

“The Church: The Gospel on Display”

I Thessalonians 1:1-10

According to Acts 16-17, Paul and Silas brought the gospel to Thessalonica, a town in east Macedonia. The gospel was received and rather quickly demonstrated by the church. They put the gospel on display.

- I. The REASONS why the gospel was displayed (vv 6-7)
 - A. ... because of the BOLDNESS of those who PROCLAIMED IT (v. 5c)
 - B. ... because of the EXAMPLE of those who PICTURED IT (cf. 2:7)
- II. The RESULTS of the gospel being displayed (vv. 9-10, 3)
 - A. ... for INDIVIDUAL BELIEVERS (vv. 9-10)
 1. They TURNED FROM SIN (v. 9b)
 2. They COMMITTED TO SERVE (v. 9c)
 3. They ANTICIPATED THE SAVIOR (i.e. His return) (v. 10a)
 - B. ... for the CHURCH AS A WHOLE (v. 3)
 1. A FAITH THAT WORKS (v. 3a)
 2. A LOVE THAT LABORS (v. 3b)
 3. A HOPE THAT ENDURES (v. 3c)

The gospel of Christ has an extraordinary effect on individuals and churches. We must join the Apostle Paul and the early Thessalonian church and put the gospel on daily display. It is still “the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.” (Rom. 1:16) - rrc