

FIRST THESSALONIANS

- I. Destination. Founded 315 B.C. Named for step-sister of Alexander Gt. 200,000 pop. at P's time. Center of trade bec on Ignatian highway.
- II. Date and place of writing. Tim, P, Silas together, then from Acts P went alone to Athens (17:15), Tim and Silas joining there. This not time of writing bec 1 Th 3:1,6. P sent Tim to Thess and after rejoined P in Corinth book written. Couldn't have been written immediately after left Thess for time had to elapse for spreading gospel, 2:17-18; for P's unsuccessful attempts to revisit, 2:17-18; for dying of some. P stayed at Corinth 18 months and both epistles from there so this one early in Corinth. 53 A.D.
- III. Occasion. (1) Misunderstanding concerning prophecy. (2) Persecution and needed encouragement. (3) Need of continued emphasis on holy living.
- IV. Church at Thess. Founded Acts 17:1-9. 2nd miss journey. Reasoned for 3 sabbaths. Some say he had to be there longer bec of success and bec of Phil 4:16. But success is God's and since P had just left Philippi after beating no doubt they would be interested in hurrying to send gifts. Prob not more than a month. P preached a lot of eschatology there, cf. Acts 17:17. Demas, Gaius, Secundus, Aristarchus outstanding converts.
- V. Characteristics. Earliest of P. Absence of Judaising influence. P's doctrinal system in germ form. Simplicity of style.

Intro, 1:1. Writer. Sunday names. Nicknames, Si, Tim.
 Readers. Intimate. Only epistle "of the..." In God tho in persecution.
 Greeting. Usual.

I. THE MODEL CHURCH. The Model Work. 1:2-10.

A. The Work of Faith, 2-7.

1. Its Basis, 4. Did P see the books in heaven?! No, election is recognized by life.
2. Its Reality, 5. Heard gospel in power not merely in word. Full assurance when a person is in your heart.
3. Its Results, 6-7. Imitators of P in suffering and persecution.
 Examples to all believers.

B. The Labor of Love, 8-9.

1. The Territory, 8. Word echoed thruout province and every place.
2. The Testimony, 9. Heathen made this up of Xns. It is testimony of conversion.
 Testimony of faithfulness of P's work.

C. The Patience of Hope, 10.

1. The Character of it--wait up.
2. The Object of it. The Divine One, Human One, Delivering One.

II. The MODEL SERVANT. The Model Worker. 2:1-3:13.

A. As a Missionary, 2:1-20.

1. The Essentials for His Work, 2:1-12.
 - a. The Calling, 4.

It is of God who approves (allowed) and entrusts. Have to have calling or vs 1, 2 won't be true. Won't be bold.

b. The Committal, 8. Human response to the calling. It must be complete, 8, and sacrificial, 5-7, 9-12.

2. The Effects of his work, 2:13-20.

a. Received, 13-14. Word of God received works and brings persecution.

b. Repulsed, 15-16. By Jews at time of X, 15 and now. Fill up sins is continual rejection of the truth.

c. Rewarded, 17-20. Now by personal fellowship with believers, 17-18. Future by X at judgment, 19-20. Crown of rejoicing for souls.

B. As a Minister, 3:1-13.

1. Concerned, 1-5. Bec of persecutions so sent Tim to find out how things were.

2. Comforted, 6-9. By tidings that they stood fast.

3. But NOT Contented, 10-13. Wanting to come and minister to bring them to maturity.

III. THE MODEL BELIEVER, The Model Walk. 4:1-5:11.

A. His Conduct, 4:1-12. How to Please God.

1. Sanctified, 1-8. Meaning. Girl licking candy. Positional, practical, prospective. If God doesn't possess all of you it is:

a. Dishonoring to self. Possess His name and if not separated then dishonor it. Jas 4:4. Walk as Gentiles.

b. Defrauding to others, 6. Looseness defrauds society. Robs of blessing too.

c. Despising to God, 7-8. Standard is His holiness.

2. Loving, 9-10.

a. Source. God. Axiomatic.

b. Extent. All brethren.

c. Increase. Familiarity should breed love, Jn 13:34; Rom 5:5. ACPG woman How Love Arabs

3. Ambitious, 11-12.

a. Be quiet. To hear God.

This is actually be ambitious not to be ambitious.

b. Do own business. 2 Thess 3:11.

c. Work with own hands. Acts 17:4.

2 Cor 5:9; Rom 15:20 other uses of ambition.

B. His Comfort, 4:13-18.

Why we do not sorrow as others. Hope.

1. The Preview, 14.

X died bec bore sin. We sleep (Xns).

2. The Promise, 15. Word of the Lord.

3. The Picture, 16-18.

a. A return. Nature, accompaniments, destination.

b. A resurrection. Fact, order, participants. Forest Lawn.

c. A reunion. With loved ones (not mentioned here) and Lord. Houston woman and idiot

Conclusion: Comfort one another.

C. His Confidence, 5:1-11.
Explain Day of the Lord.

1. The Victims of the Day of the Lord, 1-3.

2. The Victors of the Day of the Lord, 4-11.

Conclusion, 5:12-28.

Church matters, 12-15.

Personal matters, 16-22.

Benediction and concluding matters, 23-28.

SECOND THESSALONIANS

~~14/00/00/00/00~~ Date and place of writing: Latter part of stay at Corinth. 53 A.D. Acts 18:11.

Occasion: To correct concerning day of Lord esp. Even false letter sent, 2:2.

Intro: 1:1,2.

I. CORRECTION CONCERNING PERSECUTION, 1:3-12.

A. It points to future judgment, 3-10. Present suffering points to future accounting.

B. It proves fitness, 11-12. Count worthy here, Lk 10:35; Acts 5:41 only. (5b,10).

C. It promotes God's glory, 12.

II. CORRECTION CONCERNING PROPHECY, 2:1-17.

A. Relation of Day of Lord to the present, 1-2. Not now present.

B. Relation of Day of Lord to man of sin,. Must be revealed.

C. Relation of Day of Lord to Holy Spirit. Must be removed.

D. Relation of Day of Lord to unbelievers, 10-12.

E. Relation of Day of Lord to believers, 13-17.

1. Their position in Christ, 13-14.

2. Their practice, 15-17. Stand fast.

III. CORRECTION CONCERNING PRACTICE, 3:1-18.

vs 1-5 are expression of apostle's assurance that they will walk as he commands.

A. Exhortation to withdraw from the disorderly, 6. Eph 4:6; 2 Cor 6:17.

B. Exhortation to follow P's example, 7-9.

C. Exhortation to those who won't work, 10-12.

D. Exhortation to perseverance in well doing, 13.

E. Exhortation regarding disobedient brethren, 14-15.

Conclusion: 16-18. "Lord, save us from the sin of worrying lest stomach ulcers be the badge of our faith." Marshall.