

1 & 2

Thessalonians

by
Duane L. Anderson



Serve and Equip

1 & 2 Thessalonians

Detailed Bible Book Outline

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Outline of 1 Thessalonians

I. Paul prayed for the Thessalonians - 1:1-4

A. This was a prayer of thanksgiving - 1:1-2

1. This was a letter from Paul and the team - 1:1

The team included Paul

Paul was the leader of the team - Acts 15:40

The team included Silvanus (Silas)

This team included Timothy

Timothy was added to the team in Lystra - Acts 16:1-2

2. The team prayed for the Thessalonian Christians continually - 1:2

This was a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord

This team faithfully prayed for the Thessalonians

Paul prayed that way for many every day - 2 Timothy 1:3

B. This was a prayer of remembrance - 1:3

This thanksgiving was given continually

The team began their prayer with thanks - 1 Corinthians 1:4-9

This thanksgiving remembered their work of faith

This thanksgiving remembered their labor of love

This thanksgiving remembered their patience of hope

Faith, hope and love are the three things that abide - 1 Corinthians 13:13

This thanksgiving was given to Christ

This thanksgiving was in the name of the Father

C. This was a prayer of assurance - 1:4

This prayer was based on knowledge

Paul had sent Timothy to Thessalonica - 1 Thessalonians 3:6

This prayer was for beloved brethren

The team viewed other Christians as family - 1 Thessalonians 2:7

This prayer recognized their election by God

This was a choice by God before Creation - Ephesians 1:4

II. Paul rejoiced for the example of the Thessalonians - 1:5-10

A. The Thessalonians had made true decisions for Christ - 1:5

The Gospel did not come just in word

The team did not use flattering words - 1 Thessalonians 2:5

The Gospel came in power

The Word of God is living and powerful - Hebrews 4:12

The Gospel came through the ministry of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit convicts of sin, righteousness and judgment - John 16:8-11

The Gospel was shared with much assurance

We can have a true heart in full assurance of faith - Hebrews 10:22

The message shared was backed by the example of the team

We become an example by imitating Christ - 1 Corinthians 11:1

B. The Thessalonians had become disciples - 1:6

New Christians learn to follow the Lord by example

Christ gave us His example to follow - John 13:15

New Christians are shown how to make the Lord their example

Paul had always ministered by the example of his life - Acts 20:18

These new Christians had received the Word in much affliction

Paul always prepared new Christians for tribulation - Acts 14:22

These new Christians had been given joy by the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is given at the moment of salvation - Romans 5:5

We are filled with joy when we are filled with the Spirit - Acts 13:52

We are to count it all joy when we fall into various trials - James 1:2

C. The Thessalonians had become examples - 1:7

The new Christians in Thessalonica became examples to others

Paul had given his own life as an example - Philippians 3:17

The new Christians were examples to all in Macedonia

Macedonia is the area of northern Greece today

The new Christians were examples to all in Achaia

Achaia is the area of Southern Greece today

The new Christians were examples to all who believed

Our lives are to be an example of how to follow Christ - 2 Thessalonians 3:9

D. The Thessalonians had become reproducers - 1:8

They were spreading the Gospel wherever they went

That was what the Jews had done earlier - Acts 8:4

The Gospel had spread from them to other parts of Macedonia

This included other parts of northern Greece

The Gospel had spread from them to Achaia

This included various areas in southern Greece

The Gospel was now spreading to other places

This church included a large number of Greeks - Acts 17:4

People were speaking about the faith of the Thessalonians

This news was being spread by many Thessalonians - Acts 17:4

The news was spreading ahead of the team with Paul

The team with Paul did not need to say anything

E. The Thessalonians had a true commitment - 1:9-10

1. This included a true turning to God - 1:9

People were talking about what the Gospel had done in Thessalonica

The Gospel has the power to turn the world upside down - Acts 17:6

The people who believed turned to God

Many Gentiles were turning to God - Acts 15:19

The people who believed turned from idols

Christians were to abstain from things polluted by idols - Acts 15:20

The people who believed chose to serve the living and true God

Those who believe are now able to serve the living God - Hebrews 9:14

2. This included a focus on the resurrection - 1:10

The people who believed looked forward to the return of Christ

This gave them a strong reason for their hope - 1 Thessalonians 4:13

The glorious hope is the return of Christ - Titus 2:13

The people had believed in the resurrection of Jesus

The death and resurrection was the center of the message - Acts 17:3

The resurrection is the message of first importance - 1 Corinthians 15:1-6

The people knew they had been delivered from the wrath to come

That message of wrath will be fulfilled in the future - Revelation 6:17, 20:15

The wrath to come is the result of the sinfulness of man - 1 Thessalonians 2:16

III. Paul and the team were spiritual parents - 2:1-20

A. The example for spiritual parents - 2:1-6

1. Spiritual parents have a purpose - 2:1

The people in Thessalonica knew certain things

The people knew that the view of the team was profitable - Acts 17:6

The people saw the team had a purpose that was important

The people had seen their own lives changed - Acts 17:4

2. Spiritual parents share the Word of God boldly - 2:2

This godly team had already experienced much opposition

They had experienced opposition in Thessalonica - Acts 17:5

Paul and Silas had been beaten and put in prison in Philippi

They had been beaten with many stripes in Philippi - Acts 16:22-24

The Gospel team continued to speak boldly

They spoke boldly in Berea and many believed - Acts 17:12

They spoke the Gospel of God in spite of much opposition

3. Spiritual parents do not use deceit - 2:3

Their exhortation did not come from error

They were an example of what they taught - 1 Thessalonians 1:6

Their exhortation did not come from uncleanness

God called us not in uncleanness but in holiness - 1 Thessalonians 4:7

Their exhortation did not come from deceit

The Word of God is living and powerful - Hebrews 4:12

4. Spiritual parents have as their goal to please God - 2:4

The team knew that they had been approved by God

Paul preached the Word of God wherever he went - Acts 17:13

The team knew that they had been entrusted with the Gospel

The Gospel had come in power and the Holy Spirit - 1 Thessalonians 1:5

The team did not speak to please men

The team spoke to please God who tests the hearts

Paul had been given a commandment by God - Titus 1:3

5. Spiritual parents do not use flattering words - 2:5

The team never used flattering words
They did not speak with a cloak of covetousness
They were not greedy for money - 1 Timothy 6:6-9
They knew that God was their witness

6. Spiritual parents do not seek glory from men - 2:6

They did not seek glory from any man
This included both the Thessalonians and others
They did not make demands as the apostles of Christ

B. The example of a spiritual mother - 2:7-9

a. A spiritual mother is gentle - 2:7

The team was gentle among the Thessalonians
We are also to be gentle to all as we teach - 2 Timothy 2:24
The team was like a team of nursing mothers
The attitude of a mother feeding her newborn - 1 Peter 2:2

b. A spiritual mother shares her life - 2:8

The team had an affectionate longing for the Thessalonians
This is the longing of hearts of love - John 13:34-35
The team shared the Gospel of God with the Thessalonians
The team shared their own lives with the Thessalonians
We are also to lay down our lives for the brethren - 1 John 3:16
The Thessalonians had become very dear to the team

c. A spiritual mother does not burden her children - 2:9

The team had ministered with much labor and toil
They endured suffering and pain for the Thessalonians - 2 Corinthians 11:27
The team labored both night and day
The team did not want to be a burden to anyone
The team did not want to be a burden to any of the people - 2 Thessalonians 3:8
The team preached the Gospel of God

C. The example of a spiritual father - 2:10-12

1. Spiritual fathers lead by example - 2:10

The Thessalonians were witnesses of what Paul said

The team had worked night and day - 1 Thessalonians 2:9

The team had been devout in their ministry

The team provided examples of holy lives - Colossians 1:22

The team had been just in their ministry

We are to live justly (righteously) in this world - Titus 2:12

The team had been blameless in their ministry

We will be preserved blameless at the coming of Christ - I Thessalonians 5:23

The team had been examples in their ministry

We want to be an example to younger believers - 1 Corinthians 4:16

We are to live lives that can be imitated - 1 Corinthians 10:31; 11:1

2. Spiritual fathers lead by what they teach - 2:11

The team had used exhortation in their ministry

Paul urged new Christians to imitate him - 1 Corinthians 4:16

That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love - Colossians 2:2

The team had comforted through their ministry

The fainthearted often need comfort or encouragement - 1 Thessalonians 5:14

The team had charged as a part of their ministry

These all, having obtained a good testimony through faith - Hebrews 11:39

Testified of the truth that is in you - 3 John 1:3

The team had done as a father does with his children

A father warns his beloved children - 1 Corinthians 4:14

3. Spiritual fathers urge a worthy walk - 2:12

The team called the Thessalonians to a new walk

They were to walk in brotherly love - 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

The team called them to a walk worthy of God

We are to walk worthy of the Lord being fruitful in every good work - Colossians 1:10

The team said God called the Thessalonians into His kingdom

We have been delivered from the kingdom of darkness - Colossians 1:13-14

The team called the Thessalonians to bring glory to God

We are to do all to the glory of God - 1 Corinthians 10:31

D. Spiritual parents lead through example - 2:13-20

1. The team gave thanks to God for what He was doing - 2:13

The team was giving thanks to God continually

This thanksgiving was made without ceasing - 1 Thessalonians 1:2

The Thessalonians had received the Word of God

They recognized the Word came in the power of the Spirit - 1 Thessalonians 1:5

The Thessalonians realized it was not their words as men

The Word caused the Thessalonians to follow the Lord - 1 Thessalonians 1:6

The Thessalonians received the Word of God as Truth

All Scripture is given by the inspiration of God - 2 Timothy 3:16

The Thessalonians saw that the Word transformed their lives

They even had a love for Christians in other areas - 1 Thessalonians 4:9-10

2. The team said they were imitating the churches in Judea - 2:14-16

a. The Thessalonians had imitated the churches in Judea - 2:14

The Thessalonians became imitators of the churches in Judea

The Christians in Jerusalem had been forbidden to speak - Acts 4:18-20

The churches in Judea were in Christ Jesus

The message of Jesus Christ was their message - Acts 4:10-12

The Christians in Judea suffered just like the Thessalonians

The Christians in Judea experienced great persecution - Acts 8:1

The Christians in Judea suffered from their own countrymen

One of those countrymen had been Saul - Acts 8:3

b. The Thessalonians knew what the Jews did to Christ - 2:15

The unbelieving Jews in Judea had killed the Lord Jesus

The people said, "His blood be on us and on our children" - Matthew 27:25

The unbelieving Jews in Judea had killed the prophets

Both the scribes and their fathers had killed the prophets - Matthew 23:29-32

The unbelieving Jews in Judea persecuted the Christians

There was a great persecution against the church - Acts 8:1

The unbelieving Jews did not please God

The unbelieving Jews were contrary to all men

Paul had done many things contrary to the name of Jesus - Acts 26:9

c. The Thessalonians knew what the Jews did to the apostles - 2:16

The unbelieving Jews forbid the Christians to speak about Christ

The religious leaders threatened the apostles - Acts 4:17-20

The unbelieving Jews did not want to see more saved

They were disturbed the apostles taught the resurrection - Acts 4:2

The unbelieving Jews were filling up their own sin

Christ said they would fill up the measure of their fathers' guilt - Matthew 23:32

The unbelieving Jews would experience the wrath of God

Jerusalem was completely destroyed in 70 A.D. - Matthew 23:37-39

3. Paul and the team were eager to see the Thessalonians again - 2:17

The team had been taken away from the Thessalonians for a short time

The Thessalonian Christians had to send them away at night - Acts 17:10

The team continued to have the Thessalonians in their hearts

They thanked God continually for them - 1 Thessalonians 1:2

The team was eager to see the Thessalonians again

They had sent Timothy to see them - 1 Thessalonians 3:6

The team had a great desire to see them

They prayed daily to see them again - 1 Thessalonians 3:10

4. Paul had been hindered from coming by Satan - 2:18

The team wanted to come to Thessalonica

Paul had a very strong desire to come to Thessalonica

This was why Paul had sent Timothy - 1 Thessalonians 3:5

Paul said that he had been hindered by Satan

Satan had hindered an angel for 21 days - Daniel 10:13

5. Paul said the Thessalonians brought great joy to them - 2:19-20

Paul asked what was their hope, joy or crown of rejoicing

Paul said this hope was to see them in heaven

The coming of Christ should be the hope of every Christian - Titus 2:13

Paul said they would be there at the coming of Christ

Paul taught the Thessalonians about the coming of Christ - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Paul said they were their glory and joy

Salvation of others should bring great joy to all - Acts 15:3

IV. Paul and the team provided encouragement - 3:1-13

A. Christians need to be prepared for testing - 3:1-8

1. Paul sent Timothy back to Thessalonica - 3:1-3

a. Paul had a great concern for the Christians - 3:1

Paul could not continue to have uncertainty about them

This was the result of his love for them - 1 Thessalonians 4:9

Paul decided to remain in Athens alone

Paul had also begun his ministry in Athens alone - Acts 17:16

b. Paul sent Timothy to encourage the Christians - 3:2

Paul sent Timothy to Thessalonica

Paul also sent Timothy to other places - 1 Corinthians 4:17

Paul said Timothy is our brother and minister of God

Paul had a very close relationship with Timothy - 2 Timothy 1:2

Paul said Timothy was their fellow laborer in the Gospel of Christ

Paul often saw the team with him as fellow laborers - 1 Corinthians 3:9

Paul said that Timothy would establish them

Paul wanted to see the Lord help all Christians become strong - Romans 16:25

Christ is able to establish us blameless in holiness before God - 1 Thessalonians 3:13

The Lord is able to establish us in every good word and work - 2 Thessalonians 2:17

Paul said that Timothy would encourage them

God comforts the downcast - 2 Corinthians 7:6

Exhort with all longsuffering and teaching - 2 Timothy 4:2

We need to encourage one another daily - Hebrews 3:13

c. Paul did not want the new Christians to be shaken - 3:3

Paul did not want anyone shaken by affliction

Tribulation helps Christians to develop patience - Romans 5:3

Out of much affliction and anguish of heart, I wrote to you - 2 Corinthians 2:4

Paul had warned them of opposition

Paul prepared all Christians for opposition - Acts 14:22

Paul said we have been appointed for affliction

The Thessalonians received the Word during much affliction - 1 Thessalonians 1:6

2. Paul had prepared the Thessalonians for suffering - 3:4

Paul had given the Thessalonians instructions when he was with them

Paul prepared all Christians for tribulation - Acts 14:22

Paul had told them that they would suffer tribulation

All who desire to live godly in Christ will suffer persecution - 2 Timothy 3:12

The Thessalonians were now experiencing that tribulation

God will repay with tribulation those who trouble us - 2 Thessalonians 1:6

3. Paul wanted to make certain Satan had not deceived them - 3:5

This was the reason why Paul was so concerned for them

Paul had to leave town while they were still new Christians - Acts 17:8-10

This is why Paul sent to know about their faith

Paul and the team were praying for them without ceasing - 1 Thessalonians 1:3

Paul was concerned the tempter might have deceived them

We are not ignorant of his (Satan's) devices - 2 Corinthians 2:11

Paul felt that would have made their labor of no use

Paul served all to win more to Christ - 1 Corinthians 9:19-22

4. Paul received a good report when Timothy returned - 3:6-7

Timothy had now come to Paul from Thessalonica

Paul had sent Timothy because of their concern - 1 Thessalonians 3:1

Timothy brought good news of their faith

The team thanked the Lord for their work of faith - 1 Thessalonians 1:3

Timothy brought good news of their love

The team thanked the Lord for their abounding love - 2 Thessalonians 1:3

Timothy said they had a good remembrance of the team

They (and we) are taught by God to love one another - 1 Thessalonians 4:9

Timothy said they had a great desire to see the team

The team had the same desire to see the Thessalonians

The team continued to thank God for them - 2 Thessalonians 1:3-4

The team knew that they were brethren as Christians

All children of God are brothers and sisters in Christ - Romans 8:16-17

The team was experiencing much affliction and distress

The Lord gave Paul a vision to encourage him - Acts 18:9-10

The team was comforted as they heard about their faith

Their faith was growing exceedingly - 2 Thessalonians 1:3

5. Paul was eager to see them stand fast in Christ - 3:8

For now we live

We are the temple of the Holy Spirit - 1 Corinthians 6:19

We are the temple of the living God - 2 Corinthians 6:16

We suffer reproach because we trust in the living God - 1 Timothy 4:10

If you stand fast in the Lord

We are to stand fast in the faith...doing all in love - 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

We are to stand fast in the liberty that we have in Christ - Galatians 5:1

We are to stand fast in one spirit, with one mind - Philippians 1:27

B. Christians need continuing prayer for their growth - 3:9-13

1. Paul looked forward to seeing them again - 3:9-10

a. The team was rejoicing about the report - 3:9

For what thanks can we render to God for you

The team gave thanks to God for the whole church - 1 Thessalonians 1:2

For all the joy with which we rejoice

John had no greater joy than to hear Christians walked in truth - 3 John 4

We rejoice for your sake before God

The team expressed their joy to God for them - 1 Thessalonians 2:7-8

b. The team was praying for them without ceasing - 3:10

We rejoice night and day

The team both worked and prayed night and day for them - 1 Thessalonians 2:9

We pray exceedingly for you

We desire that you would be perfectly joined together - 1 Corinthians 1:10

Paul knew that God can do more than we even imagine - Ephesians 3:20-21

We greatly desire to see your face

Paul and Silas longed to see them - 1 Thessalonians 2:8

We want to perfect (mature) you

The team prayed they would mature in the faith - 1 Thessalonians 5:23

Peter has this same concern for Christians to mature in the faith - 1 Peter 5:10

We want to share what is lacking in your faith

Everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher - Luke 6:40

2. Paul knew they would stand blameless before God - 3:11-13

a. The team looked to the Lord to direct them back to Thessalonica - 3:11

They trusted God the Father to lead them back to Thessalonica

The team had a great desire to visit Thessalonica again - 1 Thessalonians 3:6

They trusted the Lord Jesus Christ to guide this process

Christ came to deliver us from this present evil age - Galatians 1:4

They were looking forward to spending more time in Thessalonica

The team had a great desire to see them again - 1 Thessalonians 3:6

b. The team had shown a real example of love - 3:12

The Lord is the One who helps us increase in love

The Holy Spirit poured the love of Christ in our hearts - Romans 5:5

The Lord teaches each true Christian to love - 1 Thessalonians 4:9

The Lord helps us to abound in love

This I pray, that your love may abound still more - Philippians 1:9

The Lord causes this love to be directed toward one another

Christ commanded us to love one another as He loves - John 13:34-35

The team had shown this love to the Thessalonians

The team urged them to continue to grow in love - 1 Thessalonians 4:10

The love of every one of you abounds toward each another - 2 Thessalonians 1:3

c. The team wanted to establish their heart blameless - 3:13

The Lord is able to establish our hearts blameless

Christ is able to present us faultless - Jude 24

Christ will present the church to the Father without blemish - Ephesians 5:27

The Lord causes us to be blameless in holiness

It should be our desire to become more like Christ - Philippians 2:14-16

We will be sanctified completely in Christ when He comes - Colossian 1:28

This will make us blameless before the Father

We are to pursue a godly life - 1 Timothy 6:11

This will be true when Christ comes for us

We became new creations in Christ - 2 Corinthians 5:17

Christ will bring all the saints with him

Christ will bring all the saints at the rapture - 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17

Christ will bring ten thousands of His saints at His second coming - Jude 14

V. Paul and the team had a concern for godly living - 4:1-18

A. Christians are called to avoid sexual sin - 4:1-8

1. The team urged them to walk to please God - 4:1-4

a. They had been taught how to walk to please God - 4:1

The team urged and exhorted them to continue to grow

This was a concern of all of the apostles - 2 Peter 3:18

The team had taught them how to walk

As slaves to God, our fruit will be sanctification - Romans 6:22

The team wanted them to please God

Without faith it is impossible to please Him (God) - Hebrews 11:6

b. They had learned the commandments of Christ - 4:2

The team said they knew the commandments

The old commandment is to love God and our neighbor - Matthew 22:37-40

The new commandment is to love one another as Christ loved us - John 13:34-35

The team had taught these through the Lord Jesus

c. They knew it was His will to abstain from immorality - 4:3

The team taught them the things that are the will of God

Those who do the will of God will abide forever - 1 John 2:17

The team taught them how to become more like Christ

We are no longer to conform ourselves to our former lusts - 1 Peter 1:13-16

The team taught them to abstain from sexual immorality

We are to present ourselves as slaves of righteousness - Romans 6:19

d. They were to possess their own vessels in honor - 4:4

The team taught them about the way to possess their vessel

The word vessel is used to refer to our own body - 2 Corinthians 4:6-7

The team said they were to possess it in sanctification

God has called us unto sanctification - 1 Thessalonians 4:7

The team said they were to possess it in honor

We become a vessel to honor by fleeing and following - 2 Timothy 2:21-22

2. The team urged them to walk in holiness - 4:5-8

a. We are not to continue to act like those who do not know God - 4:5

We are not to possess our bodies in the passion of lust

We are to put these sins to death - Colossians 3:5

We are to be transformed by the renewing of our minds - Romans 12:2

That is the way Gentiles who do not know God act

This is the way we thought and lived before Christ called us - Ephesians 2:1-3

Those who do not know God have their understanding darkened - Ephesians 4:17-18

b. We are not to take advantage of or defraud other Christians - 4:6

No one should take advantage of his brother

One who oversteps any boundary - Romans 6:19-22

No one should defraud his brother in this manner

In these verses this refers to sexual immorality - 1 Thessalonians 4:3-4

The Lord is the avenger of those who do

God is the One who will take vengeance - Romans 12:19; 1 Corinthians 11:32

God brings judgment of Christians on this earth - Hebrews 13:4

The team had forewarned the new Christians

As Christians we are no longer to walk in the futility of our minds - Ephesians 4:17

c. We have been called by God in holiness - 4:7

God has not called us to uncleanness

We are to put to death our members here on earth - Colossians 3:5-7

God has called us to holiness

God disciplines us for our good so we may share His holiness - Hebrews 12:10

d. Those who reject this command reject God - 4:8

Those who reject this statement are not rejecting men

We are to obey the commandments of the Lord - 1 Corinthians 14:37-38

Those who reject this statement are rejecting God

Such individuals need to examine themselves - 2 Corinthians 13:5

God has given us the Holy Spirit to give us victory

Christians who depend on self will experience failure - Romans 7:15-25

Christians who yield to the Holy Spirit have victory - Romans 8:1-39

B. Christians are called to love one another - 4:9-12

1. God taught us to love one another at salvation - 4:9

The team wrote these new Christians about brotherly love

This love is to be fervent with a pure heart - 1 Peter 1:22

The team said they did not need to teach them about brotherly love

This brotherly love given by God is to continue - Hebrews 13:1

The team said God was the One who taught them to love one another

Brotherly love is taught by God and not men - Romans 12:10

2. God gives us His strength to show even more love - 4:10

These new Christians were showing great love to other brethren

We are to love other brethren as Christ loved us - John 13:34-35

These new Christians were showing love throughout Macedonia

They had become examples to the other Christians in Macedonia - 1 Thessalonians 1:7

The team did urge them to show even greater love to others

The example of love is the Father sending Christ for our sins - 1 John 4:10-11

The team encouraged them to show more and more love

The Lord is able to make us increase and abound in love - 1 Thessalonians 3:12

3. God wants us to lead a quiet life - 4:11

The team encouraged them to aspire to a quiet life

They rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment - Luke 23:56

The team encouraged them to mind their own business

Not according to our works, but according to His own purpose - 2 Timothy 1:9

The team encouraged them to work with their own hands

This was a problem with a few in Thessalonica - 2 Thessalonians 3:11

The team had given these instructions as commands

We are to impart grace to those who are not Christians - Ephesians 4:28

4. God wants us to walk properly toward non-Christians - 4:12

The team encouraged them to walk properly toward non-Christians

Christians are to do good to all people including non-Christians - Galatians 6:10

The team said if they did these things they would lack nothing

The Hebrews needed someone to teach them basic principles - Hebrews 5:12

C. Christians have a great hope for the future - 4:13-18

1. Christians do not grieve as those who have no hope - 4:13

The team did not want the new Christians to be ignorant

Many are ignorant of God's righteousness - Romans 10:3

We were alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance in us - Ephesians 4:18

We are not to be conformed to the former lusts of our ignorance - 1 Peter 1:14

The team wanted them to know about those who died in Christ

While we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord - 2 Corinthians 5:6

The team did not want them to have no hope

As Christians the return of Christ is our blessed hope - Titus 2:13

That hope is defined as eternal life - Titus 3:7

This hope we have as an anchor of the soul - Hebrews 6:19

2. Christians believe that the dead in Christ are with the Lord - 4:14

All true Christians believe that Jesus died

Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures - 1 Corinthians 15:1-6

It is through His blood that we have redemption - Ephesians 1:7

All true Christians believe that Jesus rose again

Without the resurrection there is no hope - 1 Corinthians 15:17-20

We must believe in our hearts that God raised Christ - Romans 10:10

God will bring with Him all Christians who have died

Our bodies will be rejoined with our spirits - 1 Corinthians 15:51-53

That means that when Christians die they are with the Lord

At physical death our spirits are present with the Lord - 2 Corinthians 5:7-8

3. There will be a resurrection of the bodies of the saints - 4:15

We can teach what the Lord taught

Christ is coming again after He has prepared a place for us - John 14:2-3

Some Christians will still be alive when Christ comes for His saints

These will be caught up together with those who have died - 1 Thessalonians 4:17

The physical bodies of Christians do not go to heaven

Those physical bodies will one day become incorruptible - 1 Corinthians 15:53

Those Christians will join those who are raised

Our present bodies have been corrupted by sin resulting in death - Romans 5:12

Our changed bodies will meet the Lord - 1 Corinthians 15:54-57

4. The dead in Christ will rise first - 4:16

Christ will descend from heaven with a shout

Christ will come from heaven - 1 Thessalonians 1:10

The day of the Lord begins with the Rapture - 1 Thessalonians 5:2

The day of the Lord is great and very terrible - Joel 2:11

Christ will come with the voice of an archangel

Michael is the one angel listed as an archangel - Jude 9

Christ will come with the trumpet of God

In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet - 1 Corinthians 15:52

The dead in Christ will rise first

All the physical bodies will be raised incorruptible - 1 Corinthians 15:52

(These will be new bodies that are eternal)

5. All saints will meet the Lord in the air - 4:17

Those who are still alive will be caught up together

Christ promised that He would come again - John 14:3

This will be all living Christians at that moment - 1 Corinthians 15:52

This Rapture will be before the tribulation - Revelation 3:10

Those who remain will be caught up together

The living will be changed and caught up - 1 Corinthians 15:52

Those with the Lord will have their bodies changed and raised

Our bodies will meet the Lord together in the air

This will happen in a moment - 1 Corinthians 15:52

We will be with Christ where He is - John 12:26

This is a different return than when Christ comes to rule - Zechariah 14:4

That coming will be at the end of the tribulation - Revelation 19:11-16

Then we will always be with the Lord

Christ went to prepare a place for all Christians - John 14:2

We will reign with Christ forever and ever - Revelation 22:5

6. This is a message of comfort of all Christians - 4:18

That is why Christians can be comforted when other Christians die

We are confident yes well pleased that we will see them again - 2 Corinthians 5:8

We comfort one another with the promises of the Lord

We are able to comfort each other and build up each other - 1 Thessalonians 5:11

We will be with Christ where He is - John 17:24

VI. Paul and the team had a concern for a godly walk - 5:1-28

A. Christians are to understand the future - 5:1-10

1. The team had taught about the future - 5:1-3

a. Christians are to know the times and seasons - 5:1

Christians are able to recognize the times

The disciples asked Christ three questions - Matthew 24:3
This day will not come until after the falling away - 2 Thessalonians 2:3

Christians are able to recognize the seasons

A particular period or season but not the moment - 1 Timothy 4:1

Christians did not even need to be retold

Some things the Lord puts in our hearts - 1 Thessalonians 4:9

b. Christians know that the day of the Lord comes as a thief - 5:2

This is something that Christians can know perfectly

Christians will be saved from this hour - Revelation 3:10

Christ will not give a warning in advance - Matthew 24:37-39

Christians can know the way that the Day of the Lord is coming

Travel and knowledge will both show a rapid increase - Daniel 12:4

Christians can know that day will come like a thief in the night

The apostles knew that Christ would come suddenly - 2 Peter 3:10

c. Christians should recognize what the world will be saying - 5:3

They (the world) will be saying, "Peace and Safety"

This has been a goal of much of the world for many years

The Day of the Lord will be a day of darkness - Amos 5:18-20

The day which is coming shall burn them up - Malachi 4:1

Sudden destruction will come upon them

This destruction will come from the word of Christ's mouth - Revelation 19:15

These will be like the labor pains of a woman

A woman who goes into labor has sudden pain and anguish - John 16:21

They will not escape from that destruction

No non-believers will escape at that time - Revelation 19:21

They will be punished with everlasting destruction - 2 Thessalonians 1:9

2. The team reminded the Christians that we are sons of light - 5:4-7

a. That Day will not overtake Christians as a thief - 5:4

Christians are not of the darkness
Those who practice evil hate the light - John 3:20
This Day will not overtake Christians as a thief
The Day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night - 2 Peter 3:10

b. Christians are the children of light - 5:5

Christians are the sons of light
We are to walk as children of light - Ephesians 5:8
Christians are the sons of the day
Christ invited people to become sons of light - John 12:36
Christians are not of the night
We were once darkness - Ephesians 5:8
Christians are not of the darkness
We have been turned from darkness to light - Acts 26:18
The true light is already shining for Christians - 1 John 2:8
He who hates his brother is still in darkness - 1 John 2:10

c. Christians are to watch and be sober - 5:6

This is why Christians do not sleep spiritually
Those who follow the Lord do not walk in darkness - John 8:12
Those who are not Christians are spiritually dead
We were also spiritually dead before we came to Christ - Ephesians 2:1
Christians are to watch and be sober
Be serious and watchful in your prayers - 1 Peter 4:7
We are to be sober and vigilant (watch) - 1 Peter 5:8

d. Those who live for today are not prepared - 5:7

Those who sleep, sleep at night
Awake you who sleep, arise from the dead - Ephesians 5:14
Those who get drunk, get drunk in the night
They do not want their deeds exposed to the light - John 3:20
To eat and drink and be drunk - Luke 12:45

3. The way we should live as people in the light - 5:8-10

a. We are to remember that we are of the day - 5:8

We are to remember what it means to be of the day

Because we are of the day, we are to walk in the light - 1 John 1:7

We are to be sober because we are of the day

We are to be sober (self-controlled) because of the hope we have - 1 Peter 1:3

We are to put on the breastplate of faith

This book began with faith, love and hope - 1 Thessalonians 1:3

This book now repeats all three in this verse

These are the three things that abide - 1 Corinthians 13:13

Christ brought us to Himself by grace through faith - Ephesians 2:8-9

We are to put on the breastplate of love

This love is our response to His love for us - 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; 1 John 4:19

We are to put as a helmet the hope of salvation

The helmet of salvation is the hope of salvation - Ephesians 6:17

b. We are not appointed to wrath - 5:9

God did not appoint us to wrath

There is no condemnation to those who are in Christ - Romans 8:1

God appointed us to obtain salvation

God chose us to salvation from the beginning - 2 Thessalonians 2:13

God made this possible through our Lord Jesus Christ

God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world - Ephesians 1:4

c. We will live together with Christ - 5:10

Christ is the One who died for us

Christ died for us and rose again - 2 Corinthians 5:14-15

This is what we believe for salvation - Romans 10:9-10

Christ is with us while we are alive

Christ will never leave us or forsake us - Hebrews 13:5

Christ will be with us when we die physically

Christ has already given us victory over death - 1 Corinthians 15:57

Christ will bring their souls and spirits with him - 1 Thessalonians 4:14

Then we will live together with Him

To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord - 2 Corinthians 5:8

B. Christians are to recognize godly leaders - 5:11-13

1. We are to minister to one another - 5:11

Christians are to comfort one another

I beseech you therefore, brethren by the mercies of God - Romans 12:1

Christians are to edify (build up) one another

All things are lawful for me, but not all things edify - 1 Corinthians 10:23

The Christians in Thessalonica were already doing these things

2. We are to recognize those who minister to us - 5:12

The team gave specific instructions to those who were brethren

The team told them to recognize those who labored among them

This refers to leaders who serve the other Christians - Mark 10:43-45

The team said those were Christians who were over them in the Lord

Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor - 1 Timothy 5:17

The team said they were brethren who admonished them

3. We are to highly esteem godly leaders - 5:13

The team said to esteem them highly in love

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials - James 1:2

The team said to do this because they were working hard

The team encouraged them to be at peace among themselves

Christ taught the disciples the same thing - Mark 9:50

C. Christians are to grow in godliness - 5:14-22

1. We minister to others in various ways - 5:14

The team encouraged the Christians to do certain things

Warn those who were unruly

Warn those who are disorderly - 2 Thessalonians 3:10-11

Comfort the fainthearted

Encourage the easily discouraged - Colossians 3:21

Hold up those who are weak

Hold up those without strength - Romans 5:6

Be patient with all

2. We are to pursue what is good - 5:15

Christians are not to render evil for evil to anyone

Christians are to give a blessing instead - 1 Peter 3:9

Christians are always to pursue what is good

We are to cling to what is good - Romans 12:9

Christians are to pursue good among themselves

God created all who become Christians for good works - Ephesians 3:10

Christians are to pursue good for all people

We are to look for opportunities to do good to all - Galatians 6:10

We are to overcome evil with good - Romans 12:21

3. We are to do certain things - 5:16-18

Christians are to rejoice always

This is true even in times of trials - James 1:2

Christians are to pray without ceasing

The team prayed without ceasing for the Thessalonians - 1 Thessalonians 1:3

Christians are to give thanks in all things

We are to give thanks always for all things - Ephesians 5:20

This is the will of God in Christ Jesus

He that does the will of God abides forever - 1 John 2:17

4. We are to avoid certain things - 5:19-22

We are not to quench the Spirit

We are not to limit the work of the Spirit in our lives - Ephesians 3:20-21

Sin grieves the Holy Spirit and may limit our usefulness - Ephesians 4:30

We are not to despise prophecies

This is the Word of God which He has given us in the Bible - 2 Peter 1:19-21

We are to test all things

We test so we can approve the things that are excellent - Philippians 1:10

We are to test the spirits to see if they are from God - 1 John 4:1

We are to hold fast to what is good

We are to meditate on the things that are good - Philippians 4:8

We are to look for opportunities to do good - Galatians 6:9-10

We are to abstain from every form of evil

We are to abstain from sexual immorality - 1 Thessalonians 4:3

We are to abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul - 1 Peter 2:11

D. Christians are to become examples that are blameless - 5:23-24

The God of peace Himself is able to sanctify you completely

We are set apart to Christ at the moment of salvation - Colossians 1:27

We become more like Christ as we grow in the Lord - Galatians 4:19

We will be like Christ when He takes us to heaven - 1 John 3:2

This will include your whole spirit

The Holy Spirit ministers to our spirit that we are children of God - Romans 8:16

This will include your whole soul

The Scripture is able to show the spirit and soul are separate - Hebrews 4:12

Abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul - 1 Peter 2:11

(unconfessed sins can cause tremendous guilt)

The soul is our mind, emotions and will - 2 Peter 2:8

We can become weary and discouraged in our souls - Hebrews 12:3

This will include your whole body

This human body will be replaced by an incorruptible body - 1 Corinthians 15:15:53

We will be sanctified completely at the coming of Christ

We will be like Christ when He is revealed - 1 John 3:2

God who calls us is faithful

The Lord is faithful and will protect us from the evil one - 2 Thessalonians 3:3

God will do all that He has promised

God will complete what He has promised - Philippians 1:6

E. Christians are to minister to one another - 5:25-28

The team asked the Christians to pray for them

We are also to pray for one another - James 5:16

The team told them to kiss with a holy kiss

We are to greet with a holy kiss - Romans 16:16; 1 Corinthians 16:20;
2 Corinthians 13:12

Peter gave this same command - 1 Peter 5:14

Paul encouraged them to read this to all the holy brethren

Every Christian needs to hear the Word of God read - Revelation 1:3

We read to help each one become familiar with the Word - Colossians 4:16

We are to read the Word to one another - 1 Timothy 4:13

Paul said the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ would be with them

It is the grace of God that brought salvation - Titus 2:11

We have been justified freely by the grace of God - Romans 3:24

Grace comes from the Father and the Son - Colossians 1:2

We are also to learn to speak with grace - Colossians 4:6

Outline of 2 Thessalonians

I. The team prayed for the Thessalonians - 1:1-4

II. The team offered comfort to the Thessalonians in their suffering - 1:5-12

A. Comfort for those who are suffering - 1:5-8

B. God will judge those who are causing the suffering - 1:9-10

C. God will count as worthy those who suffer - 1:11-12

III. The team taught about the Day of the Lord - 2:1-12

A. The coming of the man of sin - 2:1-4

B. The Holy Spirit is presently restraining the man of sin - 2:5-8

C. The man of sin will deceive the world when he comes - 2:9-12

IV. The team gave instructions for godly living - 2:13-3:18

A. Reasons we should be thankful - 2:13-17

B. Prayer for one another - 3:1-5

C. The importance of example - 3:6-9

D. Understanding God's view of work - 3:10-13

E. Learning to exercise discipline - 3:14-15

F. The Lord has called us to peace - 3:16-18

I. The team prayed for the Thessalonians - 1:1-4

A. The greeting of the team - 1:1-2

The team included Paul, Silvanus (Silas) and Timothy

This team was also mentioned in 1 Thessalonians - 1 Thessalonians 1:1

The team said the church at Thessalonica was in the Father

Christians have the exceeding grace of God in us - 2 Corinthians 9:14

The team said the church at Thessalonica was in Christ

Individuals and churches are also in Christ - 2 Corinthians 5:17

Grace is from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

Grace is what makes us accepted in Christ - Ephesians 1:5-9

Peace is from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

This is the inner peace that guards our hearts - Philippians 4:7

B. The thanksgiving of the team for the Thessalonians - 1:3

We are bound to give thanks to God always for you brethren

Paul taught Christians to be thankful in all situations - Ephesians 5:20

That thanks was fitting because their faith was growing exceedingly

This faith was shown by the way they endured persecution - 2 Thessalonians 1:4

The love of every one of them abounded toward each other

This love was poured out in their hearts by the Holy Spirit - Romans 5:5

We love one another because God loved us first - 1 John 4:17-19

There is no mention of their hope - 1 Thessalonians 1:3

C. The boast the team made about the Thessalonians - 1:4

The team was talking about the church at Thessalonica

Their lives were examples for other Christians - 1 Thessalonians 1:7

The team was telling about the patience of the Thessalonian church

The testing of our faith produces patience - James 1:3

The team was telling about the faith of the Thessalonian church

Christ is the author and finisher of our faith - Hebrews 12:2

The Thessalonian church was going through much persecution

This persecution was due to the envy of the Jews - Acts 17:5

The Thessalonian church was experiencing many tribulations

Much of this opposition came from the Jews - Acts 17:5

The Thessalonian church was enduring these things

II. The team offered comfort to the Thessalonians in their suffering - 1:5-12

A. Comfort for those who are suffering - 1:5-8

1. God gives us the privilege to suffer for His kingdom - 1:5

This is a plain indication of the judgment of God
God promised that He will one day judge unbelievers - Romans 12:19
God uses suffering to show we are worthy of the kingdom of God
We are to walk worthy of God - 1 Thessalonians 2:12
God said that this is a reason why we suffer
Tribulation produces patience in our lives - Romans 5:3

2. God will repay those who cause the suffering - 1:6

It is righteous for God to repay those who make us suffer
The judgment of God is a righteous judgment - Romans 1:32
God will repay them with eternal tribulation
This eternal judgment will be in the lake of fire and brimstone - Revelation 21:8

3. God will give rest to those who have been troubled - 1:7

God will give rest to us who have been troubled
We are to be diligent to enter into that rest - Hebrews 4:11
This will happen when Christ is revealed
They will live and reign with Christ - Revelation 20:4
This will happen when Christ comes with His mighty angels
The armies of heaven will follow Christ when He comes - Revelation 19:14

4. God will bring eternal separation to all who do not know God - 1:8

This is when Christ comes to take vengeance
There will be immediate death for all unbelievers - Revelation 19:14-16; 19:21
This vengeance will come on all who do not know God
All the world became guilty before God - Romans 3:19-20
This vengeance will come on all who do not obey the Gospel
This judgment will become eternal at the final judgment - Revelation 20:11-15
This vengeance will come because they did not receive Christ
This judgment will include all unbelievers - Revelation 21:8

A. God will judge those who are causing the suffering - 1:9-10

1. These will be punished with everlasting destruction - 1:9

They will be judged with everlasting suffering
They will be eternally separated from the presence of the Lord
This eternal separation will be in the lake of fire - Revelation 20:14-15
They will be separated from the glory of the power of the Lord
The second death is the eternal condition of all unbelievers - Revelation 21:8

2. This will happen when He comes in that Day - 1:10

This separation will begin when He comes
They will be in the place of torment until the final judgment - Luke 16:22-31
In that Day the Lord will be glorified in His saints
Christ asked the Father to be glorified in His saints - John 17:8-10
The Lord will be admired among all those who believe
This will happen because the testimony of the team was believed

B. God will count as worthy those who suffer - 1:11-12

1. God will fulfill all the goodness of His pleasure - 1:11

The team promised they would continue to pray for the Thessalonians
These prayers included prayers of thanksgiving for them - 2 Thessalonians 2:13
Their prayer would be that God would count them worthy of this calling
Our desire should be to grow and become more like Christ - 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17
Their prayer was God would fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness
Their prayer was that God would show His power through their faith
The Father created us in Christ for good works - Ephesians 2:10

2. God will show this grace to all who believe - 1:12

Their prayer was the Lord Jesus Christ would be glorified in them
Their prayer was that they would be glorified in Christ
This was according to the grace of God, the Father
The Father made us accepted in the Beloved (Christ) - Ephesians 1:6-7
This was according to the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ
Christ became poor that we might become rich - 2 Corinthians 8:9

III. The team taught about the Day of the Lord - 2:1-12

A. The coming of the man of sin - 2:1-4

1. The team did not want the Thessalonians to be deceived - 2:1-2

The team wrote regarding the time of the coming of Christ

This is when all Christians will be gathered to Christ

The team did not want the Christians to be shaken in mind

The team did not want the Christians to be troubled

We are to study to see if all teaching agrees with the Word of God - 2 Timothy 2:15

Christians can become troubled by false spirits

We are to test the spirits and not believe every spirit - 1 John 4:1-4

Christians can be troubled by false teachers

This was the purpose of the Jerusalem Council - Acts 15:24

Christians can be troubled by special letters from false teachers

The team said the false teachers said the “day of Christ” had come

The team called this “The day of the Lord” in the first book - 1 Thessalonians 5:2

2. The things that must happen before the “day of Christ” - 2:3

The team said false teachers deceive in various ways

Peter said the “Day of the Lord” will come as a thief in the night - 2 Peter 3:10

The team said that “Day” had not yet come

The team said that the falling away would happen first

The team said the “man of sin” would be revealed first

This will happen after the Holy Spirit is taken out of the way - 2 Thessalonians 2:7

The team called the “man of sin” the son of perdition

3. The pride of the man of sin that will be revealed - 2:4

The man of sin opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God

The man of sin will exalt himself above all that is worshiped

He will be doing what he does by the power of Satan - 2 Thessalonians 2:9

The man of sin will seat himself in the temple of God

The man of sin will claim to be God

The man of sin will seek to imitate Satan - Isaiah 14:12-14; Ezekiel 28:12-15

The man of sin will show by his actions that he thinks he is God

He will back his message with power, signs and lying wonders - 2 Thessalonians 2:9

B. The Holy Spirit is presently restraining the man of sin - 2:5-8

1. Paul had taught about the man of sin - 2:5

Paul reminded the Thessalonians that he had taught these things

The team had only been in Thessalonica a short time - Acts 17:1-9

A large number of Greeks had believed in Thessalonica - Acts 17:4

Jason and the rest had to provide financial security to the rulers - Acts 17:9

(This was the result of the envy of the Jews) - Acts 17:5

Paul said this happened when he was still with them

Paul and Silas had to send Timothy back to this church - 1 Thessalonians 3:5-6

2. The restrainer is presently restraining - 2:6-7

The Thessalonians had learned about the One who restrains

The Holy Spirit convicts of sin, righteousness and judgment - John 16:8-11

He will stop restraining when the Christians are removed - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

The man of sin would be revealed in his own time

That is why the world has no advance warning - 1 Thessalonians 5:2

The mystery of lawlessness was already at work

All non-Christians presently fulfill their lusts - Ephesians 2:1-3

All mankind has become futile in their thoughts - Romans 1:18-25

He who restrains would continue to restrain

The Holy Spirit indwells each believer at the moment of salvation - Romans 8:9

The Restrainer will one day be taken out of the way

Today the Holy Spirit restrains through all believers - Matthew 5:16; Galatians 6:9-10

3. The lawless one will one day be revealed - 2:8

Then the lawless one will be revealed

This is the first beast (antichrist) who imitates the resurrection - Revelation 13:1-8

A second beast (false prophet) says worship the first beast - Revelation 13:11-15

The Lord will one day consume him with the breath of His mouth

Both will be judged by the word of Christ - Revelation 19:20

Satan will be bound a thousand years before final judgment - Revelation 20:1-3

The Lord will destroy him with the brightness of His coming

The beast (antichrist) will be cast into the lake of fire - Revelation 19:20

The second beast (false prophet) will go with the first - Revelation 19:20

The unholy trinity - Satan, the antichrist and the false prophet - Revelation 12:9-13:18

C. The man of sin will deceive the world when he comes - 2:9-12

1. The way the lawless one will deceive the world - 2:9

The coming of the lawless one agrees with the activities of Satan

Satan has a great desire to be worshiped - Matthew 4:8-9

Satan is the father of lies - John 8:44

The coming of the lawless one will be with all power

Satan is the source of evil principalities and powers - Ephesians 6:12

The coming of the lawless one will be with signs

God warned false prophets would use signs - Deuteronomy 13:1-2

The coming of the lawless one will be with lying wonders

False christs will deceive with great signs and wonders - Matthew 24:24

2. The choice that many make - 2:10

The coming of the lawless one will be with all unrighteous deception

False teachers deceive with deceptive words - 2 Peter 2:1-3

His coming will deceive those who perish

Unbelievers have their hearts easily deceived - Deuteronomy 11:16

They will be deceived because they are spiritually blind

The Gospel is veiled to those who are perishing - 2 Corinthians 4:4

They will face judgment because they do not have salvation

People love darkness when their deeds are evil - John 3:19

3. The strong delusion that will come on those who reject - 2:11-12

God will send strong delusion on those who will perish

Those who choose their own ways will see God choose their delusions - Isaiah 66:4

God will allow them to believe what is false

Many are deceived by those who peddle the word for self gain - 2 Corinthians 2:17

The antichrist will speak blasphemy against God - Revelation 13:6

God will judge and condemn them

Those who sow to the flesh will reap corruption - Galatians 6:6-7

God will do this because they did not believe the truth

False teachers deceive through the lusts of the flesh - 2 Peter 2:18

Those with debased minds do what is not fitting - Romans 1:28

Those in the world take pleasure in unrighteousness

The pleasures of the world are quickly gone - Hebrews 11:25

IV. The team gave instructions for godly living - 2:13-3:18

A. Reasons why we should be thankful - 2:13-17

1. God is the One who chooses individuals to salvation - 2:13

The team gave thanks continually for the Thessalonians

This was mentioned in both books - 1 Thessalonians 1:2; 2 Thessalonians 1:3

The team recognized them as brethren who are beloved

God chose each person who comes to salvation from the beginning

The Father chose us in Christ before creation - Ephesians 1:4

God chose to sanctify each one by the Holy Spirit

The love of God was poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit - Romans 5:5

God chose to sanctify each person by belief in the truth

Faith comes by hearing the Word of God - Romans 10:17

2. God is the One who calls us by the Gospel - 2:14

God called the Thessalonians by the Gospel the team had preached

The Gospel had come in power as the team preached - 1 Thessalonians 1:5

God called them to obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ

The fact that Christ is in us is the source of this glory - Colossians 1:27

3. God calls people to stand fast in His Word - 2:15

The brethren were to stand fast and hold to what they had been taught

The apostles and Paul had been taught by Christ - Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 15:8

The brethren had been taught both by word and by letter

Prophecy of Scripture came through men moved by the Spirit - 2 Peter 1:19-21

4. God is the One who establishes us - 2:16-17

Christ and the Father loved us

Christ and the Father gave us everlasting consolation

This is the hope of eternal life - Titus 3:5-7

Christ and the Father gave us good hope by grace

Christ and the Father comforts our hearts

Christ and the Father establishes us by every good word and work

The Lord is faithful to establish us and guard us - 2 Thessalonians 3:3

B. Prayer for one another - 3:1-5

1. Request of the team for prayer from the Thessalonians - 3:1-2

The team asked the Thessalonians to pray for them

Even Paul asked for prayers for boldness to speak the Word - Ephesians 6:19

They asked them to pray the word of the Lord would run swiftly

This happens when Christians share the Word of God boldly - 1 Thessalonians 1:8

They asked them to pray that the word of the Lord would be glorified

The Gentiles at Antioch glorified the Word of God - Acts 13:48

That was the way the Word spread among them

They were sharing the Word of God with others - 1 Thessalonians 1:8

The team asked for prayer to be delivered from unreasonable men

The team asked for prayer to be delivered from wicked men

Evil men continue to become worse - 2 Timothy 3:13

The team recognized that not all people had faith

There were many in Thessalonica that did not have faith - Acts 17:5-8

2. Reminder that the Lord is faithful - 3:3-4

The Lord is the One who is faithful

God is faithful by whom we were called - 1 Corinthians 1:9

The Lord is the One who would establish the Thessalonians

The Lord establishes our hearts blameless in holiness - 1 Thessalonians 3:13

The Lord was the One who would guard them from the evil one

We are to pray that the Lord will deliver us from the evil one - Matthew 6:13

The team said they had confidence in the Lord about them

Paul also had confidence in other Christians - 2 Corinthians 2:3

The team felt the Thessalonians would do what they were requesting

The Thessalonian Christians were already growing - 1 Thessalonians 4:9

The team felt they would continue to do those things

The team wanted to see them increase more and more - 1 Thessalonians 4:10

3. Reminder that the Lord will direct the hearts of people - 3:5

The team prayed the Lord would direct their hearts into the love of God

Christians are to be rooted and grounded in love - Ephesians 3:17

The team prayed they would be directed into the patience of Christ

Christians are to let patience do her perfect work - James 1:4

C. The importance of example - 3:6-9

1. The Christians were to withdraw from disorderly brothers - 3:6

The team gave a command in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

The team realized some might not obey - 2 Thessalonians 3:14-15

The team said they were to withdraw from certain Christians

Christians are to admonish those who refuse to work - 2 Thessalonians 3:14-15

This was those Christians that were walking disorderly

A disorderly person is one who will not work - 2 Thessalonians 3:11

Those Christians were not walking as they had been taught

Christians are created for good works - Ephesians 2:10

2. The team had worked hard when they were in Thessalonica - 3:7-8

The team had provided examples by what they did

Paul often invited Christians to imitate him - 1 Corinthians 4:16

The team had not been disorderly when in Thessalonica

A disorderly person is one who refuses to work - 2 Thessalonians 3:11

The team did not take free food from others

We are created in Christ to do good works - Ephesians 2:10

This is how we let our lights shine before others - Matthew 5:16

The team had worked with labor and toil

Paul made tents when he was in Corinth - Acts 18:3

The team had worked night and day

The team had worked night and day to be an example - 1 Thessalonians 2:9

The team did this so they would not be a burden to anyone

Paul was a burden to no one in Corinth - 2 Corinthians 11:9

3. They wanted to provide a good example - 3:9

The team did have godly authority as they served the Lord

Scripture allows godly leaders to devote their lives to ministry - 1 Corinthians 9:14

The team did not use that authority

The team did not exercise this authority in many places - 1 Corinthians 9:15

The team chose instead to be examples

Paul invited the Corinthians to imitate him - 1 Corinthians 11:1

The team wanted to show the Christians how to serve the Lord

Paul made it a priority to show people by example - Acts 20:20

D. Understanding God's view of work - 3:10-13

1. The team had said talked about those who refused to work - 3:10

The team had given a command when they were in Thessalonica

The team felt the Thessalonians would respond to commands - 2 Thessalonians 3:4

The team said any who refused to work should not eat

We are to do all that we do to the glory of God - I Corinthians 10:31

2. There were some Christians who refused to work - 3:11

The team had heard that some were living an undisciplined life

Paul encouraged Christians to practice self discipline - 1 Corinthians 9:27

We are to encourage one another to love and good works - Hebrews 10:24

The team had heard that they were not working at all

We were created in Christ Jesus for good works - Ephesians 2:10

The team had heard that they were acting like busybodies

A busybody is one who gets into other people's matters - 1 Peter 4:15

3. The team said they were to work with quietness - 3:12

The team gave a command and an exhortation

Christians are to love one another as Christ loved us - John 13:34-35

Love was poured out in our hearts at salvation - Romans 5:5

Paul often chose to beseech (exhort) rather than command - Philippians 4:2

The team exhorted them in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

Paul begged (exhorted) in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ - 1 Corinthians 1:10

The team exhorted them to work with quietness

We are to live a life of quietness as we work - 1 Thessalonians 4:11

The team exhorted them to eat their own bread

We are to work rather than steal from others - Ephesians 4:28

4. The team encouraged the others to continue doing good - 3:13

The team gave encouragement to the rest of the Christians

All Christians are to look for opportunities to do good - Galatians 6:10

We are to encourage one another daily - Hebrews 3:13

The team encouraged them not to get tired of doing good

Christian are not to get tired of doing good - Galatians 6:9

E. Learning to exercise discipline - 3:14-15

The team said they gave the people principles to obey
Paul regularly gave principles of godly conduct - Philemon 9
The team told the people to note those who did not obey
This is the removal of fellowship but not relationship - 1 John 1:7
The team said not to keep company with those who did not obey
To not keep company means to avoid fellowship - 2 Thessalonians 3:6
The team said this was so they would become ashamed
Our goal is to restore a Christian in disobedience - Galatians 6:1
The team said not to treat such a person like an enemy
We are to treat such a person as a brother in Christ - Leviticus 19:17
We are all able to admonish one another - Romans 15:14
The team said to admonish him as a brother
When we love another person we will warn him - 1 Corinthians 4:14

F. The Lord has called us to peace - 3:16-18

1. The Lord is the God of peace - 3:16

The Lord is the Lord of peace
He is the God of peace - Hebrews 13:20
The Lord is able to give us His peace always
Christ has given us His peace - John 14:27
The Lord is able to give us His peace in every way
The peace of God passes all understanding - Philippians 4:7
The Lord will be with all Christians
The Lord will never leave us or forsake us - Hebrews 13:5

2. This letter was signed by Paul - 3:17-18

Paul is the team member that signed this letter
This was a common practice for Paul - 1 Corinthians 16:21
Paul signed the letters he wrote or dictated
He reminded the Galatians that he had written - Galatians 6:11
Paul wanted all Christians to experience grace
His grace makes us accepted in the beloved - Ephesians 1:6
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ is with all Christians
God saved us according to His grace and purpose - 2 Timothy 1:9