



Outline on 1 Thessalonians

by Aude McKee

“Christian Encouragement”

Introduction (1:1):

- I. Origin of the church (Acts 17:1-9)
- II. Facts about the letter
 - A. Origin – Paul, Silvanus, Timothy
 - B. Addressed to:
 1. Church of the Thessalonians
 2. It was in God and the Lord Jesus
 - C. Salutation
 1. Grace
 2. Peace

Discussion:

- I. Paul's thanksgiving for the Thessalonians (1:2-10)
 - A. They were included in his prayers (vv.2-3)
 1. Gave thanks to God
 2. Remembered their
 - a. Work of faith
 - b. Labor of love
 - c. Patience of hope
 - B. Paul knew of the election of God (vv.4-7)
 1. Wrought by the gospel
 - a. Came not on Word only
 - b. In power, in the H.S., and in much assurance
 2. Paul's conduct was in their interest
 - a. They followed him and the Lord
 - b. This meant they would receive the Word:
 - 1) In much affliction
 - 2) With joy of the Holy Spirit
 - 3) Became examples to all that believed in Macedonia and Achaia
 - C. They were a preaching people (v.8)
 1. From them sounded out the Word
 - a. In Macedonia and Achaia
 - b. Also in every place their faith was spread abroad
 2. Needless for Paul to talk about it
 - D. They were a changed people (vv.9-10)
 1. As a result of Paul's preaching they had:
 - a. Turned to God from idols
 - b. To serve the living and true God
 - c. To wait for His Son from heaven
 2. Jesus, the cause of it all
 - a. He had been raised from the dead
 - b. Delivered from the wrath to come
- II. Paul's defense of his work (2:1-3-3:13)
 - A. His entrance unto them (vv.1-2)
 1. Not in vain
 2. Preceded by persecution in Philippi
 3. Spoke to the Thessalonians boldly and with much opposition
 - B. His message (vv.3-4)
 1. Not of deceit, uncleanness or guile
 2. Divinely revealed
 3. Preached to please God

- C. His motive (vv.5-6)
 - 1. No flattering words used
 - 2. Not for material gain
 - 3. Not for glory (praise of men)
- D. His conduct toward the Thessalonians (vv.7-12)
 - 1. Gentle as a nurse with children
 - 2. Willing to impart own soul as well as the gospel
 - 3. Worked so as not to burden them
 - 4. Behaved holily, justly and unblameably
 - 5. Exhorted, comforted, and charged them as a father does his children that they walk worthy of God
- E. Their response to the message (vv.13-16)
 - 1. Received the Word as divinely inspired
 - 2. Willing to suffer for the truth as the Judean Christians were
 - a. Persecuting Jews killed Jesus and their own prophets
 - b. These Jews do not please God and are contrary to all men
 - c. They forbid preaching to the Gentiles
- F. His absence from them (2:17-3:5)
 - 1. Absent in body, not in heart
 - 2. Had great desire to see them
 - 3. Would have come but Satan hindered
 - 4. Thessalonians were Paul's hope, joy, crown of rejoicing, glory, and rejoicing
 - 5. Paul's concern shown by sending Timothy from Athens to establish and comfort them
 - a. No man should be moved by tribulations
 - b. Paul, while with them, had told them these things would come
- G. His joy at their steadfastness (3:6-13)
 - 1. Timothy brought good news of their faith and charity (love)
 - 2. They remembered those who had brought them the gospel and desired greatly to see them
 - 3. Paul (and others) were comforted by their faith
 - 4. *"We live if you stand fast in the Lord"*
 - 5. He prayed night and day exceedingly that the might be able to see them and assist in perfecting them
 - 6. The Lord:
 - a. Make you to increase and about in love toward one another and all men
 - b. Establish your hearts unblameably in holiness before God at the coming of Jesus
- III. Instruction concerning sexual purity, brotherly love and work (4:1-12)
 - A. Exhortation to abound in conduct pleasing to God (vv.1-2)
 - B. Purity in sexual matters (vv.3-8)
 - 1. Abstain from fornication
 - 2. Each to possess his vessel in sanctification and honor
 - 3. Christians cannot be governed by lustful passion
 - 4. No man should defraud his brother in this matter
 - 5. God has not called us to uncleanness but to holiness
 - C. Exhortation to brotherly love (vv.9-10)
 - 1. Taught of God to love one another
 - 2. They did it to all the brethren in Macedonia
 - 3. Encouraged to increase more and more
 - D. Exhortation to honest toil (vv.11-12)
 - 1. Study to be quiet
 - 2. Do your own business
 - 3. Work with your own hands
 - 4. Walk honestly toward those without
- IV. Instruction concerning the second coming (4:13-5:11)
 - A. Dead in Christ are not hopeless. Therefore our sorrow should not be like the world's

- B. The righteous dead will be raised before the righteous living are caught up
 - 1. Together they meet the Lord in the air
 - 2. These words should comfort
 - C. The Lord's coming will be as a thief in the night – a surprise to many
 - 1. People will be saying peace and safety – then sudden destruction
 - 2. God's people will be prepared for the Lord's coming
 - a. We must not sleep but watch and be sober
 - b. We must put on the breast plate of faith and love and the helmet of the hope of salvation
 - c. God has not appointed us to wrath but to obtain salvation through Christ
 - d. Whether alive or dead we should live together with him.
- V. General admonition (5:12-24)
- A. Attitude toward elders (vv.12-13)
 - 1. Know them
 - 2. Esteem them highly in love for their work's sake
 - B. Relation to others (vv.14-15)
 - 1. Warn the unruly
 - 2. Comfort the faint hearted
 - 3. Support the weak
 - 4. Be patient toward all men
 - 5. Do not render evil for evil
 - 6. Follow that which is good
 - C. Personal (vv.16-22)
 - 1. Rejoice evermore
 - 2. Pray without ceasing
 - 3. In everything give thanks
 - 4. Quench not the Spirit
 - 5. Do not despise prophesyings
 - 6. Prove all things – hold fast to the good
 - 7. Abstain from all appearance of evil
 - D. Paul's prayer (vv.23-24)
 - 1. That their soul, spirit and body be preserved blameless to the coming of Christ
 - 2. God is faithful and can perform it

Conclusion: (5:25-28)

- I. Requests made
 - A. Pray for us
 - B. Greet the brethren with a holy kiss
 - C. Let this epistle be read to all the brethren
- II. Benediction: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Questions on 1 Thessalonians 1

by Aude McKee

QUESTIONS:

1. On which of Paul's journeys was the Thessalonian church established?
2. Was there a synagogue of the Jews in Thessalonica?
3. What kind of people were the first converts in Thessalonica?
4. How long did Paul preach in the synagogue in Thessalonica?
5. How was Paul supported while in Thessalonica (cf. 2:9; Phil. 4:15, 16)?
6. Give details of the "*much affliction*" in verse 6.
7. From where was this epistle written?
8. What things did Paul remember about this church?
9. Had the Thessalonians been elected of God? How?
10. Describe the extent of this church's influence.

TRUE / FALSE:

11. _____ This was the first church established in Europe by Paul.
12. _____ Silas and Timothy joined Paul in writing this letter.
13. _____ This church had existed for many years when Paul wrote this letter.
14. _____ Timothy was sent back to the Thessalonians from Athens (cf. 3:1-2).
15. _____ Paul said of their faith, "*Others do not know about it.*"
16. _____ "*The church of the Thessalonians*" is used in a denominational sense.
17. _____ The accusation "*these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar*" was made against these Christians.
18. _____ Jason was brought before the rulers of the city.
19. _____ The unbelieving Jews used men of honor and integrity against Paul.
20. _____ Paul and his company were charged with turning "*the world upside down.*"

MATCH:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 21. _____ Assaulted | A. From the wrath to come |
| 22. _____ Jews which believed not | B. House of Jason |
| 23. _____ " <i>For our gospel came</i> " | C. Whom he raised from the dead |
| 24. _____ Manner of men | D. Moved with envy |
| 25. _____ Became followers of us | E. Living and true God |
| 26. _____ Ensamples to all that believe | F. " <i>Not... in word only</i> " |
| 27. _____ From you sounded out | G. In Macedonia and Achaia |
| 28. _____ Idols | H. Among you |
| 29. _____ Wait for his Son | I. The word of the Lord |
| 30. _____ Which delivered us | J. And of the Lord |

FILL IN THE BLANKS:

31. This was the _____ of the New Testament epistles written by Paul.
32. Paul gave _____ always for the Thessalonian brethren.
33. "*For our gospel came... in _____, and in the _____, and in much _____.*"
34. The Thessalonians received the word with much affliction and with joy of the _____.
35. "*In _____ your faith to God-ward is spread abroad.*"
36. The Thessalonians "*turned to God from _____.*"
37. This church was in _____ and in the _____.
38. "*_____ be unto you, and _____, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.*"
39. Paul made mention of these brethren in his _____.
40. "*Remembering without _____ your work of faith...*"

Questions on 1 Thessalonians 2

by Aude McKee

FILL IN THE BLANKS:

1. "We speak, not as pleasing _____, but _____."
2. "For neither at any time used we _____ words."
3. Paul was gentle among them, even as a _____.
4. "For what is our _____, or _____, or crown of _____?"
5. Paul said the Thessalonians were his crown of rejoicing in the presence of Christ "at _____."
6. Paul labored night and day that he might not be _____ unto them.
7. They knew how _____ and _____ and _____ Paul behaved among them.
8. They became followers of the churches of God in _____.
9. Paul's gentleness among them was "as a nurse _____ her children."
10. The Thessalonians had been called unto His _____ and _____.

MATCH:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 11. _____ Entrance | A. Wrath... unto the uttermost |
| 12. _____ Shamefully entreated | B. Not in vain |
| 13. _____ Bold | C. Contrary to all men |
| 14. _____ God | D. Philippi |
| 15. _____ Might have been | E. Own countrymen |
| 16. _____ Thank we God | F. Much contention |
| 17. _____ Effectually | G. Without ceasing |
| 18. _____ Suffered like things | H. Worketh... in you |
| 19. _____ They please not God | I. Trieth our hearts |
| 20. _____ Fill up their sins | J. Burdensome |

QUESTIONS:

21. Did Paul suffer immediately before coming to Thessalonica?
22. Did this suffering adversely affect Paul's preaching in Thessalonica?
23. Name the things that show the pure motive of Paul's exhortations.
24. What shows his gratitude?
25. Upon whom did Paul call to be his witnesses?
26. How strong was Paul's desire to impart the gospel unto them?
27. How did they receive the word of God?
28. In what way had those of Judea persecuted saints?
29. Had Paul endeavoured to come unto them again?
30. Who forbade their speaking unto the Gentiles?

TRUE / FALSE:

31. _____ Paul did not use a cloak of covetousness.
32. _____ Paul sought glory of the Thessalonians and of others.
33. _____ Paul's desire for them was full of love.
34. _____ Paul exhorted, comforted, and charged them, as a mother.
35. _____ They were charged to walk worthy of men.
36. _____ They received the word as of honest men.
37. _____ Paul said there was no need for him to come unto them once and again.
38. _____ Paul's absence was for a long time in presence, not in heart.
39. _____ Paul said, "ye are our glory and joy."
40. _____ Paul said that the Jews killed the Lord Jesus.

Questions on 1 Thessalonians 3

by Aude McKee

TRUE / FALSE:

1. _____ Timothy was sent to ordain elders in this church.
2. _____ The Thessalonians had been forewarned of afflictions.
3. _____ Suffering has been appointed for Christians.
4. _____ Timothy came from Philippi unto Paul in Corinth.
5. _____ The news brought by Timothy was discouraging.
6. _____ Paul received their report at a time when he was in distress.
7. _____ It is possible for a Christian's labor to be in vain.
8. _____ It is possible for a Christian's work to be lost, and yet he himself be saved.
9. _____ The desire of Paul and the Thessalonians to see one another was mutual.
10. _____ Timothy was a minister of God.

FILL IN THE BLANKS:

11. "When we could no longer _____."
12. "I sent to know your _____, lest... the _____ have tempted you."
13. _____ came with Timothy from Macedonia to Paul in Corinth.
14. Timothy "brought us good tidings of your _____ and _____."
15. "For now we live, if ye _____ in the Lord."
16. "And the Lord make you to _____ and _____ in love."
17. "To the end he may stablish your hearts _____ in _____."
18. "We thought it _____ to be left at _____ alone."
19. "And sent Timotheous, our _____."
20. "For this _____, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your _____."

MATCH:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 21. _____ Athens | A. That which is lacking |
| 22. _____ Timotheous | B. Praying exceedingly |
| 23. _____ Desiring greatly to see us | C. Our way unto you |
| 24. _____ Good remembrance | D. Render to God |
| 25. _____ Thanks | E. Fellowlaborer |
| 26. _____ Night and day | F. Of us always |
| 27. _____ Might perfect | G. Told you before |
| 28. _____ Direct | H. We also to see you |
| 29. _____ Minister of God | I. From you unto us |
| 30. _____ With you | J. Alone |

QUESTIONS:

31. From where was Timothy sent to the Thessalonians?
32. Did Paul want to come unto them?
33. What three terms are used to describe Timothy?
34. Name four reasons for sending Timothy unto them:
35. Give examples of young converts elsewhere who were warned of trials:
36. Was Paul comforted by the faith of the Thessalonians?
37. Did Paul's "thanks" equal his joy over the Thessalonians?
38. Toward whom was their love to be directed?
39. What was to be the measure and manner of their love toward others?
40. How did Paul want them to be at the coming of Christ?

Questions on 1 Thessalonians 4

by Aude McKee

MATCH:

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. _____ | So ye would abound | A. As the Gentiles |
| 2. _____ | Will of God | B. His brother |
| 3. _____ | Commandments we gave | C. In sanctification and honor |
| 4. _____ | Possess his vessel | D. His Holy Spirit |
| 5. _____ | Lust of concupiscence | E. By the Lord Jesus |
| 6. _____ | Defraud | F. Work with your own hands |
| 7. _____ | Given unto us | G. Your sanctification |
| 8. _____ | Do your own business | H. Trump of God |
| 9. _____ | Walk honestly toward | I. Them that are without |
| 10. _____ | Voice of the archangel | J. More and more |

TRUE / FALSE:

11. _____ He that despiseth these exhortations despiseth man.
12. _____ Paul needed to write them about brotherly love.
13. _____ Paul said their love should increase more and more.
14. _____ "*Study to be quiet*" means to refrain from speaking.
15. _____ The word "*sleep*" is frequently applied to death.
16. _____ Those who are alive when the Lord comes will rise to meet Him.
17. _____ This chapter teaches that Jesus will set foot on this earth again.
18. _____ Revelation 20 teaches to literal resurrections.
19. _____ Those which are "*alive*" and "*the dead in Christ*" shall be caught up together.
20. _____ The trump of God shall sound after the resurrection.

FILL IN THE BLANKS:

21. "*That as ye have received of us how ye ought to _____ and to _____ God.*"
22. "*That ye should _____ from fornication.*"
23. "*God hath not called us unto _____, but unto _____.*"
24. "*And indeed ye do it toward all the brethren... in all _____.*"
25. "*That ye may have lack of _____.*"
26. "*The Lord... shall descend from heaven with a _____.*"
27. "*Wherefore _____ one another with these words.*"
28. "*And so shall we _____ with the Lord.*"
29. "*For this we say unto you by the _____ of the _____.*"
30. "*And that ye _____ to be quiet.*"

QUESTIONS:

31. What is the general theme of the first twelve verses?
32. What do you think is meant by the word "*vessel*"?
33. Name the immoralities of verses 3-6.
34. What reason does Paul give for abstaining from these immoralities?
35. Had the Thessalonians been taught to love one another?
36. Paul did not want them to be ignorant about what?
37. Did Paul say we ought not to sorrow over our departed?
38. Whom will God bring with Him?
39. Does the word "*first*" contrast two resurrections?
40. What condition must one meet in order to have hope?

Questions on 1 Thessalonians 5

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QUESTIONS:

1. To what does *"the day of the Lord"* refer?
2. Are there any signs of its approach?
3. Who shall say *"Peace and safety"*?
4. Why should *"that day"* not overtake them as a thief?
5. Does the Bible teach that the final coming of Christ is imminent?
6. Identify the Christian's breast plate and helmet.
7. What reason is given for Christ's death?
8. For what reason should elders be esteemed very highly?
9. Are we to abstain from all things regarded by some as evil?
10. What did Paul pray would be reserved blameless unto the coming of the Lord.

TRUE / FALSE:

11. _____ Paul needed to write them of the times and seasons.
12. _____ Christians are to both *"watch"* and *"sleep"*?
13. _____ *"They that be drunken are drunken in the day."*
14. _____ *"For God hath appointed us to wrath."*
15. _____ We are to warn the feebleminded.
16. _____ We are to render eye for eye and tooth for tooth unto all men.
17. _____ We should give thanks in every thing.
18. _____ Paul prayed for their sanctification.
19. _____ This epistle was to be read unto all the holy brethren.
20. _____ Paul requested their prayers for himself.

MATCH:

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 21. _____ Times | A. Nor of darkness |
| 22. _____ Day of the Lord | B. Children of the day |
| 23. _____ Sudden destruction | C. And be sober |
| 24. _____ Peace and safety | D. Shall not escape |
| 25. _____ Children of light | E. Live together with Him |
| 26. _____ Not of the night | F. Travail upon a woman |
| 27. _____ Let us watch | G. Which labor among you |
| 28. _____ Wake or sleep | H. As a thief in the night |
| 29. _____ Know them | I. Admonish you |
| 30. _____ Over you | J. Seasons |

FILL IN THE BLANKS:

31. *"The day of the Lord so cometh as a _____ in the _____."*
32. *"Therefore, let us not _____, as do others."*
33. *"For they that sleep, _____ in the night."*
34. Christians are appointed to obtain _____.
35. *"Wherefore _____ yourselves together, and _____ one another."*
36. *"And be at _____ among yourselves."*
37. *"_____ evermore."*
38. *"Pray without _____."*
39. *"_____ not the Spirit."*
40. *"Greet all the brethren with an _____."*