

RATHMINES GOSPEL HALL

Teaching from 1 Thessalonians

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INTRODUCTION



Acts 16:8–12

And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us. And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them. Therefore losing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis; and from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days.

Acts 17:1–10

Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews: and Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ.

And some of them believed, and consorted with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few. But the Jews which believed not, moved

with envy, took unto them certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also; Whom Jason hath received: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, one Jesus. And they troubled the people and the rulers of the city, when they heard these things. And when they had taken security of Jason, and of the other, they let them go. And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea.

Outline of Paul's Epistles

1. Preface (A.D. 52–53)		
Hope – The Perfecting of Salvation		
<i>Christ lives for us.</i>		
1 Thessalonians	Second missionary journey	Acts 17
2 Thessalonians	Second missionary journey	Acts 17
2. The Cross (A.D. 57–58)		
Faith – The Plan of Salvation		
<i>Christ died for us.</i>		
Galatians*	Third missionary journey?	Acts 20:2–3
1 Corinthians	Third missionary journey	Acts 19:20–21
2 Corinthians	Third missionary journey	Acts 20:1
Romans	Third missionary journey	Acts 20:2–3
3. The Christ (The Prison Epistles, A.D. 62–63)		
Love – The Privileges of Salvation		
<i>We died with Christ.</i>		
Ephesians	First Roman captivity	Acts 28:30
Colossians	First Roman captivity	Acts 28:30
Philemon	First Roman captivity	Acts 28:30
Philippians	First Roman captivity	Acts 28:30
4. Postscript (The Pastoral Epistles, A.D. 65–68)		
Faith, Hope, Love – The Purpose of Salvation		
<i>We live for Christ.</i>		
1 Timothy	Post-Acts 24	1 Tim. 1:3
Titus	Post-Acts 24	Tit. 1:5
2 Timothy	Final Roman captivity	2 Tim. 4:20
* - The date of Galatians is debated, with many scholars preferring a date before A.D. 50.		

Outline of 1 Thessalonians		
<i>We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father (1 Thess. 1:2-3).</i>		
Chapter 1 – Faith		
1:1-5	Reality	<i>For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance (v. 5).</i>
1:6-10	Results	<i>How ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; And to wait for his Son from heaven (vv. 9-10).</i>
Chapter 2-4a – Love		
2:1-20	Remembrance	<i>For ye remember, brethren, our labour and travail (v. 9).</i>
3:1-13	Report	<i>For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, ... when Timotheus came from you unto us, and brought us good tidings of your faith and charity, ... we were comforted over you in all our affliction and distress by your faith (vv. 5-7).</i>
4:1-12	Requirements	<i>We beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more (v.1).</i>
Chapter 4b & 5 – Hope		
4:13-17	Revelation	<i>For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep (v. 15).</i>
5:1-11	Reminder	<i>For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night (v. 1),</i>
5:12-28	Responsibilities	<i>We beseech you, brethren (v.12); Now we exhort you, brethren (v.14)</i>
Key Words (Greek lemma)		
God (<i>Theos</i> , × 36); Lord (<i>Kurios</i> , × 24); brother/brethren (<i>adelphos</i> , × 19); Jesus (× 16); Christ (<i>Christos</i> , × 10); word (<i>logos</i> , × 9); exhort (<i>parakaleō</i> , × 8); faith (<i>pistis</i> , × 8); gospel (<i>euangelion</i> , × 6).		