

## A STUDY IN THE EPISTLES

- I. The introduction of this series and of 1<sup>st</sup>. Thessalonians
- II. Chapter 1.
  1. Vs. 3. “your work of faith and labor of love”. Faith almost always involves action on our part; i.e. “works”. (see Heb. 11 and James 2:14-26). And love will bring forth unselfishness and a spirit of giving of ourselves; our time, money, energies, efforts, etc. The life of Christ is an example of this.
  2. V. 5. “Our gospel came not unto you in word only - - -“
    - a) ---but it did come by the word. The gospel must begin with the preaching of the Word and God will do His part.
    - b) ---“but also in power”. That’s God’s part. He will always come through when it’s appropriate with healings and signs & wonders. Trust Him for that.
    - c) ---“and in the Holy Ghost”. It’s His will to give every soul this gift. Can you believe God for it? Will you believe God for it? Our receiving the gospel is not complete without the Holy Ghost.
  3. Vs. 6. “Followers of us, and of the Lord.” We all must have a pastor. It’s God’s will for our lives. (see Heb. 13:17)
- III. Chapter 2
  1. Vs. 2 Paul refers to his ill treatment in Philippi before going to Thessalonica.
  2. Vss. 3-12 Paul expresses his love for these new converts at Thessalonica and the honesty he manifested when he was with them.

“our exhortation was not of deceit—nor in guile”

“we were—put in trust with the gospel”.

“not as pleasing men but God”.

“we were gentle among you”.

“as a nurse cherisheth her children”.

“because ye were dear unto us.”

“Ye are witnesses—how holily and justly and unblameable we behaved ourselves among you”.

“we exhorted and comforted and charged everyone of you, as a father doth his children”.

“walk worthy of God”.
  3. Vs. 13 “when ye received the Word of God, which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the words of men, but as it is in truth, the Word of God.” The preaching and teaching of the word of God is God’s way of speaking to us today. We must be receptive to it to be saved and to stay saved. (Rom. 10:14, 15, & 17).
  4. Vs. 15 Speaking of the Jews Paul said
    - a) They “are contrary to all men”.
    - b) “for the wrath is come upon them to the uttermost.” He said this prophetically, knowing that the judgment of God and destruction upon them was inevitable. (see Luke 21:24). To understand Paul’s regret of this oncoming judgment see Rom. 11