



# 1 Thessalonians Intro

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## Outline:

### I. Personal ch 1-3 (Looking back, how they were saved) Pastoral chapters

#### A. Their conversion was Powerful Ch 1 (how the church was born)

- i. Was Powerful v5
- ii. Was an example to others in hardship v6-7
- iii. A witness of the Gospel that came to them v8-10

#### B. Saved through pure evangelism Ch 2 (how the church was strengthened)

- i. the motive behind Paul and crew for sharing the Gospel v1-6
- ii. their conduct towards the Thessalonians v7-12
- iii. the message received v13-16

#### C. How they were cared for Ch 3 (how the church was established)

- i. Concern v1-5
- ii. Follow-up v6-8
- iii. Prayer v9-13

### II. Practical ch 4-5 (Looking onward, how they should then live)

#### A. Their conduct and calling 4:1-12

Considering God's eternal will

#### B. Their comfort and challenge 4:13-5:11

In expectant of Jesus' return

#### C. Continue in the stability and fellowship of other Christians 5:12-24

In accordance with Biblical barriers

# Central teaching:

1 Thessalonians 1-3 – Personal (pastoral) similar with Timothy and Titus letters... ch1-3 treasury of truth for a pastor's heart.

says to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Church to recalibrate what a church should be looking for in the what and who when looking for pastoral leadership.

1 Thessalonians 1-3 connected with the historical context of Acts 17 tell us that authentic ministry and authentic evangelism is all about Jesus; it's not all about numbers or shaking up people's emotions so they will give more money into the offering plate. But it's all about having an overflowing love for Jesus and a desire that everyone will know Him and grow in that knowledge.

1 Thess 2 – The very heart of Jesus we see expressed in the way Paul equipped the Church. 1 Thess 2:5-8, 10-12

1 Thess 3 – The same heart of Jesus we see expressed by Paul as he made sure the believers were established in their trust in Jesus in the face of suffering. 1 Thess 3:1-2

1 Thessalonians 4-5 – Practical

## **The Purpose then of the Letter:**

To comfort those who were suffering for their loyalty to Christ.

Paul's concern for the Thessalonian Believers in the face of persecution:

1 Thes 3:5

The Importance of theology, prophecy, and eschatology.

## **Key Themes:**

The essential theme of Paul's first letter to the Thessalonian Believers = the relation of Christ's return for the Church to the Christian experience.

### **Suffering and affliction:**

1 Thess 1:6

1 Thess 2:2

1 Thess 2:18

1 Thess 3:4

1 Thess 3:7

## **The Return of Jesus:**

1 Thess 1:10

1 Thess 2:19

1 Thess 3:13

1 Thess 4:17

1 Thess 5:23

## **Chapters 4&5 We are exhorted:**

To walk in holiness – 4:1-8

To walk in unity 4:9-10

To walk in honesty 4:11-12

To walk in hope 4:13-18

To walk in light 5:1-11

To walk in gratitude 5:12-13

To walk in obedience 5:14-28

## **Parakaleo:**

1 Thess 3:2,7

1 Thess 4:1,10,18

1 Thess 5:11,14

2 Thess 2:17

2Thess 3:12

## **Holiness**: what Holiness looks like

1 Thess 4:1-8 avoiding sexual sin

1 Thess 4:9-10 living in harmony with each other, having the same love and focus for the mind of Christ.

1 Thess 4:11-12 being honest with others

1 Thess 4:13-5:11 The hope of the imminent return of Jesus “Maranatha”

1 Thess 5:12-28 living in a way that helps and puts others before ourselves, seeks to serve others