

## 1 Thessalonians: Holiness & Hope in a Hostile World

Lesson Twenty-Two • 1 Thessalonians 5:23-28

### Hope and Helps for Holiness

#### Our Hope for Holiness Is a “Know So” Hope!

God's grace provides both the “know so” **HOPE** and the **HELPS** for us to be kept holy until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## 1. Our **HOPE** for Holiness Is Grounded in God's Grace. (5:23-24)

### By His Grace...

- God **BLESSES** us to be blameless at Christ's coming.  
*“Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you...blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (v. 23)*
- God **MAKES** peace to personally sanctify us completely.  
*“Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely...” (v. 23)*
- God **KEEPS** us wholly blameless.  
*“and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless” (v. 23)*
  1. Your *whole* spirit: **GODWARD** aspect as humans.
  2. Your *whole* soul: **OUTWARD** aspect as humans.
  3. Your *whole* body: **PHYSICAL** aspect as humans.

*God makes peace with His sinners to set them apart as **WHOLLY** holy in His presence: spirit, soul, and body!*
- God **PRESENTS** us holy before the Lord at His coming.  
*“kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (v. 23)*
- God **FINISHES** what He starts in us.  
*“He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it” (v. 24)*

## 2. Our **HELPS** for Holiness Are God's Ordinary Means of Grace. (5:25-28)

### Holy Help by Means of...

- Congregational **MEMBERSHIP**.  
**We're “Brethren”...**
  - Not just attenders but *converted believers*.
  - Not just converted believers but *committed members*.
  - Not just committed members but *active ministers*.
  - Not just active ministers but *devoted disciples with a working faith, a laboring love, and a steadfast hope*.
- Congregational **PRAYER**.  
*“Brethren, pray for us.” (v. 25)*
- Congregational **FELLOWSHIP**.  
*“Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss.” (v. 26)*
- Congregational **BIBLE INTAKE**.  
*“I put you under oath before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brethren.” (v. 27)*  
*2 Timothy 4:1-5; 1 Timothy 4:11-13; Colossians 4:16; 2 Thessalonians 3:14*
- Congregational **GRACE**.  
*“The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.” (v. 28)*

#### Congregational Blessing to Read Together

“Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.”  
1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

