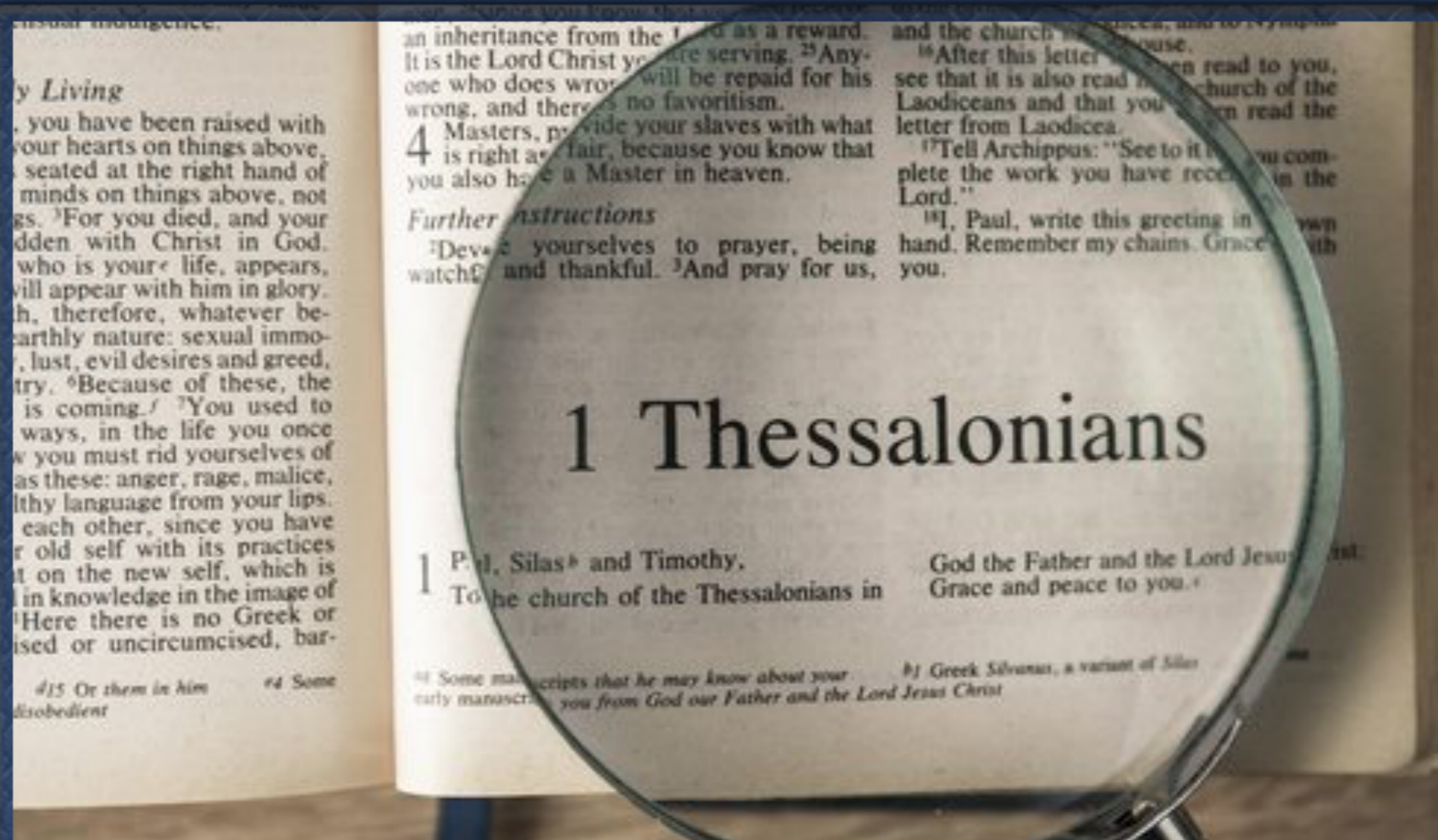


Lesson 4



"Effectual Reception of God's Word"
(1 Thessalonians 2:13-16)

"Effectual Reception of God's Word"

1 Thessalonians 2:13-16 (NKJV)

¹³ For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed *it* not *as* the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe. ¹⁴ For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus.

"Effectual Reception of God's Word"

1 Thessalonians 2:13-16 (NKJV)

For you also suffered the same things from your own countrymen, just as they *did* from the Judeans, ¹⁵ who killed both the Lord Jesus and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they do not please God and are contrary to all men, ¹⁶ forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they may be saved, so as always to fill up *the measure of* their sins; but wrath has come upon them to the uttermost.

"Effectual Reception of God's Word"

The Effectiveness Of God's Word

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- ◆ LIVING, POWERFUL, ABLE TO DISCERN ... 2 Tim 3:16,17
- ◆ *The POWER of God to save — Rom 1:16,17; James 1:21*
- ◆ *The word of God is no dead letter - He 4:12; John 6:63; Luke 8:11*
- ◆ *The source of SAVING faith — Rom. 10:17; 1 Cor. 1:18-24; Eph 1:12,13; Col. 1:4-6; Act 2:37; etc.*
- ◆ *Can regenerate — James 1:18; 1 Pet 1:22,23; John 6:63; Heb. 4:12*

"Effectual Reception of God's Word"

The Effectiveness Of God's Word

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◆ LIVING, POWERFUL, ABLE TO DISCERN ...

◆ *Sanctifies — John 17:17; Psalm 19:7-11; 119:9-11*

◆ *Key To Spiritual Growth — 1 Pet 2:2; Heb. 5:12; Eph 4:15; 2 Tim 3:17*

◆ *Provides the spiritual weapons & strength necessary to overcome Satan - Mat. 4:1-11; Eph 6:10-18; 1 Jn 2:14*

◆ *Needed to protect against false teachers — Acts 20:28-32*

"Effectual Reception of God's Word"

In Order For God's Word To Be Effectual

¹ Thessalonians 2:13 (NKJV)

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- ◆ Must Be RECEIVED - *13; Mat. 13:18-23; Luke 8:11ff*
- ◆ Must Be Received With Faith — *13; Her. 4:2; Rom 1:16*
- ◆ Must Be Received With Meekness — *Ps. 25:9; James 1:21*
- ◆ Must Be Doers — *John 7:17; James 1:22-25; 2:14-26; Heb. 3:14-19; 11:1-30*
- ◆ Must Hunger For It — *Mat. 5:6; Psalm 1:1-3; 119:97-104*
- ◆ Must Abide In Us — *Psalm 119:11; John 15:7; 1 John 2:14; 3:9;*

"Effectual Reception of God's Word"

In Order For God's Word To Be Effectual

1 Thessalonians 2:14
(NKJV)

14 For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus. For you also suffered the same things from your own countrymen, just as they *did* from the Judeans,

- ◆ Main thought - those who hold to the truth will suffer persecution — 2 Thes. 1:4; 2 Tim. 3:12
- ◆ *Gentile persecution — Acts 16:16ff*
- ◆ *From the Jews who likewise crucified Jesus & other prophets — 15; Acts 2:36; Mat 23:31-36*
- ◆ *Who also persecuted Paul and his companions — 15; Acts 17:1-3*
- ◆ *Also refers to the Judaizing teachers who professed faith in Christ — 16; Acts 17:5, 10*

"Effectual Reception of God's Word"

Have We Received The Word Of God?



- ◆ Do we listen to God's word AS GOD'S WORD? — 2 Tim 3:16,17
- ◆ Do we listen to God's word with eagerness and a desire to obey?
- ◆ Have we obeyed it by faith?
- ◆ Are we diligently seeking God's will for us in His word that we may please Him? — 2 Tim 2:15; Acts 17:11,12
- ◆ Are we growing spiritually as we should? — Rom 10:17; 2 Pet 2:2

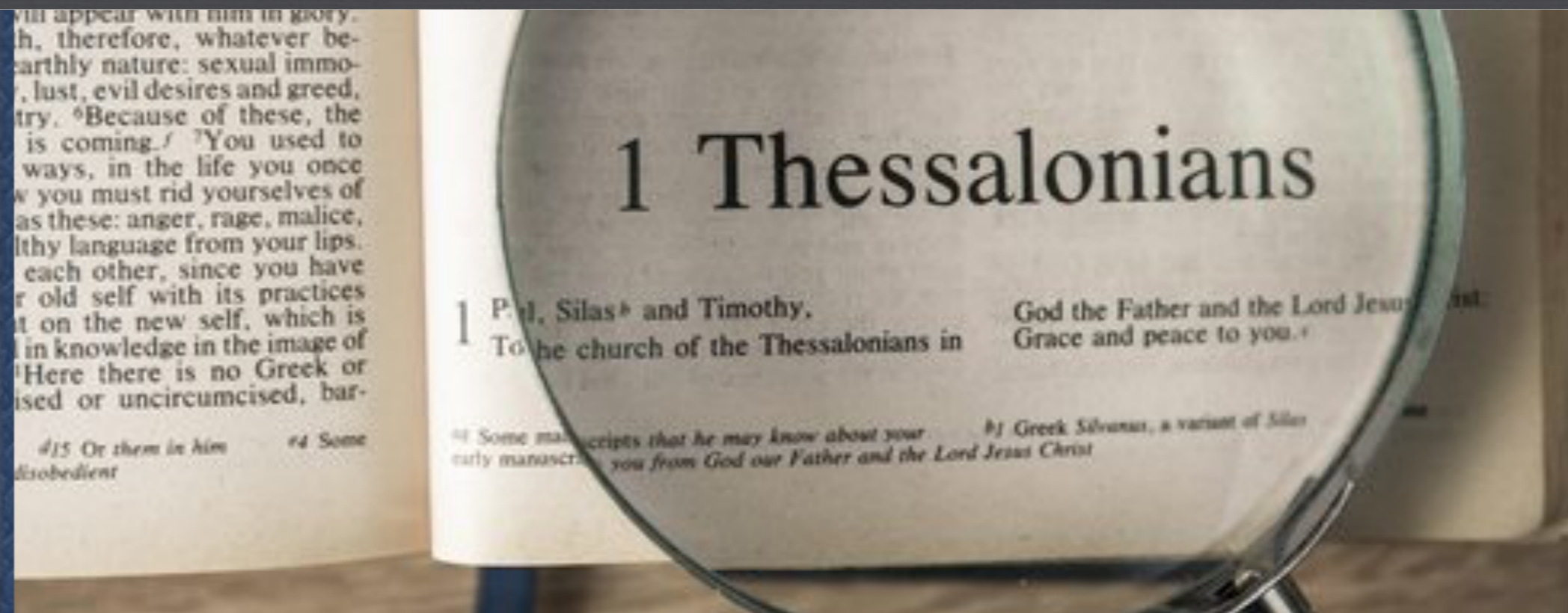
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"Effectual Reception of God's Word"
(1 Thessalonians 2:13-16)

ACTS 17:1-9 (NKJV)

¹ Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ² Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³ 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.” ⁴ 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.

ACTS 17:1-9 (NKJV)

⁵ 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. ⁶ 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."

ACTS 17:1-9 (NKJV)

⁷ Jason has harbored them, and these are all acting contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another king —Jesus.” ⁸ And they troubled the crowd and the rulers of the city when they heard these things. ⁹ So when they had taken security from Jason and the rest, they let them go.