

1 & 2 Thessalonians (Lesson # 13)

The Worthy Walk – General Conduct 1 Thess 4:1-3a

A Small Overview Review

Chester McCalley wrote a Commentary on I & II Thessalonians and he wrote that

I Thessalonians may be divided into two parts.

First, the Thessalonians are reminded of **how they had received the word of God (1:1-3:13).**

Second, the Thessalonians are told **how they must live the word of God (4:1-5:28).**

The first three chapters are a detailed exposition of the words **“how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God.”**

Outline is adapted from Chester McCalley's Commentary on I & II Thessalonians 1 1 & 2 Thessalonians # 13 Apr 25, 2021 Roy Smith

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The Worthy Walk – General Conduct 1 Thess 4:1-3a

Constable wrote a Commentary on I & II Thessalonians and he wrote that this half is somewhat Chiastic in its structure

A Christian living 4:1-12

B The Rapture 4:13-18

C Personal watchfulness 5:1-11

B' Church life 5:12-15

A' Individual behavior 5:16-24

Outline is adapted from Constable's 2002 Commentary on I & II Thessalonians 2 1 & 2 Thessalonians # 13 Apr 25, 2021 Roy Smith

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The Worthy Walk – General Conduct 1 Thess 4:1-3a

*¹ Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.

² For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus.

³ For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:

*¹ Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us *instruction* as to how you ought to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you excel still more.

² For you know what commandments we gave you by *the authority of the Lord Jesus*.

³ For this is the will of God, your sanctification; *that is*, that you abstain from sexual immorality;

* Scripture is from KJV and NASU 3 1 & 2 Thessalonians # 13 Apr 25, 2021 Roy Smith

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The Worthy Walk – General Conduct 1 Thess 4:1-3a

*¹ Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus,

λοιπόν [adv or adj] acc neut sing λοιπόν] as adv, furthermore, **in addition**, beyond that ούν, [conj ούν] **therefore**, so, consequently, accordingly αδελφοί, [n voc masc pl αδελφός] brothers, **brethren** ἐρωτώμεν [v ind pres act 1p pl ἐρωτάω] ask, **we are requesting**, beseech ὑμᾶς [pronoun acc pl σύ] **you** καί [conj, καί] and, even, also, **indeed** παρακαλούμεν [v ind pres act 1p pl παρακαλέω] παρα + καλέω to call alongside as speaking authoritatively exhort, **we are urging**, encourage ἐν [prep + dat ἐν] in (locative), at, on, among, near, by (instrumental), **with κυριῶν** [n dat masc sing κύριος] **Lord**, master, owner Ἰησοῦ [n dat masc sing Ἰησοῦς] **Jesus**, Joshua

**** My literal translation**
In addition therefore, brethren, we are requesting you, indeed we are urging you with the Lord Jesus

* English is NASU 1995 Greek is from Byzantine Text Form, 2005 4 ** close to original word order, italicized words added if I thought helpful 1 & 2 Thessalonians # 13 Apr 25, 2021 Roy Smith

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The Worthy Walk – General Conduct 1 Thess 4:1-3a

¹ Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us *instruction* as to how you ought to walk and please God

(ἵνα [conj ἵνα] in order that, **that** καθὼς [conj καθὼς] as, **just as**, even as παρελάβετε [v ind aor act 2p pl παραλαμβάνω] **take/receive** to oneself, **you received** παρ' ἡμῶν [prep+gen=from, pron pers gen pl ἐγώ] **from us** τὸ πῶς [def art acc neut sing+adv πῶς] **the way**, the how, the manner δεῖ [v ind pres act 3p sing δεῖ] **must**, ought, fitting, proper, appropriate ὑμᾶς [pron pers acc pl σύ] **you** περιπατεῖν [v inf pres act περιπατέω] **be walking**, conducting, be managing your life καὶ [conj, καί] and, even, also, **indeed** ἀρέσκειν [v inf pres act ἀρέσκω] to be pleasing, **be giving pleasure** θεῷ [n dat masc sing θεός] **to God**

**** My literal translation**
that just as you received from us the way you must be walking, indeed be giving pleasure to God

* English is NASU 1995 Greek is Byzantine Text Form, 2005 & (NA28) 5 ** close to original word order, italicized words added if I thought helpful 1 & 2 Thessalonians # 13 Apr 25, 2021 Roy Smith

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The Worthy Walk – General Conduct 1 Thess 4:1-3a

¹ Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us *instruction* as to how you ought to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you excel still more.

(καθὼς [conj καθὼς] as, **just as**, even as καὶ [conj, καί] and, even, also, **indeed** περιπατεῖτε, [v ind pres act 2p pl περιπατέω] you are managing your life, **you are walking**, you are conducting your life ἵνα [conj ἵνα] in order that, **that** περισσεύητε [v subj pres act 2p pl περισσεύω] you may abound, **you may be exceling** μᾶλλον. [adv μᾶλλον] **more**, to a greater degree

**** My literal translation**
(just as indeed you are walking) that you may be exceling even more

* English is NASU 1995 Greek is Byzantine Text Form, 2005 & (NA28) 6 ** close to original word order, italicized words added if I thought helpful 1 & 2 Thessalonians # 13 Apr 25, 2021 Roy Smith

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The Worthy Walk – General Conduct 1 Thess 4:1-3a

² For you know what commandments we gave you by *the authority of the Lord Jesus*.

οἴδατε [v ind perf act 2p pl εἶδω] you have come to know knowledge based on fact
 γὰρ [con] γάρ] for, because, expressing cause or reason
 τίνας [pron interrogative acc fem pl τίς] who, which, what, why
 παραγγελίας [n acc fem pl παραγγελία] instructions, orders, pedagogical in kind
 ἐδώκαμεν [v ind aor act 1p pl εἶδωμι] we gave, aorist implies factually given
 ὑμῖν [pron pers dat pl σὺ] to you
 διὰ [prep διά] on behalf of, through, for the sake of, as agent of another's authority,
 τοῦ κυρίου [art+n gen masc sing κύριος] the Lord
 Ἰησοῦ. n gen masc sing Ἰησοῦ] Jesus, Joshua

**** My literal translation**
 for you have come to know what instructions we gave to you on behalf of the Lord Jesus

* English is NASU 1995
 Greek is Byzantine Text Form, 2005 & (NA28) 7
 ** close to original word order, italicized words added if I thought helpful
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The Worthy Walk – General Conduct 1 Thess 4:1-3a

³ For this is the will of God, your sanctification; *that is*, that you abstain from sexual immorality:

τοῦτο [pron demon nom neut sing οὗτος] this
 γάρ [con] γάρ] for, because, expressing cause or reason
 ἔστιν [v ind pres act 3p sing εἶμι] is being
 θέλημα [n nom neut sing θέλημα] will, design, purpose
 τοῦ θεοῦ. [art+n gen masc sing θεός] of the God
 ὁ ἁγιασμός [art+n gen masc sing ἁγιασμός] the sanctification, set apart from evil or self-serving sin and set apart unto the purity of letting God reveal Himself through us.
 ὑμῶν, [pron pers gen 2p pl σὺ] of you
 ἀπέχεσθαι [v inf pres mid ἀπέχω] middle to be keeping away, abstain from something
 ὑμᾶς [pron pers acc pl σὺ] you
 ἀπὸ [prep w gen ἀπό] from
 τῆς πορνείας [art+n gen fem sing πορνεία] sexual immorality, fornication, every kind of extramarital, or outside of God's design sexual intercourse

**** My literal translation**
 For this is being the will of the God, the sanctification of you, that is you to be keeping away from sexual immorality.

* English is NASU 1995
 Greek is Byzantine Text Form, 2005 & (NA28) 8
 ** close to original word order, italicized words added if I thought helpful
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The Worthy Walk – General Conduct 1 Thess 4:1-3a

^{*1} Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us *instruction* as to how you ought to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you excel still more.

² For you know what commandments we gave you by *the authority of the Lord Jesus*.

³ For this is the will of God, your sanctification; *that is*, that you abstain from sexual immorality;

**** My literal translation**
¹ In addition therefore, brethren, we are requesting you, indeed we are urging you with the Lord Jesus that just as you received from us the way you must be walking, indeed be giving pleasure to God (just as indeed you are walking) that you may be excelling even more. ² For you have come to know what instructions we gave to you on behalf of the Lord Jesus. ³ For this is being the will of the God, the sanctification of you, that is, you to be keeping away from sexual immorality.

***** Wuest's expanded translation**
¹Finally, therefore, brethren, I request you and I beg of you, please, in the Lord Jesus, that even as you received from us the particular way in which it is necessary in the nature of the case for you to be ordering your behavior and to be striving to please God, even as also you are conducting yourselves, that you superabound yet more and more. ²For you know with a positive assurance what charges we gave you through the Lord Jesus, ³for this is the will of God, your being set apart [from sin to holiness], that you should hold yourselves off from fornication;

* NASU 1995
 ** close to original word order, italicized words added if I thought helpful 9
 *** Wuest's expanded translation of the Greek New Testament
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-- The Worthy Walk --
 General Conduct 4:1-3a
 Sexual Conduct 4:3b-8
 Affectional Conduct 4:9-10
 Social Conduct 4:11-12

Outline is adapted from Chester McCalley's Commentary on I & II Thessalonians 10
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The Worthy Walk – General Conduct 1 Thess 4:1-3a

Chester McCalley gives us 8 things to observe here

1. Paul instructed these new believers in the Christian life immediately 'as you received from us *instruction*' see Acts 17:1-10.. A month of it
2. The Christian life was presented not as an option, but as an imperative. 'you must live this way' the word 'ought' is a mandatory must, or absolute necessity, Jn 3 'you must be born again', Gal 5:16 'walk by the Spirit'
3. Paul taught 'the how' of Christian living, he taught the 'how to do' this.
4. Paul uses '*walking*' as his metaphor, expressing how we ought to live, in addition, Paul uses '*standing*' is a metaphor for the believer's stability (Eph 6:11..), '*running*' for the believer's service (1 Cor 9:26..), and '*seated*' for the believer's position in Christ (Eph 2:4-7).
5. Paul taught the proper motive for the Christian life, 'and to please God', the pleasure of God is the goal.
6. Paul taught the concept of ever increasing maturity, 'that you excel still more', you are doing well, I want you to excel still more. Phil 3:12...
7. Paul taught the Christian life in unmistakable terms, he gave commands
8. Paul taught the Christian life is what we are, not merely what we do.

Adapted from Chester McCalley's Audio Commentary on I & II Thessalonians 11
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Outline is adapted from Constable's 2020 Commentary on I & II Thessalonians 1
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² For you know what commandments we gave you by *the authority* of the Lord Jesus.

³ **For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality;**


Notice the focus here on God's will

It is our being the revealers of His Glory

He sets us apart from evil or self-serving sin to be His pure revelation of Himself

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 **The Worthy Walk – General Conduct 1 Thess 4:1-3a**

Note: 6 times in 1 Thess is this Hope on Him & His Coming

*1:3 ...steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ

*1:10 ...you are waiting for His Son in Confident Hope

*2:19 ...in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming

*3:13 ...so that He may establish your hearts without blame in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.


*4:16 ...For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven ...and the dead in Christ will rise first.¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air...

*5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself **sanctify you entirely**; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁴ **Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass...**

* Scripture is from NASU 1995 14 1 & 2 Thessalonians # 13
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 **The Worthy Walk – General Conduct 1 Thess 4:1-3a**

Question, what gave God's men here joy and comfort?

Answers

first, joy that the Thessalonians were showing God's life of purity

second, comfort that God was coming again

These few verses teach us that:

It is God's will to reveal the glory of Himself through His creations,

We are a part of His creations, we are His body, the Church,

the called out of the world ones, To reveal His perfection

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