



Introduction

Who wrote it?

From where did they write it? Mark it on the map above.

Who was it written to?

What other pertinent biblical information do we know about this place?

What is the theme of the book?

1. Who wrote it?
2. How are the recipients addressed?
3. Compare/contrast Paul's greetings in this epistle with those of previous epistles.
4. How often does Paul thank God for them?
5. Paul says that he is remembering 3 things about them. What are they?
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6. In those 3 things, what has their faith produced?
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7. What has their love produced?
8. What has their hope produced?
9. Paul says that he knows of their election by God because of the way that the Gospel came to them. How did the Gospel come to them (4)?
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10. How did the Gospel *not* come to them?
11. How did the Thessalonians receive the Word (2)?
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12. Who do they become followers of (2)?
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13. We already have a couple of mentions of the Holy Spirit in this book. What can we learn about Him at this point?
14. So the Thessalonians have become a model church. To whom have they become such (2)?
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15. In what way are they a model church (note: the word “for” can be translated “because”) (2)?
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16. In vs. 9-10, list all of the things that the Thessalonian believers did.
17. As we have just read about “the wrath to come,” this letter will spend much time on what/who is coming. Record all of those things here as you come across them.

Application

- In this chapter, Paul speaks about the testimony of the Thessalonian church: how they received the Word in much affliction, so that their believing in Jesus came with much persecution from the beginning; and how they turned to God from idols to serve the true and living God, and to wait for His Son. Think of your own testimony: how much persecution can you risk to openly testify to everyone you know the simple fact of Jesus?
- Also, they left their idols to wait for the Son. How much of what you left behind has been traded in for the eager expectation of Christ’s return?
- Pray that God make you one of a model faith.

I THESSALONIANS 2

1. Where was Paul before he came to Thessalonica?
2. What was his experience there?
3. What was the social condition in Thessalonica when Paul preached the Gospel there (how was he treated)?
4. In vs. 3-6, Paul speaks about the different manners and characteristics that were not of him in his preaching the Gospel there. He lists 8 things he didn't do. What are these 8 things?
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5. What 2 things does God do in these verses?
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6. What is God called in these verses?
7. In what characteristic was Paul like a nursing mother?
8. For that matter, how was a nursing mother to be?
9. What was Paul's attitude toward the Thessalonians?
10. Beyond the Gospel, what else did Paul give to them?
11. What does Paul challenge them to remember about him and his witness?
12. For what purpose did Paul work so hard?

13. What 3 characteristics of Paul's lifestyle are the Thessalonians witnessing?

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14. Now Paul compares himself to a father. What 3 things did Paul do that a father does his own children?

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15. For that matter, how is a father to treat his children?

16. To what end is he to do this?

17. What is God calling us to (2)?

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18. What is Paul so thankful for?

19. What is the Word of God doing to them?

20. What did the Thessalonians become imitators of?

21. In what way were they like the church in Judea?

22. In v. 14, Paul does not just call them the church in Judea. What does he call them?

23. What does Paul say that the Judean countrymen did and do (7)?

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24. What does Paul say has happened to them?
25. How has Paul been taken away from the Thessalonians, and for how long?
26. How has Paul *not* been taken away from them?
27. What is Paul working even harder to do?
28. What hindered Paul from coming to them?
29. Why?
30. What does Paul call the Thessalonians in vs. 19-20 (4) (of these 4 things, he calls them one thing twice)?
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Application

- In this chapter, we have several lists: characteristics that weren't a part of Paul's ministry, characteristics of the Judean countrymen, etc. In other words, we are given lists of bad things. Review these lists in prayer, and ask that God would reveal anything in your life that resembles these characteristics.
- Pray that God eradicate them completely from your life.

I THESSALONIANS 3

1. So Paul continues on with his testimony of a history between him and the Thessalonians. Remember that Paul just called them his glory, hope, joy, and crown of rejoicing. Now he is in a place where he says that he can't take it any longer. Paul then sends Timothy. From where does Paul send Timothy?
2. What does Paul say of Timothy (3)?
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3. What does Paul send Timothy to do (2)?
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4. To what end?
5. What appears to be shaking up the Thessalonians?
6. So what did Paul forewarn them prior?
7. Amidst all the reasons why Paul sends Timothy for the purpose of the Thessalonians, he also sends them for his own purposes. For what personal reason did Paul send Timothy to the Thessalonians?
8. What could have happened to them?
9. In the context of this section, what is the tempter tempting them to do or not do (be sure to read vs. 3-5)?
10. So where is Timothy now (besides 3:6, feel free to check 1:1 and 3:1)?
11. What did Timothy report to Paul about the Thessalonians (4)?
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12. What was Paul's response to these things?
13. Paul then says, "For now we live...." What is that contingent upon?
14. What is Paul praying day and night?
15. What does Paul want to accomplish by coming to them?
16. What 3 things is he asking the Lord to do?
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17. To what end?
18. Who is Jesus coming with?

Application

- Paul was fearful that the tribulation that they were experiencing might have been the open door that the tempter was looking for to challenge them to relinquish their faith. Think back to your moments of persecution. In the end, did they cause your faith to falter or to be greater established?
- Pray that God would give you a faith that would not fear eliciting persecution and would only further be established in it.

1. What is Paul challenging the Thessalonians to grow in?

2. What is the will of God, and how is it acted out (or shall we say, not acted out)? Note: sanctification means “set apart.” Therefore, God tells us that being abstinent will set us apart.

3. In v. 4, how are we to possess our own vessel (2)? What is this vessel? Note: don’t miss that word “sanctification.” Also, the word “honor” speaks of something that is ascribed value or evaluated as valuable. How do those 2 terms work together in the keeping of our vessel?

4. What 2 things does Paul say about the Gentiles here? How are these 2 things related?
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5. In v. 6, we read that nobody should defraud his brother in this matter. What does this mean in context to the previous verses and what examples can you think of when you see this acted out? Note: the easiest place to go would be some public establishment geared towards the passion of lust, but consider 2 Christians in a romantic relationship as well.

6. How does God promise to respond to a person who defrauds a Christian by tempting them to use their bodies in a manner that is not sanctified or honorable?

7. What did God not call us to? Note that v. 7 starts with the word “for,” which again means “because.”

8. What has God called us to?

9. To see how serious God is about this, what does God say about the person who rejects this counsel?

10. What is the 1 area that Paul says he has no need to write to them about?

11. Nonetheless, what does he challenge them in this area?

12. Next, in v. 11, Paul gives them 3 commands. What are they?

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13. To what end (2)?

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14. Now, what does Paul not want them to be ignorant of (in these verses)?

15. If the Thessalonians believed a lie about those who have fallen asleep, what would be the result?

16. What does Paul say that they all believe together?

17. Therefore, if they believe that, what should they also believe?

18. So Who is coming, according to this verse?

19. What point is Paul making in v. 15?

20. Where will the Lord come from?

21. What 3 things will accompany His descent?

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22. What will happen to the dead in Christ?

23. What will happen to those who are still alive on earth (who believe) (3)?

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24. Where will we meet up with the Lord?
25. From the moment we meet Him in the air, will we ever be away from Him again?
26. What is this information supposed to do to us?

Application

- In this chapter, we learn to live in expectation of our coming King. Prior to that point, we see our responsibilities to our own bodies. Is there any area of your life right now that your body is being defrauded in by not being set apart or treated with proper honor? Is anyone contributing to that defrauding?
- Pray that you will have the courage to do everything that is necessary to flee that from this point onward at whatever cost.

1. What do the Thessalonians know about the times and seasons of the coming of the Lord?
2. What will be the slogan of the common people?
3. What will come upon them?
4. What is this destruction compared to?
5. What is the promised end of those touting the “peace and safety” banner?
6. Why shouldn’t this day come upon us like a thief?
7. What 2 things are we called in v. 5, and how does that pertain to the theme of this chapter thus far?
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8. In light of what we are called, what are we challenged to not do?
9. What 2 things are we challenged to do?
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10. What 2 things happen at night that should be completely uncharacteristic of us?
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11. Because we are of the day, what 4 things are we to do?
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12. What did God not appoint us to?
13. What did God appoint us to?

14. What does Paul tell us about Jesus here?
 15. Armed with this information, what are we challenged to do with each other?
 16. What does Paul say that the Thessalonians are already doing?
 17. Paul then challenges them to recognize people who fit into 3 categories. What are these 3 categories?
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 18. Besides recognizing them, what are they also to do?
 19. How are they to treat each other?
 20. How are they to treat:
 - a. The unruly
 - b. The fainthearted
 - c. The weak
 - d. All people
 - e. Those who have done evil to us
 - f. What is good
 21. In v. 18, Paul tells us about the will of God in Christ Jesus. Judging from vs. 16-18, what 3 things are the will of God?
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 22. How are they to treat:
 - a. The Spirit
 - b. Prophecies
 - c. All things
 - d. What is good
 - e. Every form of evil
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23. What is God called in v. 23?
24. What is Paul asking Him to do for the Thessalonians?
25. What 4 things does Paul seek for the Thessalonians to be preserved blameless at the coming of Jesus? Note: here's another of the "coming" of the Lord texts that you are recording.
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26. What is God called in v. 24?
27. In v. 24, we read that God is faithful, and He will do it. What will He do?
28. What does Paul personally ask for?
29. What does Paul ask the church to do with this epistle?
30. What other letters does Paul end in a similar manner to this one ("The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you")?

Application

- In this chapter, we are challenged to be joyful always, incessantly prayerful, and thankful in all circumstances. Take a moment to consider when you are these things the most. Also, in this chapter, we are to be watchful and un-intoxicated. Is there anything in your life that keeps you from thinking clearly, impairs your judgment, or makes your faith or witness sloppy?
- Pray that God make you watchful, sober, joyful, prayerful, and thankful without end.