

1 Thessalonians

Chapter 1

Verse 10

1. As they were serving, they were waiting. What were they waiting on?
2. They were waiting on Jesus Christ to _____ from heaven in the clouds and to catch away all those who are in Christ. 4:16-17
3. There are three facts contained in this little verse:
 - Christ is raised from the dead and has ascended to heaven.
 - Christ is _____ for believers.
 - His return means a deliverance from the _____ to come.
4. As we serve the Lord, we serve Him in anticipation that this time of grace that we are living in could come to an _____ at any moment.
5. We must fervently serve the Lord (Romans 12:11) and redeem the time (Ephesians 5:16), all the while *“Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.” Titus 2:13*

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Chapter 2

Introduction

- In chapter one, we learned how the gospel had come to these Thessalonians and how it had radically saved them and changed their lives.
- But chapter two reveals to us how Paul ministered to these new converts _____ their salvation. We could say that this chapter contains Paul's discipleship ministry.
- This chapter is very insightful in helping the church to see why it is important to care for and teach new converts, as well as showing us how to accomplish this.

Verse 1

1. What does Paul mean when he says that his visit was not in vain?
2. Paul and his co-laborers did not come into town spouting a bunch of empty, worthless, religious rhetoric. They came in preaching and teaching the _____ of Jesus Christ.

Verse 2

1. This verse gives us a glimpse into the total _____ of the apostle Paul. It reveals to us Paul's dedication and faithfulness to the gospel.
2. Before Paul came to Thessalonica, he had visited the city of Philippi. Paul says that they suffered and were "*shamefully entreated.*"
3. Did this make Paul a little "gun shy?" Did he get discouraged by this or blame God or doubt God's care?
4. In this verse, Paul basically says, "Even though all those terrible things happened to us at Philippi, we were _____ in our God to speak unto you the gospel of God."
5. Christian, you might as well accept the fact that when you boldly stand on the true gospel of Christ and refuse to water it down, there will be _____.
6. But it is the gospel that has the power to _____ lives.
 - "*For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.*" **1 Corinthians 1:18**

Verse 3

1. When Paul exhorted the Thessalonians to accept and believe the gospel, he reminded them of the manner in which he did it.
2. Paul's exhortation was in contrast to the _____ prophets that Peter describes in 2 Peter 2:3.
 - "*I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem an horrible thing: they commit adultery, and walk in lies: they strengthen also the hands of evildoers, that none doth return from his wickedness: they are all of them unto me as Sodom, and the inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah.*" **Jeremiah 23:14**

Verse 4

1. Paul preached the gospel according to the revelation of the mystery which had been kept _____ since the world began. Many times Paul would call it *“my gospel.”* Romans 16:25
2. In due season, this special gospel message was committed to Paul from God and he was to preach it to the _____. 1 Timothy 1:11; Titus 1:3
 - *“For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me.”* **1 Corinthians 9:17**
 - *“But contrariwise, when they saw that the gospel of the uncircumcision was committed unto me, as the gospel of the circumcision was unto Peter;”*
Galatians 2:7
3. If you know Christ as your Savior, the gospel has been committed to your trust, too. What kind of _____ have you been? 2 Timothy 2:2

THE LAST DAYS

The Body of Christ (Church Age)

3. CHRIST RETURNS & SETS UP MILLENNIAL KINGDOM
REVELATION 19:11-21

- A PERIOD OF GRACE
- A SURPRISE INTERRUPTION IN THE PROPHETIC PROGRAM
- SAINTS LOOKING FOR RAPTURE, NOT LAST DAYS

Rapture

PSALM 2:1-3
MAN'S DECLARATION OF WAR ON GOD

PSALM 2:4-9
GOD'S COUNTER-DECLARATION OF WAR



Old Testament

Last Days

Tribulation

Millennium

1. PENTECOST (ACTS 2)
HOLY SPIRIT Poured OUT & KINGDOM OFFERED

LAST DAYS RESUMED

JOEL'S PROPHECY OF LAST DAYS (2:28-32)

1. HOLY SPIRIT Poured OUT
2. WONDERS IN HEAVEN AND IN EARTH
3. CHRIST RETURNS AND SETS UP KINGDOM

ACTS 7
ISRAEL REJECTS KINGDOM & LAST DAYS ARE POSTPONED

2. WONDERS IN HEAVEN & IN EARTH
REVELATION 6:12-17