

usual indulgence.

### by Living

you have been raised with your hearts on things above, seated at the right hand of minds on things above, not gs. <sup>2</sup>For you died, and your dden with Christ in God, who is your life, appears, will appear with him in glory. h, therefore, whatever be- earthly nature: sexual immo- y, lust, evil desires and greed, try. <sup>6</sup>Because of these, the is coming. <sup>7</sup>You used to ways, in the life you once w you must rid yourselves of as these: anger, rage, malice, lthy language from your lips. each other, since you have r old self with its practices t on the new self, which is l in knowledge in the image of <sup>1</sup>Here there is no Greek or ised or uncircumcised, bar-

<sup>15</sup> Or them in him  
disobedient

<sup>14</sup> Some

an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. <sup>25</sup>Any- one who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there is no favoritism.

**4** Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven.

### Further instructions

<sup>2</sup>Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. <sup>3</sup>And pray for us,

and the church in Laodicea, and to every one of you.

<sup>16</sup>After this letter has been read to you, see that it is also read in the church of the Laodiceans and that you also read the letter from Laodicea.

<sup>17</sup>Tell Archippus: "See to it that you complete the work you have received in the Lord."

<sup>18</sup>I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace with you.

# 1 Thessalonians

**1** Paul, Silas<sup>b</sup> and Timothy,  
To the church of the Thessalonians in

God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:  
Grace and peace to you.<sup>c</sup>

<sup>14</sup> Some manuscripts that he may know about your  
early manuscripts you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

<sup>15</sup> Greek Silvanus, a variant of Silas

*A Working Church*  
WORTHY OF IMITATION



# Thessalonica: *Introduction*



- ◆ A seaport located at the head of the Themaic Gulf in Macedonia, and was on the well traveled Egnatian Way.
- ◆ The largest city of Macedonia, with a population of ca. 200,000, The city was affectionately called the "*mother of all Macedon*."



# Thessalonica: *Introduction*



- ◆ It had been granted the status of a free city.
- ◆ A grossly immoral city (1:9).
- ◆ Had a large Jewish population, had a synagogue (Acts 17:1).



# Thessalonica: *Introduction*



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## Acts 17:1-4 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue. <sup>2</sup> So Paul went in there, as his custom was, and sat down, and reasoned with them from the Scriptures, <sup>3</sup> explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and *saying*, “This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ.” <sup>4</sup> And some of them were persuaded; and a great multitude of the devout Greeks, and not a few of the leading women, joined Paul and Silas.



# Thessalonica: *Introduction*

## **Acts 17:5–10 (NKJV)**

<sup>5</sup> But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious, took some of the evil men from the marketplace, and gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. <sup>6</sup> But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, crying out, “These who have turned the world upside down have come here too. <sup>7</sup> Jason has harbored them, and these are all acting contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another king—Jesus.”

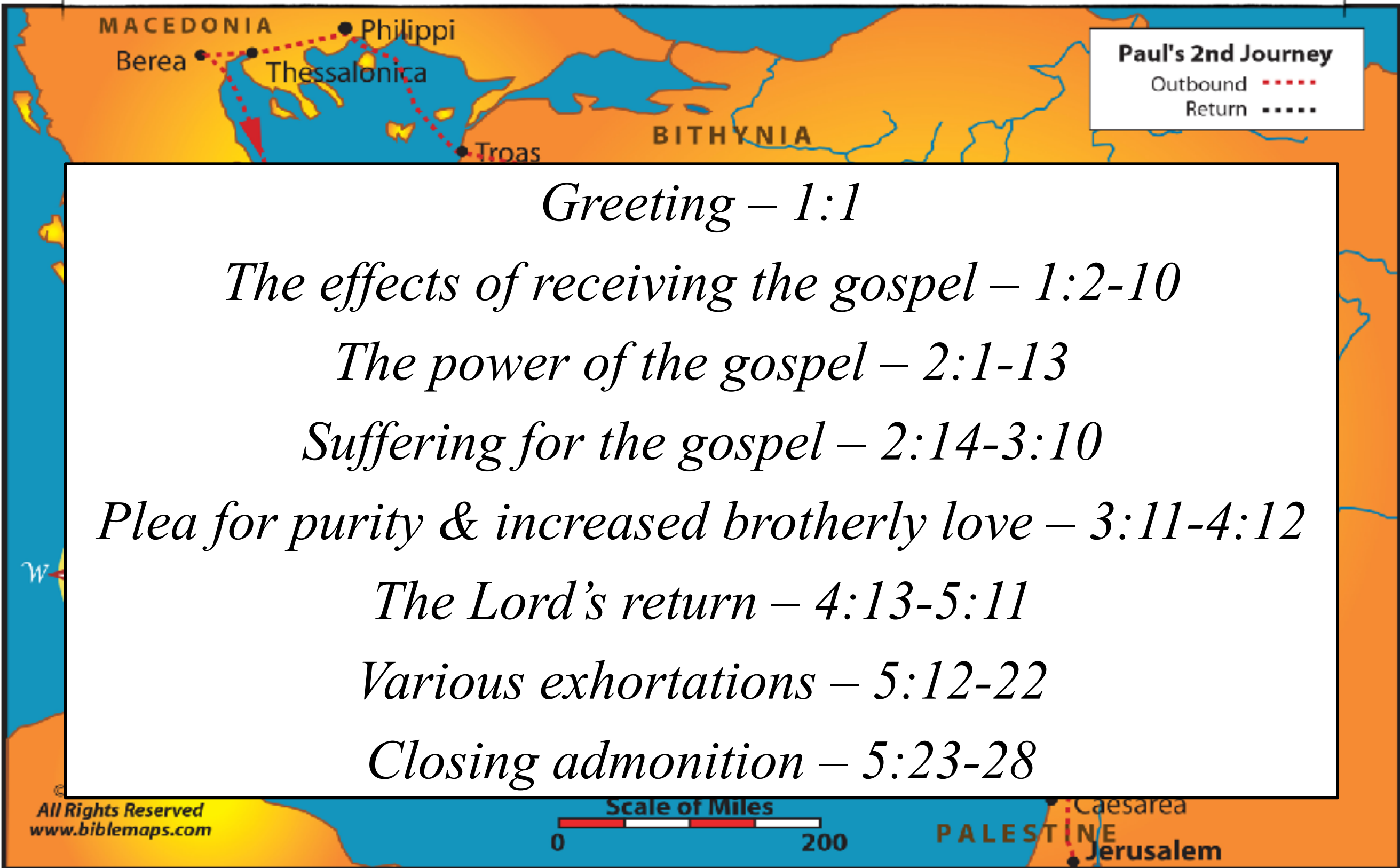
# Thessalonica: *Introduction*

**Acts 17:5–10 (NKJV)**

<sup>8</sup> And they troubled the crowd and the rulers of the city when they heard these things. <sup>9</sup> So when they had taken security from Jason and the rest, they let them go. <sup>10</sup> Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea.



# Thessalonica: *Introduction*



*Greeting – 1:1*

*The effects of receiving the gospel – 1:2-10*

*The power of the gospel – 2:1-13*

*Suffering for the gospel – 2:14-3:10*

*Plea for purity & increased brotherly love – 3:11-4:12*

*The Lord's return – 4:13-5:11*

*Various exhortations – 5:12-22*

*Closing admonition – 5:23-28*



# Thessalonica: *Greeting*



1 Thessalonians 1:1 (NKJV)  
1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- ◆ Paul, Silas and Timothy — (Act 16:1-3, 11-40; 17:1-2).
- ◆ **To the church** (*ecclesia*), i.e., called out assembly, people who were IN God & Christ — (Mat. 28:19,20; Rom. 6:3-6; Gal. 3:26,27).
- ◆ **Grace** was the common Greek salutation meaning “*divine favor*” - God’s grace in Christ was the means of the “peace” they enjoyed in Christ — (Eph. 2:16; Phili. 4:6,7,9).



# Thessalonica: *Greeting*



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- ◆ Commended for their “work of faith,” “labor of love” & “patience of hope” — (1 Thes 1:3)
- ◆ Chosen by God, they were in Christ - *they heard, believed and obeyed the gospel* -
  - ◆ Received the word of God as God’s word — (1 Thes 1:4,6; 2:13; 2 Thes 2:13-15).
  - ◆ They truly repented — (1:9)
  - ◆ They were great examples / Evangelistic — (1:7-10)
  - ◆ Imitated Judean churches / Suffered for Christ — (2:14-16)



# Thessalonica: *Greeting*



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- ◆ The “Word of God” effectively worked in them — (2:13)
- ◆ Does God effectively work in us? — (*work of faith, labor of love, & patience of hope?*) — 1:3; 2:13; Rom. 1:5; 16:26; 1 Cor. 15:58; Gal. 5:6; Tit. 2:14
- ◆ Have we received God’s grace? — Eph 2:8,9; Titus 2:11-14
- ◆ Do we enjoy the peace God gives to those who follow the teaching, instruct & example of God’s word? — Phil 4:9







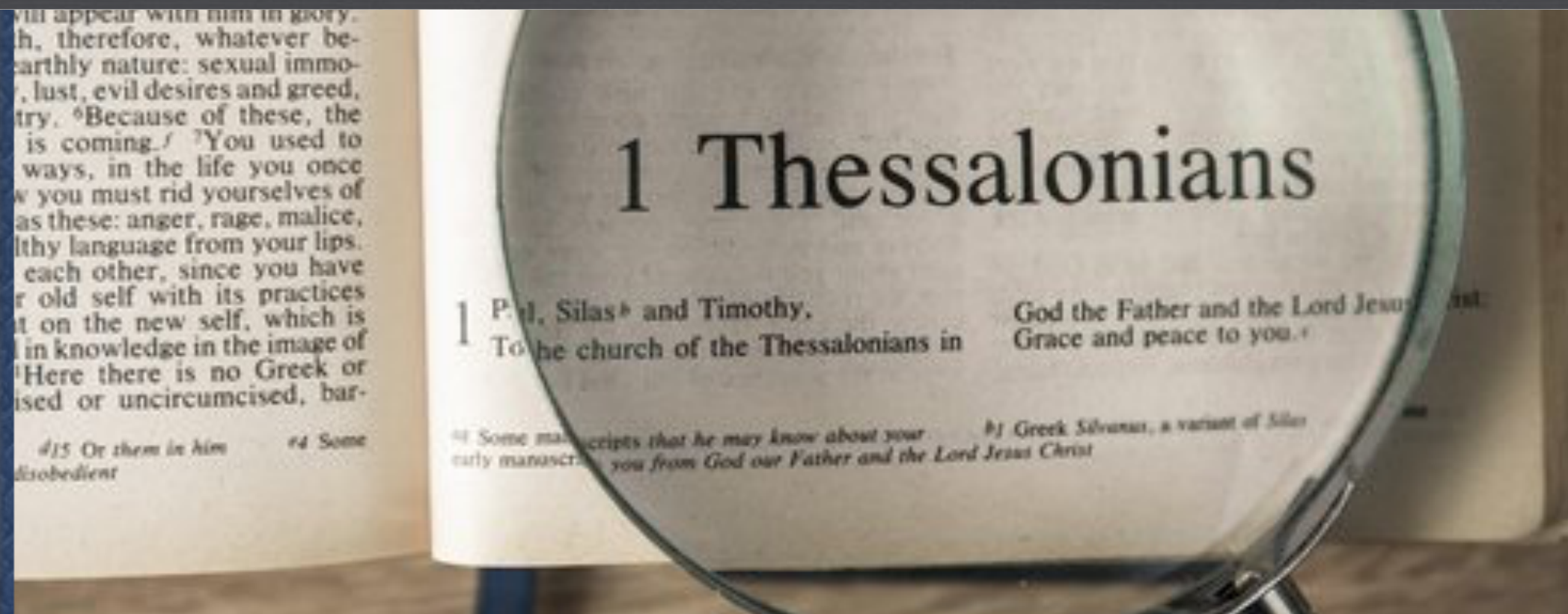
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