

I Thessalonians

(1) Introduction

1 Thess 1

1 Paul, Silas and Timothy,

to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace and peace to you.

2 We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers.

3 We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

4 For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. NIV

The history of the church at Thessalonica

After being driven out of Philippi (Acts 16:11-40), where does Paul go? Acts 17:1

What do we learn about Paul, comparing Acts 16:22-24 with 17:1-2? ; IThess.2:2; ICor.9:16

What was the composition of the church at Thessalonica? Acts 17:1-4

What does IThess.2:1-12 demonstrate about Paul's ministry to this church? **2:8**

What (as usual) happens to Paul at Thessalonica? Acts 17:4-10 ; 14:5-6, 19-20;

The intro to the first letter to the Thessalonians... IThess.1:1-5

Having to flee from Thessalonica, how does Paul still relate to them? 2:17-18

Why would Satan hinder Paul from returning? He was a fugitive there. See Job 1:6-12, etc.

What are (3) specific things Paul remembers about the Thessalonians? 1:3

Having observed this behavior, what could Paul confidently proclaim? 1:4 Comment?

And what is one reason Paul cites for his 'knowing...'? 1:5

Why does Paul emphasize '...not simply with words, but with power...'? 1:5; ICor.1:22-25

Comment on Paul's confidence here. See Isa.55:11; ICor.2:1-5, 4:20, 12:10

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The history of the church at Thessalonica

After being driven out of Philippi (Acts 16:11-40), where does Paul go? Acts 17:1

He ends up in Thessalonica, a major city in Greece, still existing today (Thessaloniki).

What do we learn about Paul, comparing Acts 16:22-24 with 17:1-2? ; 1Thess.2:2; 1Cor.9:16

What was the composition of the church at Thessalonica? Acts 17:1-4

It was comprised of Jews, Greeks, and a number of the leading women. Diverse church.

What does 1Thess.2:1-12 demonstrate about Paul's ministry to this church? 2:8

Paul had a deep pastoral care for them. 'Not only the Gospel but also our own lives...'

What (as usual) happens to Paul at Thessalonica? Acts 17:4-10 ; 14:5-6, 19-20;

The Jews, becoming jealous (of conversions) formed a mob. Paul and Silas were sent away.

The intro to the first letter to the Thessalonians...1Thess.1:1-5

Having to flee from Thessalonica, how does Paul still relate to them? 2:17-18

He wanted to return but was repeatedly hindered by Satan. Eph.6:10-12 warfare! But why?

Why would Satan hinder Paul from returning? He was a fugitive there. See Job 1:6-12, etc.

What are (3) specific things Paul remembers about the Thessalonians? 1:3

1- their work of faith. 2- their labor of love. 3- their endurance by hope in Christ.

Having observed this behavior, what could Paul confidently proclaim? 1:4 Comment?

We know that God has chosen you! By their fruits you shall know them (Jn.15:5).

And what is one reason Paul cites for his 'knowing...'? 1:5

The Gospel was presented in power, in the Holy Spirit, and w/our full conviction.

Why does Paul emphasize '...not simply with words, but with power...'? 1:5; 1Cor.1:22-25

The Gospel is only really 'heard' by the called, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Comment on Paul's confidence here. See Isa.55:11; 1Cor.2:1-5, 4:20, 12:10