

## PRESCRIPTION FOR PERSECUTION

Intro. P in Corinth for 18 months. 1 Thess written soon after arrival there from Athens. 2 Thess written 2-6 months after 1 Thess. 51-52. Whoever took 1 Thess to Thess brot word back concn ch. In persecution they are commended, ch 1, in prophecy-corrected, ch 2, in practice, condemned, ch 3. Persecution lot of this ch. 1 Th 1:6; 2:14; 3:1-3; Acts 17; 2 Cor 8:2; Phil 1:28-9. Prescription has various elements.

I. Have HEA RT right, 1:1-5.

A. Toward God, 3. Faith grows. Organic growth like a healthy plant. This was what P worried about I 3:2. Why? Bec (1) it was a working faith and (2) it was persecuted. Get to know God better as work and suffer and by knowing Him, faith grows.

B. Toward men, 3-4.

1. Love abound. Prayer of I 3:12 ans. Abound means spread like a fire. Illus, pasture. Includes all, Xn doesn't pick and choose objects of love.
2. Witness sparkles, 4. P sddom boasted but did here. Witness concs their faith, not numbers.

C. Toward persecutions, 5.

1. Endure, 4. cf I 3:3. Pres.
2. Mature, 5. Right attitude is proof of righteous judgment of God in using to mature people and in future retribution on heathen. Remember we suffer in order to be declared worthy of kingdom in whose interests the suffering comes.

II. Have HEAD right, 6-10. Get Doctrine straight.

At 2nd coming everything will appear straightened out.

A. Apparent of X7 6-8a.

1. ~~Appearance~~ <sup>ZZZZZZZZZZ</sup> angels, messiahs, powers, they were created
2. ~~by Him~~ - don't worry about His ability to take
3. ~~arrayed~~ <sup>arrayed</sup>, in flaming fire with v 7. Fire is the robe of the Lord.

**B. Actions, 8b-20.9 Deserved destruction.**

1. Deserved, 8. Bec know not God and obeyed not gospel. Same group in view.
2. Destruction, 9. Eternal ruin. Banishment from presence of God., of Rev, 14:10.

**C. Aim, 10.**

1. Glorified in (not by) saints bec they will be with Him and be like Him.
2. Admired in saints, amazed, joyeus approbation. of Luke 9:26--ashamed.  
What grace.

**III. Have HAND right, 11-12.**

In persecution A. Work, 11: Good pleasure of goodness (not God's but man's) which is same as work of faith. What is that? of 1 Th 1-- witness and waiting.

B. Wait, v 7--rest means slacken bow string. Don't be under pressure when under persecution. Ani use tonic of work.

**Concl.** Personal difficulties? Pressures of world sätuation? Then have heart attitude right, head full of correct theology, and hand doing work of Lord.

## DAY OF THE LORD

Intro. Some people didn't understand everything the Lord taught. So with P. 2:5. Trials of Thess. made them think day of Lord at hand. Note it is beginning of Day that is in view as in 1 Th 5. Not millennial aspect. Amos 5:18; Isa 2:12; Joel 1:15 Difficult passage in P but just keep things straight.

## I. Relation of D of L to the Present, 1-2.

- A. The <sup>Trouble</sup> Subject ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~upper~~ <sup>is</sup> concerning.
- B. The <sup>Rumor</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> it had begun. Heard thru spirit (supernat'l rev); thru word (reasoned discourse); forged letter.
- D. The Truth. Day of Lord not then present.

## II. Relation of D of L to Apostasia, 3a.

It must come first. Rebellion against God. Article makes it a definite one readers knew about. Comes at same time as man of sin. Kai connective not consecutive.

## III. Relation of D of L to Man of Sin, 3b-5, 8-10.

- A. His revelation, 3b. He will already be alive and grown at beg of trib—just revealed then. But day of Lord can't begin until he is revealed.
- B. His religion, 4-5.
  - 1. Opposes God. Ptc links him with Satan who is called same in 1 Thm. 5:14.
  - 2. Demands to be worshipped.
- C. His Power, 9-10.
 

To perform miracles which will have meaning as signs (as X's) and on people will be considered as wonders.
- D. His punishment, 8. Called son of perdition in 3 bec that's his place of doom. Means is thru breath of Lord's mouth. Result is make man of sin idle not destroy (katargeo).

## IV. Relation of d of L to Restrainer, 6-7.

v 8—tote, then after restrainer removed.

- A. Identification. Neut in 6, masc in 7.
 

Roman govt, any govt in any day, Satan (but v 7), Angel, P not sure, Ged, esp HS.

- B. Work, Restrains sin and esp the final apostasy.
- C. Removal. Whatever it is it will be removed.  
     He and we go with Him. Residence not present
- V. Relation of D of L to Unbeliever, 10-12.  
     Those who perish, pres ptc as 1 Cor 1:18.
  - A. They perish.
  - B. They are deluded, 11. 1 Kg 22:23; Ezek 14:9;
  - C. They are believers--of the lie of Satan.

VI. Relation of D of L to believer, 13-17.

- A. His position, 13-14.
  - 1. The choosing, 13.
    - a. Time. before all things.
    - b. <sup>and</sup>. Salvation.
    - c. Means. Spirit and faith.
  - 2. The calling, 14a.
    - a. Time--in our experience.
    - b. Means--thru gospel.
    - c. End--to obtain glory.
- B. His practice, 15-17.
  - 1. What?
    - a. Stand in midst of uncertainties of time.
    - b. Hold fast to  $\lambda$ n teaching whether written or oral.
  - 2. How? Thru power of X, 16-17.

Concl. Day of Lord not here yet. Will begin as terrible time. So live a consistent life, not helter skelter one.

## CORRECT CHRISTIAN CONDUCT

Intro. Often see truth by seeing error. These Thess. not correct in conduct. Chief prob was laziness. So P corrects them and gives us the multi-varied aspects of Xn conduct. Involves:

## I. Prayer, 1-2.

A. Object in this case—Paul.

B. Content.

1. Gospel might have rapid and triumphant course
2. P might be delivered from unbelievers.

Reference is to Jews in Corinth, Acts 18:7

## II. Progress, 3-5.

A. In stability.

B. In sanctification. From evil one, 1 Th 3:5.

C. In love. D. In steadfastness.

## III. Penalties, 6.

A. The People, out of rank. Matter of loafing.

B. The Penalty. Withdraw, 2 Cor 8:20 only. Used of furling sails or gathering tog. robe as sign of disgust. Upo plus vb in Gal 2:12.

C. The Pattern. Traditions reed.

## IV: Pattern, 7-9.

A. Hard work, 7-8 Gratis gospel, Rom 3:24 word used.

B. Humble willingness, 9. Had rights but didn't use with Thess. the reed gift from Phil while in Thess.

## V. Precepts, 10.

"If any will not work, neither let him eat." Possibly Jewish saying taken over.

## VI. Pursuits, 11-12.

A. Wrong pursuit. Busybodies trying to get others to stop work too bec of nearness of Lord's coming.

B. Right pursuit. Work with tranquillity instead of excited state.

## VII. Perseverance, 13. Don't lose heart about noble

/things.

## VIII. Patience, 14-15.

Try to win the erring brother by:

A. Noting him (doesn't say what this involves.)

B. Having no familiar intercourse with him.

C. Admonish him (put him in mind) of truth).