1 Thessalonians

Lesson # 5

2:9-20

Memory verses this week are 2:13. Write it out 3 times.

1. **In verse 9 we see that the apostles worked night and day so as not to be a burden on the young church. How did they do this, and why?** ***Optional***: look up Acts 18:3, 20:34; 1 Corinthians 4:12; 2 Thessalonians 3:8; also, Philippians 4:16.
2. **What three words do the apostles use to describe their behavior in verse 10? Give a brief definition for each of these words. Why are they so seemingly redundant in this description of their conduct?**
3. **The apostles next employ the imagery of a father’s instruction to his children. What actions demonstrated their fatherly care for this young flock (v. 11-12)?**
4. **In what ways would a good father or Pastor/Shepherd/Elder exhort, encourage, and implore his own children?**
5. **From verse 12, what was the ultimate aim of their fatherly exhortation?**
6. **What does it mean to *walk in a manner worthy of God*?** See Ephesians 4:1-3; 5:1-2; Colossians 1:9-12. **If is by grace we have been saved through faith, and not as a result of works, why should we care how we walk?**
7. **Is it your heart’s desire to walk worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory? Is there a specific part of your walk that is in need of a makeover? If so, write a POA.**

If you would have the teachings of Christ, walk according to the knowledge which you have already.

Use your little knowledge well, and Christ will teach you more.

Thomas Watson

1. In v. 13 the apostles write “for this reason we also constantly thank God…” For what reason? Look back over chapters 1 and 2 and note the causes of their thanksgiving.
2. **Not only did the Thessalonians hear and receive the word, but they also accepted it, which indicates *a deliberate and ready reception of what is offered*. What exactly did they accept about the word, and what was the result of their acceptance (v. 13)?**
3. **Considering their response to the preached word of God, you must ask yourself: “Do I submit to it, do I see it as authoritative”? When do I not see it authoritative (re: family, preference)?**
4. **What “work” does the word of God perform in believers? Find three scriptures to support your answers.**
5. **In verse 14, whom did the Thessalonians imitate and in what way?**
6. **What do we learn about the Jews from verses 14 through 16, both in terms of their actions and motivations?**

1. Verse 16 tells us that these Jews *“always fill up the measure of their sins.”* What does this mean? For clues, see Matthew 23:31-32 and Acts 7:51-52.

1. In what sense has wrath come upon these Jews to the utmost? For similar language use, look up John 3:18 and 3:36.
2. **In verse 17 we see that the apostles are now unhappily separated from their beloved Thessalonians. By way of review, what were the circumstances surrounding their departure?** If you need a refresher, look back at Acts 17:5-10.
3. **What reason is given in verse 18 for their continued separation?**
4. **Throughout the New Testament, very little emphasis is given to the work or influence of Satan in the life of the believer. However, from the few passages below, what should we learn?**

**Acts 5:3**

**2 Corinthians 2:11**

James 4:7

1 Timothy 3:6-7

**1 Peter 5:8-9**

Job1:12; 2:6

1. **Despite Satan hindering his attempts to see his dear friends, what comforting truths did Paul understand?** See Genesis 50:20; Romans 8:28; 2 Corinthians 4:15-17. **How do these truths comfort you as you encounter obstacles and hindrances in your life?**

*Whatever trials have befallen me in my Earthly Pilgrimage, I have never had the trial of doubting that perhaps, after all, Jesus had made some mistake. No! My blessed Lord Jesus makes no mistakes! When we see all His meaning, we shall then understand, what now we can only trustfully believe, that all is well - best for us, best for the cause most dear to us, best for the good of others and the glory of God. - John Paton*

1. **How does Paul describe the Thessalonians in verse 19? What does this mean? For clues, turn to Philippians 2:16-17, where he says something similar.**
2. **What is the point of rejoicing in the changed lives of believers at Christ’s return? Who will be your hope, joy, and crown of exultation in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming? Whose transformed life will you rejoice in at Christ’s return?**

1. **Paul’s heart was intimately and affectionately knit together with these believers, even though he had been with them for a very short time. How did that happen in such a brief time? How are you cultivating deep and intimate relationships with other believers? Is a POA necessary in this very important area?**