

Lesson 3

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 things. ²For you died, and your life was hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, you will appear with him in glory. Therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, lust, evil desires and greed, etc., try to put away. ⁶Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived, when you were dead. Now you must rid yourselves of all these things: anger, rage, malice, slander, filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have put off your old self with its practices and are putting on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of God. ¹¹Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, bar-

¹¹ Or them in him
disobedient

¹⁴ Some

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

¹Devote 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 from the Lord."

¹⁸I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace and peace to 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 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

Effective Spiritual Leadership
(1 THESSALONIANS 2:1-12)

1 Thessalonians 2:1-12 (NKJV)

¹ For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you was not in vain. ² But even after we had suffered before and were spitefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict. ³ For our exhortation *did not come* from error or uncleanness, nor *was it* in deceit. ⁴ But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts.

1 Thessalonians 2:1–12 (NKJV)

⁵ For neither at any time did we use flattering words, as you know, nor a cloak for covetousness—God *is* witness. ⁶ Nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, when we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. ⁷ But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing *mother* cherishes her own children. ⁸ So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.

1 Thessalonians 2:1-12 (NKJV)

⁹ For you remember, brethren, our labor and toil; for laboring night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God. ¹⁰ You *are* witnesses, and God *also*, how devoutly and justly and blamelessly we behaved ourselves among you who believe; ¹¹ as you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father *does* his own children, ¹² that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

The Manner of Paul's Preaching

1 Thessalonians 2:1-2
(NKJV)

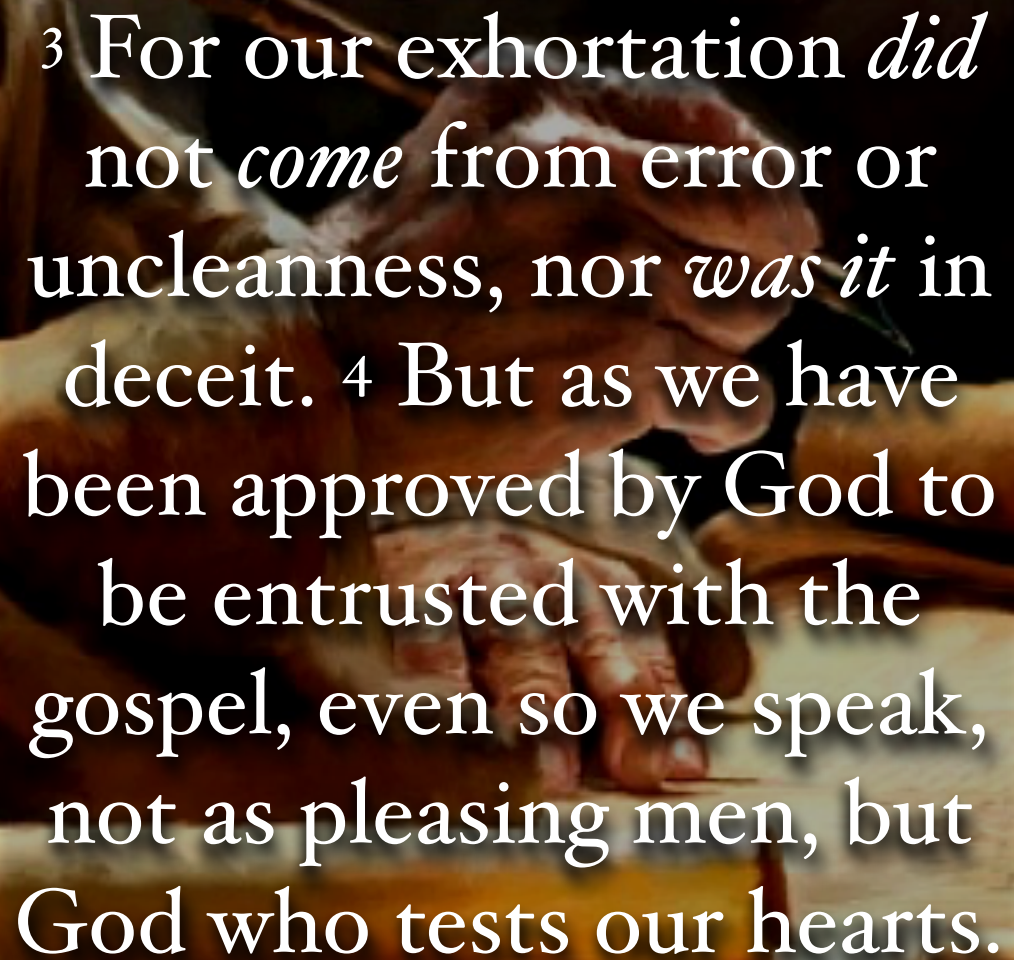
1 For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you was not in vain. 2

But even after we had suffered before and were spitefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict.

♦ WITH BOLDNESS — (2:1,2; Acts 16:17-24; Eph. 6:19,20)

The Manner of Paul's Preaching

1 Thessalonians 2:3-4
(NKJV)



3 For our exhortation *did* not *come* from error or uncleanness, nor *was it* in deceit. 4 But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts.

- ♦ WITH BOLDNESS — (2:1,2; Acts 16:17-24; Eph. 6:19,20)
- ♦ WITH TRUTH AND HONESTY — (2:3; cf. 2 Cor. 4:2)
- ♦ PLEASING GOD, NOT MEN — (2:4; Gal. 1:10)

The Manner of Paul's Preaching

**1 Thessalonians 2:5-6
(NKJV)**

5 For neither at any time did we use flattering words, as you know, nor a cloak for covetousness—*God is witness.* **6** Nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, when we might have made demands as apostles of Christ.

- ◆ **WITH BOLDNESS** — (2:1,2; Acts 16:17-24; Eph. 6:19,20)
- ◆ **WITH TRUTH AND HONESTY** — (2:3; cf. 2 Cor. 4:2)
- ◆ **PLEASING GOD, NOT MEN** — (2:4; Gal. 1:10)
- ◆ **WITHOUT FLATTERY OR COVETOUSNESS** — (2:5; Prov. 29:5; Rom. 16:17,18; 2 Pet. 2:1-3, 18; Ac 20:33; 2Co 11:9; 12:17)
- ◆ **WITHOUT SEEKING FOR GLORY FROM MEN** — (2:6; Phile 8,9; 1 Cor. 9:12-18; 2 Thes. 3:8,9)

The Manner of Paul's Preaching

1 Thessalonians 2:7-8
(NKJV)

7 But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing *mother* cherishes her own children. 8 So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.

- ♦ WITH GENTLENESS AND AFFECTION — 2:7
- ♦ *He had affection for them, which prompted him to share not just the gospel, but his own life - 1Th 2:8*
- ♦ *Paul was a preacher who loved his brethren - cf. Php 1:8*
- ♦ *For which he joyfully sacrificed his life as necessary - cf. Php 2:17*
- ♦ Gentleness & love for the brethren should be evident in both preaching & in life! — 2 Tim 2:24-25; Ga 6:1

The Manner of Paul's LIFE

1 Thessalonians 2:9-10
(NKJV)

9 For you remember, brethren, our labor and toil; for laboring night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God. 10 You *are* witnesses, and God *also*, how devoutly and justly and blamelessly we behaved ourselves among you who believe;

◆ LABORING NIGHT AND DAY — 2:9

- ◆ *Not that it be could NOT have been supported — 1Co 9:7-14*
- ◆ *Paul often worked as a tent maker while preaching - e.g., Ac 18:1-4*
- ◆ *Paul chose to preach the gospel without charge to prove his sincerity - cf. 1Co 9:6,15-18; Ac 20:31*
- ◆ Our service to God & towards one another is a not a 9-5 job!

The Manner of Paul's LIFE

1 Thessalonians 2:9-10
(NKJV)

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- ◆ *Their behavior was DEVOUT, JUST, & BLAMELESS — 2:10*
- ◆ ***"HOLY"*** (NIV) / ***PURE*** (NRSV) - 1Th 2:10; 1 Pet 1:13ff; 2 Cor. 6:14-7:2
- ◆ ***"Just"*** describes his dealings with his fellow man - ***"righteous"*** (NIV) / ***"upright"*** (NRSV)
- ◆ ***"Blameless"*** reflects his life to be above reproach - Ac 24:16; 2 Co 6:3
- ◆ These graces made clear Paul's genuineness, sincerity & his love for God, the truth & them!

The Manner of Paul's LIFE

¹ Thessalonians 2:11-12
(NKJV)

¹¹ as you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father *does* his own children, ¹² that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

◆ FATHERLY — 2:11

- ◆ *Paul was like a father to them - (Charging them as necessary) 2:11 - e.g., 2 Thes. 3:6,12*
- ◆ *He was concerned about their walk (life) as a Christian - 1 Thes. 2:12*
- ◆ We, as Christians, **MUST** strive to live in a manner that glorifies God, (Eph 5:1; Ep. 4:1; 5:2, 8. Phi. 1:27)
- ◆ We are called **INTO HIS KINGDOM** — (Col. 1:13; Acts 2:36; Luke 6:46; etc. ...)

Paul's Instructions NOT JUST Applicable To Elders & Preachers



- ◆ With boldness, truth and honesty, seeking to pleasing God - not men
- ◆ Without flattery, covetousness, or seeking glory from men
- ◆ With labor night and day, seeking to be devout, just, and blameless
- ◆ With the gentleness and affection of a nursing mother, and the guidance and encouragement of a caring father —

Paul's Instructions NOT JUST Applicable To Elders & Preachers



1 Thessalonians 2:12
(NKJV)

¹² that you would
walk worthy of God
who calls you into
His own kingdom
and glory.

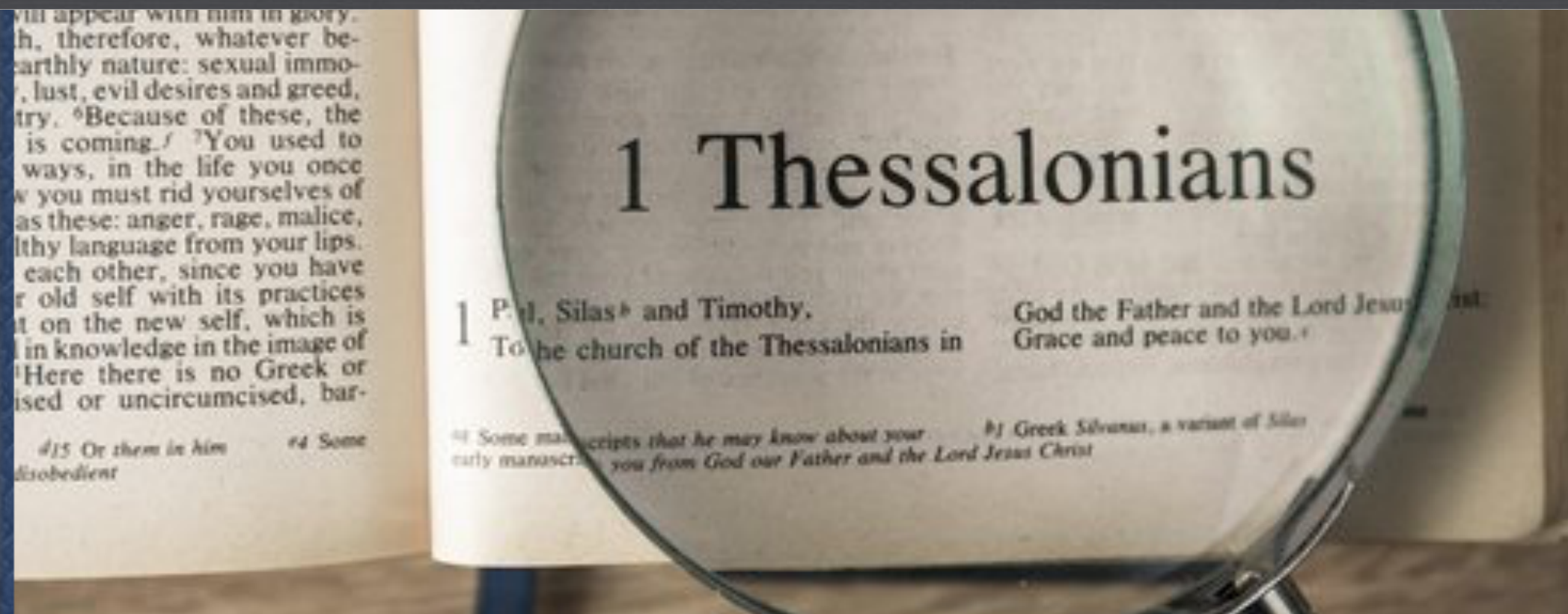
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The Effects of Receiving
THE GOSPEL - 1:2-10