

I Thessalonians

Hope and Comfort

I Thessalonians : Introduction

- Time of Writing: Early 50s AD
- Written from Corinth
 - Paul was there about a year and 6 months
- Delivered by Timothy
- One of the first epistles written by Paul

I Thessalonians : Introduction

- Major divisions of the book:
 - 1:1-3:13 : Paul's gratitude, concern, and relief concerning the Thessalonians
 - 4:1-5:28 : Instructions concerning their behavior and topics of concern, and concluding remarks

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- Outline:
 - Memory and Comfort:
 - 1:1-10 : Salutation and thanksgiving
 - 2:1-16 : Teaching and tribulation in Macedonia
 - 2:17-3:13 : Concern for the brethren at Thessalonica

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- Outline (continued):

- Instructions and Conclusion:

- 4:1-12 : Instruction concerning holiness
 - 4:13-18 : Instruction concerning the dead in Christ
 - 5:1-11 : Instruction concerning the day of the Lord
 - 5:12-28 : Instruction concerning various topics and conclusion

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- Alternative Outline (4 I's in the 7 C's):
 - 1:1-10 : Conversion: of the Thessalonians and Paul's thanksgiving concerning it
 - 2:1-16 : Coming: of Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy to them was not in vain

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- Alternative Outline (4 I's in the 7 C's):
 - 2:17-3:13 :
 - Conflict: persecution of (Paul and) the Thessalonians
 - Concern: that they might break under the pressure
 - Comfort: via Timothy's report that the brethren were faithful

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- Alternative Outline (4 I's in the 7 C's):
 - 4:1-5:28 : Conduct and Conclusion:
 - 4:1-12 : Instruction concerning holiness
 - 4:13-18 : Instruction concerning the dead in Christ
 - 5:1-11 : Instruction concerning the day of the Lord
 - 5:12-28 : Instruction concerning various topics and conclusion

I Thessalonians : Introduction

- 1:1-10 : Conversion
- 2:1-16 : Coming
- 2:17-3:13 : Conflict, Concern, and Comfort
- 4:1-5:28 : Conduct and Conclusion
- Instruction x4: holiness, dead in Christ, day of the Lord, various topics

I Thessalonians : Introduction

- **Question #1:** Give a theme for the book of I Thessalonians.
- **Question #2:** What words or phrases are repeated within the book?

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- **Question #3:** What do we know about the city of Thessalonica?
- **Question #4:** What is the likely background of most of these brethren (Jew or Gentile)?

I Thessalonians 1

- **Question #1:** Who is mentioned in verse 1? What history did they have with the Thessalonians?
- **Question #2:** What did Paul remember about the Thessalonians (verse 3)?

I Thessalonians 1

- **Question #3:** How did the word come to the Thessalonians?
- **Question #4:** How did the Thessalonians respond?

I Thessalonians 1

- **Question #5:** To whom did they become examples? How so?
- **Question #6:** To what (or Whom) and from what had the Thessalonians turned? How is this applicable today?