

# Lessons From I Thessalonians

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## The Jew's Sins (I Th 2:14-16)

### INTRODUCTION

1. Good Evening
  - a. Greeting...
2. Series of "Lessons From I Thessalonians."
  - a. Last week we looked at "The Word Of God."
    - i. **I Th 2:13** "And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers."<sup>1</sup>
  - b. This week we are going to look at "The Jew's Sins."
    - i. **I Th 2:14-16** "For you, brothers, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea. For you suffered the same things from your own countrymen as they did from the Jews, 15 who killed both the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and drove us out, and displease God and oppose all mankind 16 by hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles that they might be saved—so as always to fill up the measure of their sins. But wrath has come upon them at last!"

### I. The Jew's Sins

- A. They killed Jesus
  1. **Ac 2:23, 36**
- B. They killed their own prophets
  1. They killed them in the days of Elijah.
    - i. **I Ki 19:20**
  2. They killed prophets like Zechariah.
    - i. **II Ch 24:14-21**
  3. Ezra, Nehemiah, Jeremiah, & even Stephen told the same truth concerning the Jews.
    - i. **II Ch 36:16; Ne 9:26; Je 2:30; Ac 7:52**
- C. The persecuted the apostles
  1. In Jerusalem the apostles were beaten and threatened.
    - i. **Ac 5:40**
  2. Eventually they killed James and imprisoned Peter.
    - i. **Ac 12:1-5**
  3. Paul had been persecuted in Antioch, Iconium, and Lysra.
    - i. **Ac 13:50; 14:1-6, 19**
  4. Paul had been run out of Thessalonian and Berea by the Jews.
    - i. **Ac 17:5-10, 13-14**

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<sup>1</sup> All Scriptures are taken from the ESV unless otherwise noted. If other translations are used this is not necessarily an endorsement of the translation.

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- D. The Bible is not the only writings against the sins of the Jews
  - 1. Tacitus describe them as “cherishing hatred against all others.”
  - 2. Juvenal says, “They would not even point out the way to anyone except of the same religion; nor, being asked, guide any to a fountain except the circumcised.”
  - 3. Diodorus Sicuhs decribed them as “those alone among all the nations who were unwilling to have any intermingling with any other nation, and who regarded all others as enemies”
- E. They hated the Gentiles
  - 1. They forbid Jews to talk with Gentiles.
    - i. [Ac 13:42-51](#)
  - 2. The idea of Gentiles being included as God’s people was despicable to them.
    - i. [Ac 22:21-22](#)
  - 3. Some Jewish Christians demanded that Gentiles be circumcised and keep the Law of Moses.
    - i. [Ac 15:5](#)

### II. The Sins Of Paul A Jew

- A. Paul had been a blasphemer
  - 1. Before he became a Christian
    - i. [I Ti 1:12-13](#)
- B. Paul had been a persecutor of the church
  - 1. He wreaked havoic on the church.
    - i. [Ac 8:3; Ac 9:1-2](#)
- C. Paul had been an insolent man
  - 1. In other words he was a violent aggressor.
    - i. [I Ti 1:13](#)
      - a. Barns wrote, “It does not mean merely doing injury, but refers rather to the manner or spirit in which it is done. It is a word of intenser signification than either the word 'blasphemer,' or 'persecutor,' and means that what he did was done with a proud, haughty, insolent spirit. There was wicked and malicious violence, an arrogance and spirit of tyranny in what he did, which greatly aggravated the wrong that was done.”

### III. The Lesson We Must Learn From Their Sins

- A. We learn that even God’s people can fall away
  - 1. [He 3:12-4:2](#)
- B. We learn of God’s wonderful grace for those willing to repent
  - 1. We see this in Paul’s life.
    - i. [I Ti 1:12-16](#)
  - 2. We see this is still available for the Jews.
    - i. [Ro 11:1-5, 23](#)
- C. We learn of the wrath of God upon those who refuse His grace
  - 1. To those that obey not the gospel.
    - i. [I Pt 4:17; II Th 1:7-9](#)

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2. To those who persist in sin.
  - i. **He 10:26-31**

### CONCLUSION

1. Brethren we are reminded of how the Jews, God's children, fell from grace.
  - a. Let us make sure we strive never to be counted in such number.
2. Question: Have you received God's grace in vain?
  - a.
3. Invitation