second letter after Galatians
- Key words in book: "coming" and "Parousia" (Jesus' second coming)
- Written in about 50AD.



PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Purpose of writing 1 Thessalonians:

- Paul had founded the church at Thessalonica earlier.
- Now Paul was concerned about the spiritual health of the church
- Paul dispatched Timothy to evaluate the fledgling church
- There seemed to be some kind of persecution going on.
- Timothy's report is in chapter 3. The report was good.
- As always, Paul uses the letter to encourage the church.



One sentence summary of 1
Thessalonians:

“Whatever difficulties and sufferings
believers experience in this life,

the coming of Christ is the true hope
of the Christian.”

1 Thessalonians **Book Outline**

Salutation(1:1)

Personal Relations (1:2-3:13)

Church Problems (4:1-5:11)

Concluding Exhortations (5:12-28)

- Chapter one is pure thanksgiving to the church at Thessalonica. Paul is offering encouragement at its best to this important church.

- Verse 8:

- “The Lord’s message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore, we do not need to say anything about it.”



• Paul begins his emphasis on the return of Christ in these next verses: (1 Thess.1:9-10)

9b. “ They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, *who rescues us from the coming wrath.* (1 Thessalonians 9b-10)

(Italics added)

- ***Paul alludes to a previous visit in Philippi that did not turn out well. He may have also been run out of Corinth by angry persons.***

- **2:1** You know, brothers and sisters, that our visit to you was not without results. ² We had previously suffered and been treated outrageously in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in the face of strong opposition.

• True evangelic ministry is spoken like this:

• 1 Thessalonians 2:13

• **13" And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe."**



Paul mentions hostilities from 'Jews' who do not believe in what Paul is trying to teach!

1 Thessalonians 2:14-15

¹⁴ For you, brothers and sisters, became imitators of God's churches in Judea, which are in Christ Jesus: You suffered from your own people the same things those churches suffered from the Jews ¹⁵ who killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets and also drove us out. They displease God and are hostile to everyone.



Paul reminds his readers -then and now-that Jesus is returning!

- 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20
- ¹⁹ For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you? ²⁰ Indeed, you are our glory and joy.



Paul was concerned about his fledgling church in Thessalonica since his first visit when he founded the church.

- 1 Thessalonians 3:1-2
- So when we could stand it no longer, we thought it best to be left by ourselves in Athens. We sent Timothy, who is our brother and co-worker in God's service in spreading the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith,



Timothy brings good news about the state of the church!

- 1 Thessalonians 3:6-7
- ⁶ But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought good news about your faith and love. He has told us that you always have pleasant memories of us and that you long to see us, just as we also long to see you. ⁷ Therefore, brothers and sisters, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith.





Chapter 3 also has an encouraging message and hope about the return of Jesus. And there is more to come.....

- **1 Thessalonians 3:13**
- **¹³ May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.**

Paul calls his flock to be holy and “sanctified”

1 Thessalonians 4:3-7

³It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; ⁴that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable, ⁵not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God; ⁶and that in this matter no one should wrong or take advantage of a brother or sister. The Lord will punish all those who commit such sins, as we told you and warned you before. ⁷For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.
(*Underlining is mine.*)



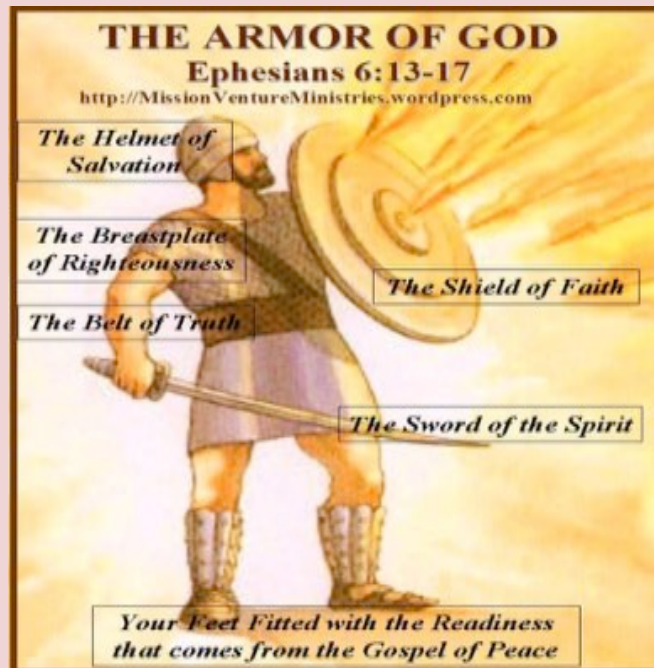
**The most well-known passage in 1
Thessalonians follows in 4: 13-18:**



“THE RAPTURE”

“¹⁶ For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so, we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.”

Paul writes of the armor of God which he uses again in Ephesians 6. He still emphasizes that we will be with the Lord. Jesus is coming!



1 Thessalonians 5:6-11

⁶ So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. ⁹ For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰ He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

HOW ABOUT SOME THINGS TO DO WHILE WE ARE WAITING ON THE LORD TO RETURN?

1 Thessalonians 5:14-22

¹⁴ And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. ¹⁵ Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not treat prophecies with contempt ²¹ but test them all; hold on to what is good, ²² reject every kind of evil.



DO GOOD

**And yes, there is a Pauline type farewell
with a reminder that the Lord Jesus
Christ is coming,**

*May God himself, the God of peace,
sanctify you through and through.
May your whole spirit, soul and
body be kept blameless at the
coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
The one who calls you is faithful,
and he will do it.*

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24



Questions ?
Comments ?
Joys ?
Confusions ?

