

Lesson 2

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. ²For 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. ⁶Because of these, the is coming. ⁷You 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 ¹Here there is no Greek or ised or uncircumcised, bar-

^{#15} Or them in him
disobedient

^{#4} Some

an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. ²⁵Any- 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

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

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

¹⁶After 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.

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

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

1 Thessalonians

1 Paul, Silas^b and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in

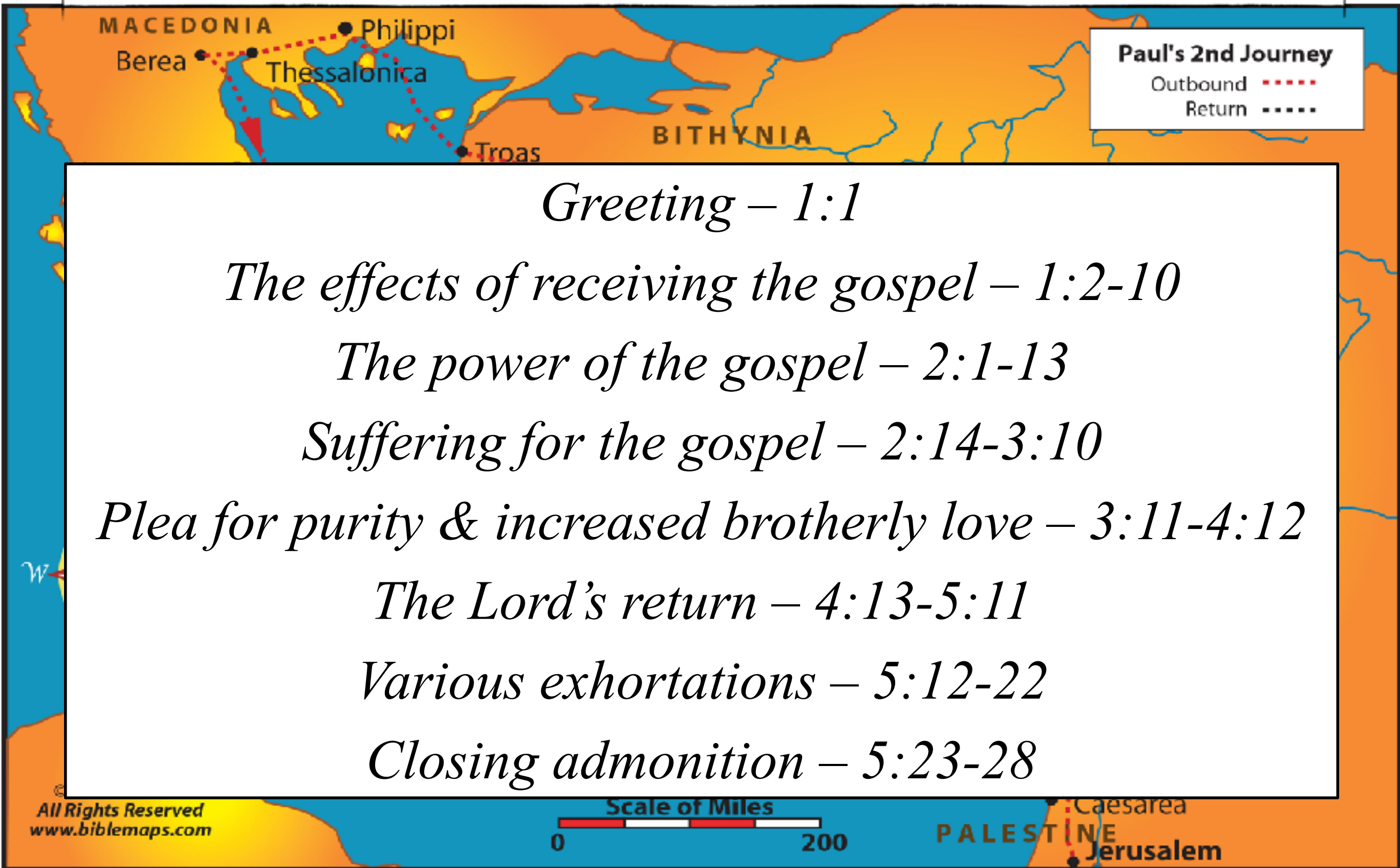
God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace and peace to you.^a

^a Some manuscripts that he may know about your
early manuscripts you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

^b Greek Silvanus, a variant of Silas

The Effects of Receiving
THE GOSPEL - 1:2-10

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: *Power of The Gospel*

I Thessalonians 1:2-10 (NKJV)

² We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, ³ remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father, ⁴ knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God. ⁵ For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.

Thessalonica: *Power of The Gospel*

I Thessalonians 1:2-10 (NKJV)

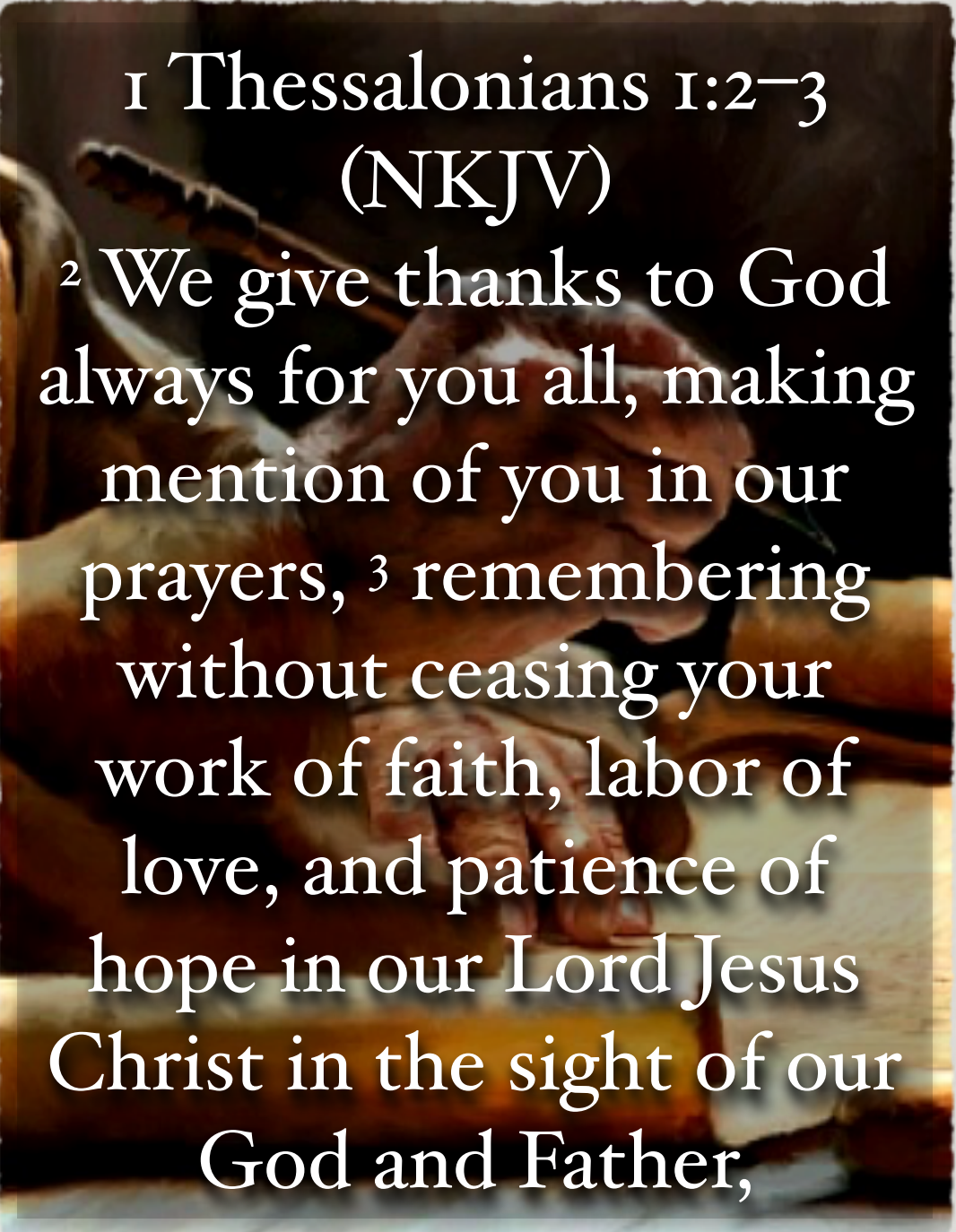
⁶ And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe. ⁸ For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything.

Thessalonica: *Power of The Gospel*

I Thessalonians 1:2-10 (NKJV)

⁹ For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *even* Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

Paul's Prayers of Thanks

¹ Thessalonians 1:2-3
(NKJV)

² We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, ³ remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father,

- ◆ There was much for Paul to be thankful about. They continued living as Christians during his forced absence from them and despite every outward obstacle.
- ◆ “*Give thanks is in the present tense, which indicates continuous action*” (Fields p. 30).
- ◆ “*“Always” qualifies “give thanks”, and indicates that the thanksgiving is constant, not sporadic*” (Morris p. 50).
- ◆ Paul kept in mind their positive qualities — (Ro. 1:8, 9; 1 Co. 1:4; Ep. 1:15, 16; Phi. 1:3, 4; Col. 1:3; Phile. 4.)

Their Response To The Gospel

¹ Thessalonians 1:2-3
(NKJV)

² We give thanks to God
always for you all, making
mention of you in our
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without ceasing your
work of faith, labor of
love, and patience of
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Christ in the sight of our
God and Father,

- ◆ **Work of faith:** *motivated by faith, they served the Lord* — (Heb 5:8,9; 10:29; 11:1-12:2; Jam 1:22; 2:14-26; Eph. 2:8-10; Tit. 2:11-14; etc.)
- ◆ **Labor of love:** *strenuous, sacrificial effort spent for the well being of another* — (Gal. 5:6; Rom 13:8-12; 1 Jn 3:16; Luke 10:29-37)
- ◆ **Patience of hope:** *active constancy in the face of difficulties, motivated by hope* — (Rom 5:4; 8:18; Heb 6:18-19; Tit. 1:2)
- ◆ Our hope is rooted in Jesus Christ (1 Jn 3:3; Phil 3:20-21; Ep. 1:3-14)

Their Response To The Gospel

1 Thessalonians 1:4-5
(NKJV)

4 knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God. 5 For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.

- ◆ **Brothers loved by God (ESV)** — (Ro 1:7; 2 Thes 2:13; Jude 1; Dt 33:12)
- ◆ **Knowing your election by God** — *“For we know ... that he has chosen you”* (ESV) —
 - ◆ *God chose Christ - (Is. 42:1)*
 - ◆ *God chose all in Christ - (Eph. 1:4)*
 - ◆ *Not unconditional - (2 Pet. 1:10)*
 - ◆ *Not apart from, or in violation of, our free will — (Rom 6:16,17; Eph. 1:13; 2 Thes 2:13,14; 2 Pet 1:5-12)*
 - ◆ *God chose the sphere, (Christ), God chose the power, (1:5; Rom. 1:16)*

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(NKJV)

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◆ **How did Paul KNOW they had been CHOSEN by God?**

1 Thessalonians 1:6-7 (NKJV)

6 And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, 7 so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe.

cf. 2:13; Eph. 1:13,14; Rom. 10:13-17; 11; Col. 1:4-6,23; 2 Thes 2:13-15; 2 Pet 3:9; Tit 2:11,12; 1 Jn 2:1,2; Jn 3:16

Their Response To The Gospel

1 Thessalonians 1:4-5
(NKJV)

4 knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God. 5 For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.

♦ **How did Paul KNOW they had been CHOSEN by God?**

Galatians 3:26-29 (NKJV)

26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you *are* Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Their Response To The Gospel

1 Thessalonians 1:7-8
(NKJV)

7 so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe. 8 For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything.

- ◆ **They let their light shine** — (Mat 5:13-16; Phil. 2:14-16; Rom. 12:2)
- ◆ **They were evangelistic** —
 - ◆ *Mat. 28:19* - “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ...”
 - ◆ *Mark 16:15* - “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. ...”
 - ◆ *Acts 8:4* - “Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word. ...”

Their Response To The Gospel

1 Thessalonians 1:9
(NKJV)

9 For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,

- ◆ **Their zeal & faith had become known by others** — the result of the gospel preached by Paul, Silas & Timothy was visible & unmistakable - (2:1, 13; Col. 1:6; Heb 4:12)
- ◆ **They had truly repented** —
 - ◆ *Turned away from idols & turned to God - They were CONVERTED.*
 - ◆ *The gospel had truly changed their loyalties & manner of life. - (cf. Acts 19:18,19)*

Their Response To The Gospel



I Thessalonians 1:9-10 (NKJV)

⁹ For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *even* Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

Their Response To The Gospel



- ◆ **What of our “work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope?”**
- ◆ **Are there things stealing your heart from working for God as you should?**
- ◆ **Are you willing to be an example to others?**
- ◆ **Is heaven your goal? Are you doing the work it takes to be there?**

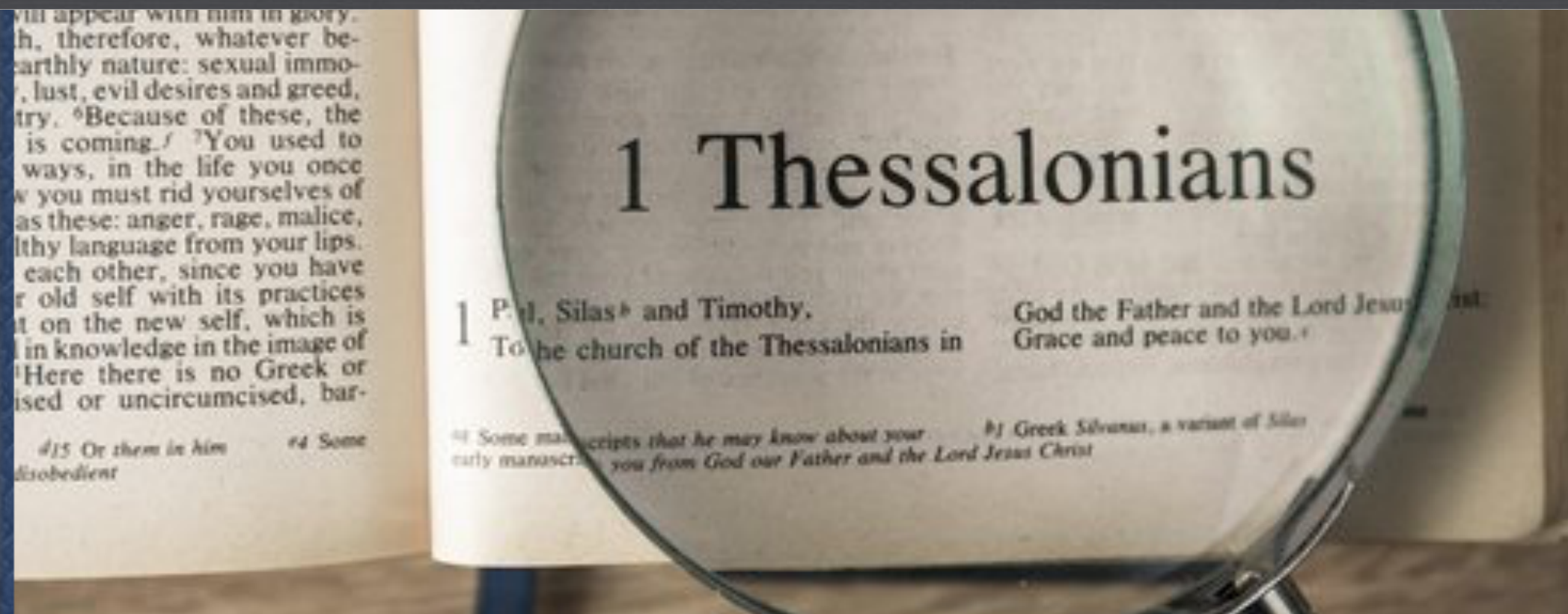
Charts by Don McClain / Preached May 21, 2017

West 65th Street church of Christ P.O. Box 190062 / Little Rock AR 72219 /

501-568-1062 / Email – donmcclain@sbcglobal.net

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THE GOSPEL - 1:2-10