



Digital Bulletin

## 1 Thessalonians | Introduction to First Thessalonians | 9.7.25

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**9/11 - Never Forget** - Terrorists attacked our Nation, taking the lives of over 2900 American civilians. Pray for the families who lost loved ones on **9/11**.

→ We study the historical churches of Scripture to learn what they did wrong and avoid it, and learn what they got right and duplicate it.

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18** *But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. <sup>15</sup> For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup> **Therefore comfort one another with these words.***

- **Scripture** serves a much greater purpose than providing information; it can minister to the broken, grieving heart. Allow the Holy Spirit to minister to you through Scripture; that is one of His major roles within the life of a believer.

**Acts 17:1-10** *Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, <sup>3</sup> explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ." <sup>4</sup> And some of them were persuaded; and a great multitude of the devout Greeks, and not a few of the leading women, joined Paul and Silas. <sup>5</sup> But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious, took some of the evil men from the marketplace, and gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. <sup>6</sup> But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, crying out, "These who have turned the world upside down have come here too. <sup>7</sup> Jason has harbored them, and these are all acting contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another king—Jesus." <sup>8</sup> And they troubled the crowd and the rulers of the city when they heard these things. <sup>9</sup> So when they had taken security from Jason and the rest, they let them go. <sup>10</sup> Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea.*

- Reasoned from the Scripture (authority), quoting Scripture
- Explained and demonstrated the death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ.

- Salvation is in Jesus Christ, not the church
- We will stand before Christ and give an account of how we invested our lives in Him.
- We will live for all of eternity.

**GOD has something to say about mobs and justice. Exodus 23:1-3** *"You shall not circulate a false report. Do not put your hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness. <sup>2</sup> You shall not follow a crowd to do evil; nor shall you testify in a dispute so as to turn aside after many to pervert justice. <sup>3</sup> You shall not show partiality to a poor man in his dispute.*

Being rich or poor, Jew or Gentile, black or white, male or female should not influence choosing right from wrong. **GOD's desire is truth and justice!** Statements like this are an example of how Scripture is to mold our thinking, not culture! **Romans 12:1-2**

**Note the complaint** – *"turned the world upside down."* Christianity transforms people with a **renewed worldview** that affects society. Jesus taught His followers are the salt and light of our world.

We assume Paul and Silas did not minister in either Amphipolis or Apollonia. They would have expected the new believers in Philippi to carry the message to their neighbors. It was Paul's practice to minister in the larger cities and make them centers for evangelizing a whole district (**Acts 19:10, 26; 1 Thessalonians 1:8**).

### **Treasure Hunting in Scripture: (Colossians 2:3) A Study of 1 Thessalonians**

**1:1-4** What were Paul, Silas, and Timothy thankful to GOD for regarding the members of the church at Thessalonica?

- How are these characteristics demonstrated in my life?

**1:6** What were the circumstances surrounding the receiving of God's Word? Who made it possible and enjoyable?

**1:9-10** What radical way of living and thinking was demonstrated in the lives of the Thessalonian congregation?

- Read 1 Thessalonians and make notes of what passages impressed your mind and heart.

### **Upcoming Sermons:**

- 9 14 25 Joe James
- 9 21 25 Lessons from the Church at Thessalonica – Pastor Jerry