

CALVARY CHAPEL SOUTH BAY
MEN OF THE WORD
MEN'S MINISTRY
2021-2022

1 Thessalonians - "The Coming of the Lord"

Session 1

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

"Evidence of our conversion"

As we look around at the world right now, it isn't a stretch to believe that the Lord is coming back soon; and that is exactly the theme of this Letter that Paul wrote to the church at Thessalonica. Therefore, it would be wise of us to pay close attention to the things Paul writes as they will have some relationship to Christ's return. As John the Baptist would say, we should **"Prepare the way of the Lord"**!

In this first passage, Paul speaks of his thankfulness before God for the things he remembers about the Thessalonians; and because of them, he acknowledges their **"election by God."** There were things in their life that were evidence that the power of the Word of God and of the Holy Spirit was at work in their lives. As you study this first passage, ask yourself and those close to you that you trust, whether the things spoken of here are evident in your own life. Pray the Holy Spirit would continue His work in you through the Word of God that you might walk in assurance of your own election as you anticipate the soon return of the Lord!

Personal Study Time Questions:

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3

What is Paul's attitude toward the believers in Thessalonica as he lifts them up in prayer? What are the three things he is **"remembering"** about them that causes him to have this attitude?

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 1:3; John 6:29

What was the first thing Paul remembered about them? What did Jesus say was the **"work"** of God? Shouldn't that be our first focus then?

Scripture: Hebrews 6:9-10

What is the “*labor of love*” that the writer of Hebrews says will “*accompany salvation*”? Is this something you labor at?

Scripture: 1 John 3:2-3

What is the hope of the “*this hope*” in v.3? What does it say we should be doing if we have this hope?

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 1:5

According to Paul, what was the cause of the faith, love, and hope that he remembers about them and assures him of their election by God? (*The word “for” at the start of v.5 connects it back to the previous verses*).

Group Discussion:

Paul speaks in this passage about what he remembers about the believers at the church in Thessalonica; and it assures him of their election by God. If today was your last day on earth, what would people remember you by? More importantly, if Christ returned today, what would HE remember about your life? With that in mind, and considering this week’s message, what changes in the priorities of your life must you make that you might look forward to Christ’s return with great joy? What in this passage hints at what you need more of to help make that happen?

Hiding God’s Word in your heart (Ps. 119:11):

“And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.”

1 John 3:3