

INTRODUCTION & GREETING OF 1 THESSALONIANS (1 Thessalonians 1:1)

I. Paul’s Introduction and Personal Greeting

A. His INTRODUCTION. (1:1a)

1. The *human writer* of this book is “_____”. (1:1a)
 - a. What do we know about Paul?

Did Paul have to grow in grace?

2. His *companions* were... _____, and _____” (1:1a)
 - a. What do we know about these men?
...Silvanus (Silas) -

... Timothy -

What is important to note about this ministry team?

3. The *recipients* of this book are ... “To the _____ of _____”. (1:1a)
 - a. What does “*the church*” (ekklesia) mean?

*What do we know about Thessalonica and the founding of this local church? (Acts 17:1-10)

*How is this introduction different than Paul’s other epistles?

- b. While their *physical location* was Thessalonica, their *spiritual position* was, “in _____ and _____.”

*Why is that significant?

Key take-away: I need to see the importance of _____ positional truths, specifically my _____ with God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

B. His GREETING. (1:1b)

1. The *Gentile greeting* emphasizes... “_____ to you...”
2. The *Jewish greeting* emphasizes “and _____ from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

* Who is the ultimate Source of these blessings? Is there any significance to this order?

C. The PURPOSES of this Letter.

The Holy Spirit directed Paul to write this epistle in order to...

1. express _____ for the spiritual condition of the church. (1:2-10)
2. answer _____ against Paul and his associates. (2:1-3:13)
3. instruct them about the importance of _____ and _____. (4:1-12)
4. address misunderstandings about _____. (4:13-5:11)
5. defuse potential _____ within the flock. (5:12-15)
6. exhort them about _____ Christian living. (5:16-22)

D. The OUTLINE of this Book.

1 THESSALONIANS						
<i>Jesus Christ is coming again</i>						
c. 51 AD Paul						
Greetings	1	2	3	4	5	Closing
Paul, Silas and Timothy to the church of the Thessalonians	To rescue the church for the coming wrath (1:10)	For the church to realize joy in His presence (2:19)	To present the church blameless and holy to God (3:13)	To rapture the church in the air (4:17)	To complete His work of sanctification in the church (5:23)	Pray for us — Read this letter to all the brothers — the grace of Christ be with you
	We <u>thank</u> God for you: - work of faith - labor of love - enduring hope — Your faithful proclamation of the gospel in power and the Holy Spirit — Your turning from idols to serve the living and true God to wait for Christ's 2nd Coming	We loved you and shared with you our very lives — We walked righteously before you - encouraging - comforting - urging — You accepted our words as the Word of God — You became a model church	We <u>sent</u> Timothy to you to strengthen and encourage you in your faith — Timothy brought good news about your faith and love — Night and day we pray for you — May your love increase and overflow	We instructed you how to live to please God — It is God's will that you be sanctified and avoid sexual immorality — God calls us to holiness, not impurity — Be faithful and diligent; work hard — Don't be ignorant Christ will come to resurrect dead believers and "catch-up" Christians	Be ready – you don't know when Christ will return to complete our salvation — Church not destined for wrath (5:9) — Be self-controlled-encourage and build up each other It is God's will for you to— • be joyful • pray continually • give thanks in all things Christ will do it	
1:1	1:2 1:10	2:1 2:20	3:1 3:13	4:1 4:18	5:1 5:24	5:25-28
Grace	Be waiting	Be hopeful	Be strengthened	Be encouraged	Be thankful	Grace
Paul looks back on his ministry in Thessalonica				Paul looks ahead to Christ's coming		
“We will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when He comes” (2:19)						

* How does all this apply to you?