

1 & 2 Thessalonians (Lesson # 7)

Paul's Demeanor Recalled and Reviewed 1 Thess 2:9-12

A Small Overview

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, they are told of 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."



Turning To God From Idols 1:1-10

The Gospel Preached At Thessalonica 2:1-16

Focus on the Preacher 2:1-12

The message of the gospel was not in vain v1-4

The message of the gospel was pure v5-8

Paul's demeanor recalled and reviewed v9-12

Focus on the Hearers 2:13-16

The Word of God welcomed and suffering endured

Outline is adapted from Chester McCalley's Commentary on I & II Thessalonians, available here: http://www.WordOfTruthKC.org



Turning To God From Idols 1:1-10

The Gospel Preached At Thessalonica 2:1-16
Focus on the Preacher 2:1-12

The message of the gospel was not in vain v1-4

The message of the gospel was pure v5-8

Paul's demeanor recalled and reviewed v9-12

Paul's Demeanor Recalled 2:9

Paul's Demeanor Reviewed 2:10-12

In Relationship to Himself 2:10

In Relationship to the Thessalonians 2:11-12

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- * ¹ Paul and Silvanus and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.
- ² We give thanks to God always for all of you, making mention *of you* in our prayers;
- ³ constantly bearing in mind your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father,
 - ⁴ knowing, brethren beloved by God, *His* choice of you;

Note: This thanksgiving to God was for <u>all</u> of them, based on <u>knowing</u> 1 their work out of faith, 2 their labor out of love, 3 their steadfastness out of hope <u>and</u> knowing the facts that 4 God loved and 5 chose them.



- * ⁵ for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.>>chapter 2
- ⁶ You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit,
- ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.



- * 8 for the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith toward God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything.
- ⁹ for they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how <u>you turned</u> to God from idols <u>to serve</u> a living and true God,
- ¹⁰ and <u>to wait</u> for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *that is* Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.

you turned to God in Faith,you are serving God in Love,you are waiting for His Son in Confident Hope



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...



- * ¹ For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you was not in vain,
- ² but after we had already suffered and been mistreated in Philippi, as you know, we had the boldness in our God to speak to you the gospel of God amid much opposition.
- ³ For our exhortation does not *come* from error or impurity or by way of deceit;
- ⁴ but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who examines our hearts.



- * ⁵ For we never came with flattering speech, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed-- God is witness--
- ⁶ nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, even though as apostles of Christ we might have asserted our authority.
- ⁷ But we proved to be gentle among you, as a nursing *mother* tenderly cares for her own children.
- ⁸ Having so fond an affection for you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us.



- * ⁹ For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, *how* working night and day so as not to be a burden to any of you, we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.
- ¹⁰ You are witnesses, and *so is* God, how devoutly and uprightly and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers;
- ¹¹ just as you know how we *were* exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father *would* his own children,
- ¹² so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.



*9 For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship,

Μνημονεύετε [v ind pres act 2p pl μνημονεύω] you remember, keep in mind, recall γάρ, [conj γάρ] intro to explanation of cause or reason for, because ἀδελφοί, [n voc masc pl ἀδελφός] spiritual brothers, fellow Christian, fellow believer τὸν κόπον [art+n acc masc sing κόπος] Gingrich the work, toil ἡμῶν [pro gen pl, ἐγώ] our, of us καὶ [conj, καί] and, even, also τὸν μόχθον [art+n acc masc sing μόχθος] Friberg as hard and difficult labor involving suffering hardship, struggle, strenuous toil; always combined with κόπος (work), as labor bringing to weariness and exhaustion the exhaustion

** My literal translation

for you remember brothers, the work of us, and the exhaustion



*9 For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, <u>how working night and day</u> so as not to be a burden to any of you,

νυκτὸς [n gen fem sing νύξ] night Danker as chronological period, sunset to sunrise γὰρ [conj γάρ] intro to explanation of cause or reason for, because καὶ [conj, καί] and, even, also ἡμέρας [n gen fem sing ἡμέρα] day Danker the period of daylight ἐργαζόμενοι, [part pres mid/pass nom masc pl ἐργάζομαι] earn by working hard πρὸς [pro pers gen pl σύ] with acc, to toward τὸ [art acc neut sing ὁ] the μἡ [particle or disj part other μή] no, not, Friberg used to negate an assumption ἐπιβαρῆσαί [inf aor act ἐπιβαρέω] prep + inf to burden or weigh down τινα [pro indef acc masc sing τὶς] Friberg anyone, anything, somebody, anybody ὑμῶν [pro pers gen pl σύ] of you

** My literal translation for night and day working hard to not burden anyone of you



*9 For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, *how* working night and day so as not to be a burden to any of you, <u>we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.</u>

ἐκηρύξαμεν [v ind aor act 1p pl κηρύσσω] we preached, proclaimed, published εἰς [prep, εἰς] with acc Friberg (2) denoting direction to ὑμᾶς [pro pers acc pl, σύ] you τὸ εὐαγγέλιον [art+n acc neut sing εὐαγγέλιον] the good news, the gospel τοῦ θεοῦ. [art+n gen masc sing θεός] of the God

** My literal translation
we preached to you the gospel of the God



¹⁰ You are witnesses, and *so is* God, how devoutly and uprightly and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers;

Ύμεῖς [pro pers nom pl σύ] You μάρτυρες [n nom masc pl μάρτυς] *are* witnesses anyone who attests or corroborates καὶ [conj, καί] and, even, also ὁ θεός, [art+n nom masc sing θεός] so is the God

 $\dot{\omega}_{\varsigma}$ [adv $\dot{\omega}_{\varsigma}$] as that how about

ὁσίως [adv ὁσίως] persons holy, set apart, devoutly, piously, dedicated to God καὶ [conj, καί] and, even, also

δικαίως [adv δικαίως] persons morally & ethically righteous, uprightly, just before God καὶ [conj, καί] and, even, also

ἀμέμπτως [adv ἀμέμπτως] persons blamelessly, faultlessly, without guilt before God ὑμῖν [pro pers dat pl σύ] toward you

τοῖς πιστεύουσιν [art+part pres act dat masc pl πιστεύω] the believing, the trusting ἐγενήθημεν [v ind aor pass 1p pl γίνομαι] we became, we were made

** My literal translation

You are witnesses and so is the God, how devoutly and uprightly and blamelessly toward you the believing we were made.



¹¹ just as you know how we were exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father would his own children,

καθάπερ [adv καθάπερ] focus on parallel aspect as, just as, even as οἴδατε [v ind perf act 2p pl εἰδῶ] Friberg perfect of εἴδω see--strictly have seen; hence know; (1) as having come to understand, comprehend, you have come to know ὡς [adv ὡς] as that how about ἔνα [adj acc masc sing εἶς] often substantivally; (1) as a cardinal number one ἕκαστον [adj acc masc sing ἕκαστος] substantivally each, every single ὑμῶν, [pro pers gen pl σύ] of you

** My literal translation
just as you have come to know how each one of you



¹¹ just as you know how we were exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father would his own children,

τάτηρ [n nom masc sing πατήρ] a father τέκνα [n acc neut pl τέκνον] children, generically descendants, posterity ἑαυτοῦ, [pro reflex gen masc sing ἑαυτοῦ] his own, of him παρακαλοῦντες [part pres act nom masc pl παρακαλέω] call someone to one's side for comfort or help, we by comforting NOTE: durative method of present tense, by ὑμᾶς [pro acc pl, σύ] you καὶ [conj, καί] and, even, also

Παραμυθούμενοι [part pres mid/pass nom masc pl παραμυθέομαι] Friberg, come to someone's side in a friendly manner to encourage, strengthen, encouraging ¹²καὶ [conj, καί] and, even, also

μαρτυρόμενοι, [part pres mid/pass nom masc pl μαρτύρομαι] Friberg, (2) as making an emphatic demand implore, insist, urge, imploring

** My literal translation

as a father his own children, we by comforting you, and encouraging, and imploring

^{*} English is NASU 1995 Greek is from Byzantine Text Form, 2005



¹² so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

εἰς [prep, εἰς] with acc Friberg, to indicate purpose in order to, with a view to, so that **τὸ περιπατῆσαι** [art+inf acr act περιπατέω] the manner of walk Gingrich, walk in the sense live, conduct oneself

ὑμᾶς [pro acc pl, σύ] you

ἀξίως [adv ἀξίως] worthy Danker, a manner that does honor to', with genitive object τοῦ θεοῦ [art+n gen masc sing θεός] of the God Objective & Subjective, to & by Him τοῦ καλοῦντος [art+part pres act gen masc sing καλέω] the *one who is* calling ὑμᾶς [pro acc pl, σύ] you

εἰς [prep, εἰς] with acc Friberg (2) denoting direction to, toward, into **τὴν ἑαυτοῦ** [art+pro reflex gen masc sing ἑαυτοῦ] the of himself, the of his own **βασιλείαν** [n acc fem sing βασιλεία] kingdom, His place and people, all ruled by Him **καὶ** [coni, καί] and, even, also

δόξαν. [n acc fem sing δόξα] glory Friberg, as a manifestation of light, radiance, brightness, splendor. We share, enjoy, reveal and honor the glorious essence of God

** My literal translation

so that you would walk in the worthy manner of the God, the one who is calling you into His own kingdom and glory



* ⁹ For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, *how* working night and day so as not to be a burden to any of you, we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. ¹⁰ You are witnesses, and *so is* God, how devoutly and uprightly and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers; ¹¹ just as you know how we *were* exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father *would* his own children, ¹² so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

** My literal translation

⁹ for you remember brothers, the work of us, and the exhaustion for night and day working hard to not burden anyone of you we preached to you the gospel of the God ¹⁰ You *are* witnesses and *so is* the God, how devoutly and uprightly and blamelessly toward you the believing we were made ¹¹ just as you have come to know how each one of you, as *a* father his own children, we *by* comforting you, and encouraging, and imploring ¹² so that you *would* walk *in* the worthy manner of the God, the *one who is* calling you into His own kingdom and glory

*** Wuest's expanded translation

⁹ For you remember, brethren, our fatiguing labor and hardship, night and day working at manual labor that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the good news of God. ¹⁰ As for you, you are those who bear testimony to what you have seen, also God [who bears witness to what He has seen], how devoutly in a manner pleasing to God, how uprightly according to the standards set by God, how blamelessly we ordered our lives among you who are believers, ¹¹ even as you know how as a father exhorts and encourages his own children, exhorting and encouraging and bearing witness to each one of you, ¹² that you should be habitually ordering your behavior in a manner worthy of the God who summons you into His own kingdom and glory.

*** close to original word order, italicized.

**** Wuest's expanded translation. 1 & 2 Thessalonians #

** close to original word order, italicized words added if I thought helpful



Observations from I Thessalonians 2:9 – "Paul's Demeanor Recalled" * 10 for you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, *how* working night and day so as not to be a burden to any of you, we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.

- ➤ The word "for" refers back to chapter 1 verse 5, that they came to know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake
- The word "recall" tell us God uses our memory to store what we learn from Him. This letter says God wants believers to continually focus on facts about Him and His ways with us.
- ➤ The "brethren" addressed here reveals the intimate relationship we have in God's family, birthed brothers & sisters by our Father, God.
- "our labor and hardship..." Is the way God used to keep focus on Him not His messengers, who worked to be able to give His message without charge and with personal certainty in its power to save men.
- "we proclaimed to you" this was verbal announcement not a lifestyle message alone. God uses true words about Himself to save.
- ➤ The "Gospel of God" is good news that originates from God and is about God and His ways with us. God's power uses this message to save man and place man into God's family when personally believed.



Observations from I Thessalonians 2:10 "Paul's Demeanor Reviewed" >> "In Relationship to Himself"

* 10 You are witnesses, and *so is* God, how devoutly and uprightly and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers;

- ➤ The "you...& God" identity the two who gave evidence of the conduct of these messengers. Man sees conduct, God sees motives as well. This team's character was that of being faithful to God.
- ➤ The conduct word "devoutly" shows an orientation toward God of being set apart for God's use exclusively. God the Son asked God the Father, to send God the Spirit to live inside each Church age believer to reveal God's essence of glory to all men. John 14:16-26
- ➤ The conduct word "uprightly" shows the team lived by doing what is right from God's perspective. They were real, genuine, sons of God and acted in a manner that showed this real, genuine, nature of God.
- > The conduct word "blamelessly" shows the team lived without valid human accusations. They were not sinless but lived without scandal.
- ➤ The word "behaved" literally means "we were made". God is the one who made us with this "new in kind" nature, He shares the new to us things of God, because we are intimately in His family. 2 Cor 5:17



Observations from I Thessalonians 2:11 "Paul's Demeanor Reviewed" >> "In Relationship to the Thessalonians"

- * 11 just as you know how we *were* exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father *would* his own children,
- ➤ The "just as you know" sixth time to here, God refers to things they had come to know, 1:5, recalled in 2:9, also chapter 2 verses 1, 2 & 5.
- > The "exhorting" they were comforted and corrected individually
- > The "encouraging" they were encouraged to be strong in the faith
- > The "imploring" they were commanded to be faithful to God
- ➤ All 3 are durative present tense, but the 1st is active voice, the last two are middle/passive voice. First is help in belief of facts, then help in expressing, or better, revealing the facts of God's glorious essence.
- > The "each one of you" every believer is precious to God and to all who are "new in kind" creations of God, we are His own children
- ➤ The "as a father" says every believer is cared for individually by God in the intimacy of His family, like our earthly father, He protects, provides for, loves without limits, comforts and corrects, all to prepare us to enjoy, reveal, and honor Him both now and forever. Ps 103:13 "Just as a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him."



Observations from I Thessalonians 2:12 "Paul's Demeanor Reviewed" >> "In Relationship to the Thessalonians"

* 12 so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

- > The "so that" indicates the purpose of God's care of His own children
- > The "you would walk" God reveals His glory by His children's walk
- ➤ The "in the worthy manner" worthy adverb describing this walk, the goal of God's fatherly care of us, that His worth, His essence, be enjoyed, revealed, and honored through each and all of His own.
- > The "of the God" both source and objective genitive, God is the source of this walk, and He is the object of this walk as well.
- > The "who calls you" present tense, is durative, always calling us
- ➤ The "into His own" the call is directed into His possession, His place and population. All unique in the creative majesty of His essence.
- "kingdom and glory" are His place and family that He has created to share, enjoy, reveal, and honor His infinite perfect nature. Beyond the Millennium, & His 1000 generation kingdom in a new heaven and earth. It is after He gives His 1000 generation kingdom to the Father, when time is not, and God fills, and is the fullness, of all that is His.



Paul was an example of God's divinely focused "worthy walk"

Note these 20 characteristics of Paul's ministry to the Thessalonians. *

- 1 He was bold in spite of opposition (v. 2),
- 2 accurate with his message (v. 3),
- 3 pure in his motives (v. 3),
- 4 honest in his methods (v. 3),
- 5 not a man-pleaser (v. 4), 6 but a God-pleaser (v. 4),
- **7** truthful (v. 5), **8** not greedy (v. 5),
- 9 not egotistical (v. 6), 10 not authoritarian (v. 6),
- 11 gentle (v. 7), 12 unselfish (v. 7),
- 13 affectionate (v. 8), 14 transparent (v. 8),
- 15 hardworking (v. 9), 16 devoted to God (v. 10),
- 17 upright toward others (v. 10), 18 blameless in his own eyes (v. 10),
- 19 earnest in his instruction (v. 11),
- 20 purposeful in his objective (v. 12).

As such he is a model for all who deliver the gospel.

^{*} Dr. Constable's Notes on 1 Thessalonians 2020 Edition



Scripture of God's divinely focused "worthy walk" for us His children

- * Rom. 8:29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;
- ➤ God our Father has shown us in the rightly-divided Word that His purpose for us is to be conformed to the image of His Son.**
- * Rom. 6:6 knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, ('rendered off-line' per Hal Molloy) so that we would no longer be slaves to sin;
- * 2 Cor 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.
- * Gal 5:16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.
- ➤ The worthy walk or the "how" of our spiritual growth is not a struggle but a counting upon our crucifixion and ascension with Christ, beholding Him in the Word as our Life, and walking in dependence upon the Holy Spirit to conform and transform us into the image of Christ, enjoying, revealing, and honoring God and all of His glory. **



Scripture of God's calling us into His Kingdom and Glory

- * Acts 17:7 ...and Jason has welcomed them, and they all act contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus.
- * I Thess 2:12 ...so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.
- * I Cor 15:24-28 then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be abolished is death. For HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET. But when He says, "All things are put in subjection," it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all.
- * I Pet 5:10-11 After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you. To Him be dominion forever and ever. Amen.
- ➤ There is much to learn of Him and "His coming", but it is sure He will come first for us I Th 4:17, then He will come again with us Col 3:4.



Scripture of God's calling us into His Kingdom and Glory

- * Matt 11:25-30 ...At that time Jesus said, "I praise You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from *the* wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants. "Yes, Father, for this way was well-pleasing in Your sight. "All things have been handed over to Me by My Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father; nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal *Him*. "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS. "For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."
- * 2 Cor 4:5-7 ... For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves...
- * 2 Cor 5:1 ...we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens...