

WAITING FOR CHRIST'S COMING

Introduction: 1 Thessalonians divides into two basic parts. The first three chapters are "personal," and the last two are "practical." The first chapter tells of Paul's personal thanksgiving. Paul wrote this letter from Corinth, after he received an uplifting report from Timothy concerning the spiritual progress of the Thessalonian believers. He responds with thanksgiving to God for His work in their lives.

Lesson Aim: Teach the coming of Christ and appreciate the work of God in new believers.

Verse: "Wait for His Son from Heaven... who delivered us from the wrath to come". (1Th 1:10)

Lesson Outline and Questions to Answer**I. Paul's Greeting – 1:1**

1. On the map (back side), trace the 2nd missionary journey of Paul in Acts that took him to Europe. Go from Troas to Philippi (Acts 16:8-12); from Philippi to Thessalonica (17:1); from Thessalonica to Berea (17:10); from Berea to Athens (17:14-15); from Athens to Corinth (18:1).
2. How was Paul supported when he preached the Gospel in Thessalonica? Phil 4:16
3. Who was with Paul when he wrote his first letter to the church in Thessalonica? 1:1
4. What did these men bring to Paul when he was in Corinth?
1 Thes 3:4-8 -
2 Cor 11:9; Phil 4:15 -
5. When Paul spoke of the Lord Jesus Christ, each word has a significant meaning. Identify each word with one of these meanings: Savior; Master; God; Father; Comforter; Messiah; Spirit.
Lord - _____ Jesus - _____ Christ - _____

II. Paul's Thanksgiving – 1:2-10**A. The Expression of Paul's Thanksgiving --1: 2**

6. How often did Paul pray for the believers in the church at Thessalonica? 1:2

B. The Occasion of Paul's Thanksgiving – 1: 3

7. What three things did Paul remember about the church at Thessalonica? 1:3
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

C. The Basis of Paul's Thanksgiving – 1:4-10

8. How did Paul know these believers were elected of God and were truly saved? 1:4; Mt 7:20
- 9.. What three things made Paul's preaching effective? 1:5
10. Who did these believers follow (imitate) 1:6
11. What did these believers receive from men? _____; from the Holy Spirit? _____ 1:6
12. How far out did the testimony of these believers reach? 1:7-8
13. How did these believers show true repentance? 1:9
14. How did they show true love for God? 1:9
15. What was the steadfast hope of these believers? 1:10

