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1 Thessalonians

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1 Thessalonians

1 Thessalonians 1

1 Thessalonians 1:1

ULT

¹ Paul and Silvanus and Timothy to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace and peace to you. ^[1]

UST

¹ {I,} Paul, {am writing this letter}. Silas and Timothy {are with me. We are sending this letter} to {you,} the assembly of believers in the Messiah in the city of Thessalonica, who are united to God the Father and the Lord Jesus the Messiah. {May God continue to be} kind to you and make you peaceful.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 1:2

ULT

² We always give thanks to God for all of you, continually making mention of you in our prayers,

UST

² We pray for you very often. {When we do,} we always thank God for you all.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 1:3

ULT

³ remembering your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ before our God and Father;

UST

³ We thank our God and Father for the work that you do because you trust {in him}. We thank him for the way that you energetically help people because you love {them}. We thank him for the way that you patiently endure because you confidently expect our Lord Jesus the Messiah {to keep his promises}.

What does Paul always remember before God concerning the Thessalonians?

Paul remembers their work of faith, their labor of love, and their patience of hope.

1 Thessalonians 1:4**ULT**

⁴ knowing, brothers loved by God, your election,

UST

⁴ {We also thank God because} we know that he loves you, {our} fellow believers in the Messiah, and chose you {to become his people}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 1:5**ULT**

⁵ because our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance—just as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.

UST

⁵ {We know that God chose you,} because when we told you the good news {about Jesus}, it was not only with words, but the Holy Spirit also powerfully worked {through us}. He also strongly assured {us that he had chosen you}. In the same way, you know what kind of people we are, because when we were with you, everything that we did was to benefit you.

In what four ways did the gospel come to the Thessalonians?

The gospel came to the Thessalonians in word, in power, in the Holy Spirit, and in much assurance.

1 Thessalonians 1:6**ULT**

⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much hardship, with joy of the Holy Spirit.

UST

⁶ As for you, you proceeded to live as we do and as the Lord {Jesus} lived. When you believed the message {of the good news}, people caused you to suffer {because you did that. But even though you were suffering,} the Holy Spirit caused you to rejoice.

What was happening to the Thessalonians as they received the word of the gospel?

The Thessalonians received the word in much hardship.

What was the Thessalonians' attitude as they received the word of the gospel?

The Thessalonians received the word with joy in the Holy Spirit.

1 Thessalonians 1:7**ULT**

⁷ As a result, you became an example to all those who believe in Macedonia and in Achaia.

UST

⁷ Because all of the people who trust {in the Messiah} throughout the provinces of Macedonia and Achaia heard {of how you remained joyful while people made you suffer}, they wanted to also live as you do.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 1:8**ULT**

⁸ For from you the word of the Lord has been sounded out not only in Macedonia and in Achaia, but your faith toward God has gone out into every place. Therefore, we do not have need to say anything.

UST

⁸ In fact, many people have heard you tell the message about the Lord {Jesus}. Then they also have proclaimed the message to other people who live throughout Macedonia and Achaia provinces. Even beyond that, people who live in many far-away places have heard about how you trust in God. As a result, we do not need to tell people anything {about what God has done for you}.

What happened to the word of the Lord after the Thessalonians received it?

The word of the Lord rang out in every place their faith went out.

1 Thessalonians 1:9**ULT**

⁹ For they themselves report concerning us what kind of reception we had with you and how you turned to God from the idols to serve the living and true God

UST

⁹ These same people {who live far from you} are also telling {others} about how you {warmly} welcomed us. They also are telling {others} that you stopped worshiping {non-living} statues of false gods so that you could worship and obey the living God. He is the {only} real God.

What were the Thessalonians worshiping before they became believers in the true God?

The Thessalonians were worshiping idols before they became believers in the true God.

1 Thessalonians 1:10

ULT

¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from the heavens, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, the one rescuing us from the wrath that is coming.

1:1 [1]

UST

¹⁰ {They} also {are telling others that you stopped worshiping the false gods} so that you could eagerly wait for God's Son Jesus {to return to earth} from heaven. {As you know,} God resurrected Jesus after he died, and Jesus is the one who will rescue us {who believe in him} at the time when God will punish people {for their sins}.

For what were Paul and the Thessalonians waiting?

Paul and the Thessalonians were waiting for Jesus to come from heaven.

From what does Jesus deliver us?

Jesus delivers us from the wrath to come.

1 Thessalonians 2

1 Thessalonians 2:1

ULT

¹ For you yourselves know, brothers, that our coming to you has not been in vain.

UST

¹ {Our} fellow believers in the Messiah, you are well aware that the time we spent with you was quite productive.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 2:2

ULT

² But having previously suffered and having been shamefully treated at Philippi, just as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much struggle.

UST

² As you know, people in the city of Philippi previously caused us to suffer and abused us, but our God made us courageous to speak his good news to you despite how hard we struggled {against those who tried to stop us from} speaking God's good news to you.

How had Paul and his companions been treated before coming to the Thessalonians?

Paul and his companions had suffered and had been treated shamefully.

1 Thessalonians 2:3

ULT

³ For our exhortation was not from error, nor from impurity, nor in deceit,

UST

³ Certainly, {when} we encouraged you {to believe God's good news, we did} not {try} to convince you to believe an incorrect message. {We were} not selfishly motivated. {We did} not {try} to deceive {you with what we said}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 2:4**ULT**

⁴ but just as we have been examined by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not as pleasing to men, but to God, the one who examines our hearts.

UST

⁴ Actually, we speak God's good news since he has examined us and approved that we are trustworthy to do so. When we speak God's good news, we are not {trying} to please people. Instead, {we are trying} to please God. God is the one who {constantly} examines what motivates us to speak {his good news}.

Who is Paul desiring to please with his preaching of the gospel?

Paul is desiring to please God with his preaching of the gospel.

1 Thessalonians 2:5**ULT**

⁵ For we did not come at that time in words of flattery, just as you know, nor with a pretext for greed—God {is} witness—

UST

⁵ In fact, when we previously came, we did not try to please you by flattering you. You know this is true. {We are} not greedily motivated, so we did not need to say things to try to hide how greedy we are from you. God confirms that this is true!

What did Paul not do in his preaching of the gospel? (vv5-6)

Paul did not use flattery, nor seek glory from people.

1 Thessalonians 2:6**ULT**

⁶ nor seeking glory from men, either from you or from others,

UST

⁶ {We did} not {hope that} people would honor {us-}not you and not others{-}

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 2:7**ULT**

⁷ being able to be a burden as apostles of Christ; but we became little children in the midst of you, as if a mother might comfort her own children. ^[1]

UST

⁷ {Yet,} we could have made you submit to us, since we are the Messiah's authorized representatives. Instead, we acted as gentle as infants while we were with you. We acted {as gentle} as a {nurturing} mother {who} comforts her own children.

How did Paul treat the Thessalonians when he was among them? (vv7-8)

Paul was gentle with the Thessalonians, like a mother or father with their own children.

1 Thessalonians 2:8**ULT**

⁸ Having affection for you in this manner, we were pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own souls. For you had become beloved to us.

UST

⁸ Since we are so fond of you, we delighted to share God's good news with you. Not only that, but {we} also {delighted to share} our own lives {with you}. {This is} because we started to love you {so much}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 2:9**ULT**

⁹ For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil, night and day working in order not to burden any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God.

UST

⁹ Certainly {our} fellow believers, you remember how hard we labored. We kept working during the night and the day. This was so that we would not have to ask any of you to help us financially. Even though we were working, we {still} proclaimed God's good news to you.

What did Paul and his companions do so that they were not a burden to the Thessalonians?

Paul and his companions worked night and day so that they were not a burden to the Thessalonians.

1 Thessalonians 2:10**ULT**

¹⁰ You {are} witnesses, and {so is} God, how holy and righteous, and blameless we became toward you who believe,

UST

¹⁰ Both you and God testify to how faithfully, righteously, and innocently we behaved toward {all of} you who trust {in God}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 2:11**ULT**

¹¹ just as you know as each one of you, as a father his own children,

UST

¹¹ Each and every one of you knows this personally: {we behaved} the same way {towards you,} as a father {behaves towards} his own children.

How did Paul treat the Thessalonians when he was among them?

Paul was gentle with the Thessalonians like a mother or father with their own children.

1 Thessalonians 2:12**ULT**

¹² exhorting you and encouraging and testifying for you to walk worthily of God, who is calling you into his own kingdom and glory.

UST

¹² {We kept} urging and encouraging and testifying that all of you should live the way that God wants his people to live! This is because God {keeps} inviting you to enter his own glorious kingdom.

How did Paul tell the Thessalonians they should walk?

Paul told the Thessalonians that they should walk in a manner worthy of God who calls them to his own kingdom and glory.

1 Thessalonians 2:13

ULT

¹³ And because of this, we also thank God constantly, that having received the word of God, heard from us, you accepted it not {as} the word of man, but just as it truly is, the word of God, which is also working in you who believe.

UST

¹³ We also continually thank God for this reason: you accepted God's message when we reported it to you. You did not consider it to be merely a human message. {You accepted} the message as if God sent it himself. And God actually gave us the message to report! {We} also {constantly thank God} that for those of you who trust in him, God is effectively changing you to live like his people should.

As what kind of word did the Thessalonians receive the message Paul preached to them?

The Thessalonians received the message as the word of God, not as the word of man.

1 Thessalonians 2:14

ULT

¹⁴ For you, brothers, became imitators of the churches of God that are in Judea in Christ Jesus, because the same things you also suffered from your own countrymen, just as they also from the Jews,

UST

¹⁴⁻¹⁵ {Unbelieving} Jews in Judea not only killed the prophets {long ago}, but they {recently} also killed the Lord Jesus. They also severely mistreated us {apostles}. These unbelieving Jews also made the Judean believers in the Messiah suffer. Certainly, {our} fellow believers in the Messiah, you imitated those assemblies of God in Judea that are united to Jesus the Messiah by suffering the same things from your fellow countrymen. God is thoroughly displeased with these {unbelieving} Jews. They are also enemies of the whole human race!

What had the unbelieving Jews done which did not please God? (vv14-16)

The unbelieving Jews persecuted the churches in Judea, killed Jesus and the prophets, drove out Paul, and forbade Paul to speak to the Gentiles.

1 Thessalonians 2:15**ULT**

¹⁵ who have killed both the Lord Jesus and the prophets and have persecuted us and are not pleasing to God and {are} hostile to all men,

UST

¹⁴⁻¹⁵ {Unbelieving} Jews in Judea not only killed the prophets {long ago}, but they {recently} also killed the Lord Jesus. They also severely mistreated us {apostles}. These unbelieving Jews also made the Judean believers in the Messiah suffer. Certainly, {our} fellow believers in the Messiah, you imitated those assemblies of God in Judea that are united to Jesus the Messiah by suffering the same things from your fellow countrymen. God is thoroughly displeased with these {unbelieving} Jews. They are also enemies of the whole human race!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 2:16**ULT**

¹⁶ forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles so that they might be saved, to always fill up their sins. But the wrath has come upon them to the end.

UST

¹⁶ The unbelieving Jews keep trying to stop us from telling {God's good news to} those people who are not Jews. This is because the unbelieving Jews do not want God to save those who are not Jews. These unbelieving Jews continue to sin so much that they have almost reached the limit that God will allow. Indeed, when they least expect it, God will punish them at the end {of time}!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 2:17**ULT**

¹⁷ But we, brothers, having been separated from you for the time of an hour, by face, not in heart, became extremely eager to see your faces, in much desire.

UST

¹⁷ {Our} fellow believers, being so far away deprived {us} from seeing you for a short time. But, although we were far away from you, we did not become less affectionate {towards you}. We became even more eager and deeply desired to see you in person.

**Why was Paul not able to come to the Thessalonians even though that was his wish?
(vv17-18)**

Paul was not able to come because Satan hindered him.

1 Thessalonians 2:18**ULT**

18 For we desired to come to you—indeed I, Paul, both once and twice—but Satan hindered us.

UST

18 Indeed, we wanted to visit you. I, Paul, even {tried to come} two times, but {when we tried to come,} Satan opposed us.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 2:19**ULT**

19 For what {is} our hope or joy or crown of boasting? ^[2] Or {is it} not even you before our Lord Jesus at his coming?

UST

19 We wanted to visit because we are so confident {about your trust in God. Being in your presence} also makes us joyful. {Since you are so faithful to God,} we are sure we have achieved what God wanted us to do. {Certainly, we are} also {convinced that we will all be together} in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes {again}!

What will the Thessalonians be for Paul at the Lord's coming? (vv19-20)

The Thessalonians will be Paul's hope, joy, and crown of glorying at the Lord's coming.

1 Thessalonians 2:20**ULT**

20 For you are our glory and joy.

2:7 ^[1]

2:19 ^[2] two ancient versions have a word translated as or

UST

20 Because of you, we glorify {God} and rejoice!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 3

1 Thessalonians 3:1

ULT

¹ Therefore, enduring it no longer, we thought it good to be left behind at Athens alone,

UST

¹ So then, when we {felt like we} could not possibly wait any longer, we thought it was appropriate for only Silas and me to stay behind in the city of Athens.

What did Paul do, even though he would be left behind in Athens? (vv1-2)

Paul sent Timothy to strengthen and comfort the believers in Thessalonica.

1 Thessalonians 3:2

ULT

² and we sent Timothy, our brother and a servant of God in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and to comfort you regarding your faith, ^[1]

UST

² But, we still sent Timothy {to you}. He works alongside us and serves God by {proclaiming} the good news about the Messiah. {Silas and I sent him} in order to support and encourage you to remain faithful {to God}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 3:3

ULT

³ that no one be disturbed by these afflictions. For you yourselves know that for this we are appointed.

UST

³ {We also sent Timothy to you} so that when people afflict us {apostles}, it would not cause any of you to waver {in how you trust God}. You are well aware that {God} determined that people would afflict us {apostles}.

To what did Paul say he was appointed?

Paul said that he was appointed to afflictions.

1 Thessalonians 3:4**ULT**

⁴ For even when we were with you, we were telling you in advance that we are about to suffer affliction, and it happened, just as you also know.

UST

⁴ In fact, even while we {apostles} were visiting you, we kept warning you ahead of time. We warned you that God determined for people to afflict us {apostles}. You are well aware that this is exactly what occurred.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 3:5**ULT**

⁵ Because of this, I also no longer enduring it, sent to know about your faith, lest the tempter had somehow tempted you, and our labor might have been in vain.

UST

⁵ Again this is why, when I {felt like I} could not possibly wait any longer, I sent {Timothy to you. I was concerned} to learn if you were still trusting {in God. I was concerned that} somehow Satan tempted you {to stop trusting in God. If you would have stopped trusting in God,} then all of the hard work we accomplished {among you} would have turned out to be useless!

About what was Paul concerned regarding the Thessalonians?

Paul was concerned that somehow the tempter had tempted them and that his labor had been in vain.

1 Thessalonians 3:6**ULT**

⁶ But just now Timothy has come to us from you and has brought to us the good news of your faith and love and that you always have good memories of us, longing to see us just as we also, you.

UST

⁶ Timothy recently returned to Silas and me from his visit with you. He told us the good news about how much you trust and love {God. He also told us} that whenever you think about us, it makes you happy. {He told us} how much you desire to visit us. We have that same desire too!

What comforted Paul when Timothy returned from Thessalonica? (vv6-7)

Paul was comforted to hear the good news of the Thessalonians' faith and love, and that they longed to see him.

1 Thessalonians 3:7**ULT**

⁷ Because of this, brothers, we were comforted by you in all our distress and affliction, by your faith.

UST

⁷ {Our} fellow believers in the Messiah, during the whole time people abused and afflicted us—God encouraged us about you. We were encouraged {when learning from Timothy} that you {still} trust {in God}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 3:8**ULT**

⁸ For now we live, if you yourselves stand firm in the Lord.

UST

⁸ Indeed, we feel revived since you continue {to trust} in the Lord {Jesus}!

Paul says that he lives if the Thessalonians do what?

Paul says that he lives if the Thessalonians stand firm in the Lord.

1 Thessalonians 3:9**ULT**

⁹ For what thanks are we able to give back to God concerning you for all the joy in which we rejoice before our God because of you, ^[2]

UST

⁹ Indeed, we cannot thank God enough for what he has done for you! {When we pray} to our God, we abundantly rejoice because of {how much} you {trust in him}!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 3:10**ULT**

¹⁰ night and day pleading earnestly to see your face and to provide what {is} lacking in your faith?

UST

¹⁰ We constantly and excessively beg God {that we would be able} to see you in person. {We} also {desire} to help you increase how much you trust {in God}!

For what does Paul pray night and day?

Paul prays night and day that he might see the Thessalonians and provide what is lacking in their faith.

1 Thessalonians 3:11**ULT**

¹¹ But may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you.

UST

¹¹ Now, we pray to God our Father, and to our Lord Jesus, that they will allow us to visit you {again}!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 3:12**ULT**

¹² Now may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we also toward you,

UST

¹² {We} pray that the Lord {Jesus} will cause you to increase more and more in how much you love your fellow believer. {We} also pray that he will cause you to excel in loving all people. This is exactly the way we love you!

In what does Paul wish the Thessalonians to increase and abound?

Paul wishes the Thessalonians to increase and abound in love toward one another and toward all people.

1 Thessalonians 3:13

ULT

¹³ to strengthen your hearts, blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. Amen!

3:2 ^[1]

3:9 ^[2] with

UST

¹³ {We pray that our Lord Jesus} will strengthen how much you desire {to love each other. We pray that our Lord Jesus} will enable you to live in a way that God our Father considers faultless for those who belong to him. {We pray all of these things so that you will be ready} when our Lord Jesus comes {a second time}, bringing all those who belong to him. May it be so!

For what event does Paul want the Thessalonians to be prepared by having their hearts blameless in holiness?

Paul wants the Thessalonians to be prepared for the coming of the Lord Jesus with all his holy ones.

1 Thessalonians 4

1 Thessalonians 4:1

ULT

¹ So finally, brothers, we beg and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, just as you received from us about how it is necessary for you to walk and to please God (just as also you are walking), so that you might abound even more.

UST

¹⁻² {Our} fellow believers in the Messiah, here is a summary {of this letter}. Since we are the spokespersons of the Lord Jesus, we urge and encourage you to keep putting into practice what we taught you. This is how it is necessary for you to live and to please God. Then you will excel even more, because you are aware of the commands the Lord Jesus told us to give you.

What did Paul want the Thessalonians to do with the instructions he had given them about how they must walk and please God? (vv1-2)

Paul wanted the Thessalonians to continue to walk and please God, and to do even more.

1 Thessalonians 4:2

ULT

² For you know what commands we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

UST

¹⁻² {Our} fellow believers in the Messiah, here is a summary {of this letter}. Since we are the spokespersons of the Lord Jesus, we urge and encourage you to keep putting into practice what we taught you. This is how it is necessary for you to live and to please God. Then you will excel even more, because you are aware of the commands the Lord Jesus told us to give you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 4:3

ULT

³ For this is the will of God, your sanctification: to keep yourselves from sexual immorality;

UST

³ Certainly, God wills for you to live in a way that demonstrates that you completely belong to him: {He desires} that you refrain from committing {any} sexually immoral acts.

What did Paul say was God's will for the Thessalonians?

Paul said God's will for the Thessalonians was their sanctification.

1 Thessalonians 4:4**ULT**

⁴ for each of you to know to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

UST

⁴ {God wills} that each one of you only have sexual relations with his own wife. {God wills} that you treat your wives like they belong to God, and to honor them.

How were the husbands to treat their wives?

The husbands were to treat their wives in holiness and honor.

1 Thessalonians 4:5**ULT**

⁵ not in the passion of lust (just as also the Gentiles who do not know God);

UST

⁵ {You must not use your wife} to lustfully gratify what you desire. This is because the nations who are not God's people live this way.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 4:6**ULT**

⁶ that no one transgress and exploit his brother in this matter, for the Lord is an avenger concerning all these things, just as we also forewarned you and testified.

UST

⁶ {God also wills} that no one violates and takes advantage of {the wife of} his fellow believer in the Messiah like this. This is because the Lord {Jesus} will avenge all these {sexually immoral} acts. The Lord {Jesus} will avenge exactly as we previously said and strongly warned you.

What would happen to a brother who sinned in the matter of sexual immorality?

The Lord would be an avenger toward a brother who sinned in the matter of sexual immorality.

1 Thessalonians 4:7**ULT**

⁷ For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in sanctification.

UST

⁷ Certainly God does not summon us {believers in the Messiah into his glorious kingdom} for the purpose of impure {living}. Instead, God wills that we live like those who belong to him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 4:8**ULT**

⁸ Therefore, the one rejecting this rejects not man, but God, who gives ^[1] his Holy Spirit to you ^[2]

UST

⁸ For this very reason, {I warn each one of you. Since God has told us to say these things,} if anyone {continues to} reject what we say, you are not {simply} rejecting a human being. No, you are rejecting God himself! You are rejecting God who {continually} shares his Holy Spirit with all of you!

Who does a person reject who rejects the call to holiness?

A person who rejects the call to holiness rejects God.

1 Thessalonians 4:9**ULT**

⁹ But concerning brotherly love, you have ^[3] no need {for us} to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another.

UST

⁹ Now, {about your question,} there is {really} no need {for anyone} to write to {remind} you how fellow believers in the Messiah should act affectionately toward each other. This is because it is certain that you have already learned what God teaches, "love each other."

What were the Thessalonians doing that Paul wanted them to do even more? (vv9-10)

Paul wanted the Thessalonians to love one another even more.

1 Thessalonians 4:10**ULT**

¹⁰ For indeed, you do this to all the brothers who {are} in all Macedonia. But we exhort you, brothers, to abound even more

UST

¹⁰ Certainly you are {already} acting lovingly to all the fellow believers in the Messiah who live throughout Macedonia. Yet, our fellow believers in the Messiah, we {want to} urge all of you to excel in loving {each other} even more!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 4:11**ULT**

¹¹ and to strive to live quietly and to perform your own things and to work with your own hands, just as we commanded you,

UST

¹¹ {We} also {urge you} to aspire to live peacefully. {We urge you} to keep busy with your own matters. {We urge you} to focus on working to earn what you need to live. Do what we already commanded you.

What were the Thessalonians to do so that they walked properly before unbelievers and had need of nothing? (vv11-12)

The Thessalonians were to be quiet, mind their own business, and work with their hands.

1 Thessalonians 4:12**ULT**

¹² so that you may walk properly before those outside and may have need of nothing.

UST

¹² {We urge you to do these things,} so that you can set a good example toward those who do not believe in the Messiah {by how modestly you live.} Then you would not have to depend {on others} to provide what you need {to live}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 4:13**ULT**

¹³ Now we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, concerning those who are asleep, so that you may not grieve just as also the rest who have no hope.

UST

¹³ Also, {our} fellow believers in the Messiah, we want you to be aware about {what will happen to} believers in the Messiah who are dead. You should not be like the rest of humanity, which does not believe in the Messiah. They are deeply sad because they do not confidently expect that people will resurrect after death.

About what subject did the Thessalonians possibly have a misunderstanding?

The Thessalonians possibly had a misunderstanding about what happened to those who slept.

1 Thessalonians 4:14**ULT**

¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, so God will also bring with him those who have fallen asleep through Jesus.

UST

¹⁴ Certainly, we {apostles} are convinced that Jesus died and resurrected. This is why we also are convinced that God will {resurrect} the dead people who are united to Jesus. Then God will send them back with Jesus {when he returns to earth again}.

What will God do for those who have fallen asleep in Jesus?

God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in Christ.

1 Thessalonians 4:15**ULT**

¹⁵ For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left behind until the coming of the Lord, may certainly not go before those who have fallen asleep.

UST

¹⁵ In fact, what we {apostles} are now telling you is a message from the Lord {Jesus himself}. When the Lord {Jesus} comes again{, all believers in the Messiah will greet him}. First, those {believers in the Messiah} who have {already} died will certainly greet him, and then we {believers in the Messiah} who are still alive.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 4:16

ULT

¹⁶ For the Lord himself, with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with a trumpet of God, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

UST

¹⁶ {This is how} the Lord {Jesus} will come down from heaven: the Lord {Jesus} himself will personally give the command {for all to resurrect}. The chief angel will shout. God's trumpet will blast. Then {all} the dead who are united to the Messiah will be the first to resurrect {from the earth}.

How will the Lord descend from heaven?

The Lord will descend from heaven with a shout and with the trumpet of God.

Who will rise first, and then who will rise together with them? (vv16-17)

The dead in Christ will rise first, then those who are still alive will be caught up with them.

1 Thessalonians 4:17

ULT

¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left behind, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and in this way we will always be with the Lord.

UST

¹⁷ After that, God will snatch up all of us believers in the Messiah who are still alive on earth so that we can meet the Lord {Jesus} in the air. Both groups of believers in the Messiah will meet together on the clouds. This is how we will remain together with the Lord {Jesus} forever!

Who will the risen meet, and for how long?

The risen will meet the Lord in the air, and will always then be with the Lord.

1 Thessalonians 4:18

ULT

¹⁸ Therefore, comfort one another with these words.

4:8 ^[1] some ancient manuscripts read

4:8 ^[2] some ancient manuscripts read

4:9 ^[3] but the best manuscripts read

UST

¹⁸ As a result, you must encourage each other with this message!

What did Paul tell the Thessalonians to do with his teaching about those who had fallen asleep?

Paul told the Thessalonians to comfort one another with his words.

1 Thessalonians 5

1 Thessalonians 5:1

ULT

¹ Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need {for us} to write to you.

UST

¹ {Now I want you to be aware of the timing of our Lord's return to earth} Our fellow believers in the Messiah, we do not {really} need to write {anything} to you about the specific time {of our Lord's return}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:2

ULT

² For you yourselves know perfectly well that the day of the Lord comes in this manner—like a thief in the night.

UST

² This is because you yourselves already know accurately about the time when the Lord {Jesus} will come back. You also know that he will come {unexpectedly}, like when a robber comes at night.

How does Paul say the day of the Lord will come?

Paul says the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

1 Thessalonians 5:3

ULT

³ When they may say, "Peace and safety," then sudden destruction comes on them like birth pains to the one having in the womb, and they will certainly not escape.

UST

³ {The Lord Jesus} will come at a time when people are saying, "{We are} safe and secure!" Then, suddenly, God will overwhelm and destroy them! It will be similar to when a pregnant woman cannot escape being overwhelmed by labor pains. In the same way, those people can never escape {when God destroys}!

What will some people be saying when sudden destruction comes upon them?

Some people will be saying, "Peace and safety".

1 Thessalonians 5:4**ULT**

⁴ But you, brothers, are not in darkness, so that the day might overtake you like a thief.

UST

⁴ However, {our} fellow believers in the Messiah, you are not people who are unaware of what will happen, like when people are in the darkness. This is why, when the Lord Jesus returns to earth to punish the people who do not belong to him, he will not surprise you as if he were a thief.

**Why does Paul say the day of the Lord should not overtake the believers like a thief?
(vv4-5)**

Because the believers are not in darkness, but are sons of the light, the day of the Lord should not overtake them like a thief.

1 Thessalonians 5:5**ULT**

⁵ For you are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We are not of the night, nor of the darkness;

UST

⁵ {Since} you are all God's children, {you should live ready for Jesus to return to earth}, like people who are in the light or awake during day are aware of what is happening. We are not {Satan's children,} who live unaware of what will happen, like people at night or in the darkness {who cannot perceive as well}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:6**ULT**

⁶ so then, we should not sleep as the rest, but we should keep watch and be sober.

UST

⁶ So, this is why, {as God's children, we must live ready for what will happen. We must} not live unaware of what will happen like the rest of humanity, who are just like people who are sleeping. Instead, we must stay alert and remain attentive, {expecting Jesus to return to earth}.

What does Paul tell the believers to do regarding the coming day of the Lord?

Paul tells the believers to watch and be sober.

1 Thessalonians 5:7**ULT**

⁷ For those who are sleeping sleep at night, and those who are getting drunk get drunk at night.

UST

⁷ It is well known that when people are unaware of what will happen, it is {usually} at night, when they are sleeping. And when people get drunk, they are not ready for what will happen. They {usually} get drunk at night, {when they cannot perceive things as well}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:8**ULT**

⁸ But we, being of the day, should stay sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and of love, and a helmet—the hope of salvation.

UST

⁸ But {we who are ready for the Lord Jesus to return to earth do not live unaware of what will happen like these people. Since} we are ready, we must remain attentive. We must fully arm ourselves {like soldiers}. Faithful love {towards God should cover our chests} like a breastplate. Being confident {that God} will save us {should fully protect our heads} like a helmet.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:9**ULT**

⁹ For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

UST

⁹ Since {we are his people,} God did not destine that he would punish us {for our sins}. Instead, he destined that our Lord, Jesus the Messiah, would preserve and save us.

For what are the believers destined by God?

The believers are destined by God for salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 5:10**ULT**

¹⁰ the one who died for us so that, whether we might be awake or asleep, we would live together with him.

UST

¹⁰ Jesus died in our place so that we would live {forever} with him. {This is true,} whether we are alive or dead {when he returns to earth}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:11**ULT**

¹¹ Therefore, comfort one another and build up one the one, just as also you are doing.

UST

¹¹ Since this is true, continue to habitually encourage and support each and every one {of your fellow believers in the Messiah}!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:12**ULT**

¹² Now we ask you, brothers, to acknowledge those who are laboring among you and leading you in the Lord and admonishing you,

UST

¹² Finally, {our} fellow believers in the Messiah, we request that you give recognition to your spiritual leaders who work hard among you, in the same way you would give recognition to the Lord {Jesus}. You should also give them recognition because they continually warn and instruct you {about living like believers in the Messiah should}.

What attitude does Paul say the believers should have toward those who are over them in the Lord? (vv12-13)

Paul says that they should acknowledge and highly regard them in love.

1 Thessalonians 5:13**ULT**

¹³ and to regard them highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves.

UST

¹³ Because {of how hard} they work {for you,} we also request {that} you abundantly love your spiritual leaders by being considerate of them. {We also urge} that you keep living peacefully with each other.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Now we exhort you, brothers: Admonish the disorderly, encourage the discouraged, help the weak, be patient toward all.

UST

¹⁴ {Our} fellow believers in the Messiah, we now urge that you warn and instruct those who live inappropriately. We {also} urge that you cheer up those who are discouraged. We {also} urge that you support those who are weak. We {also} urge that you live patiently with every one {of your fellow believers in the Messiah}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:15**ULT**

¹⁵ See that no one would pay back evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good, both for one another and for all.

UST

¹⁵ If someone treats you badly, make sure that you do not treat them badly in return. Instead, whenever {you can,} actively look for ways to kindly treat every {fellow believer in the Messiah}.

What does Paul say no one should do when evil is done to them?

Paul says that no one should pay back evil when evil is done to them.

1 Thessalonians 5:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Rejoice always.

UST

¹⁶ Be joyful all the time!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Pray without ceasing.

UST

¹⁷ Constantly pray!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:18**ULT**

¹⁸ In everything give thanks, for this {is} the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

UST

¹⁸ Keep giving thanks to God in every situation! Indeed, God desires for all of you who are united to Jesus the Messiah to do all these things.

What does Paul say that the believers should do in everything, and why?

Paul says that the believers should give thanks in everything, because this is the will of God for them.

1 Thessalonians 5:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit.

UST

¹⁹ Do not {try to stop} the {Holy} Spirit {from working among you. That would be like someone trying to} extinguish {a fire}!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:20**ULT**

²⁰ Do not despise prophecies.

UST

²⁰ {In other words,} do not scorn prophecies {that the Holy Spirit gives to other believers in the Messiah}!

What instructions does Paul give the believers about prophecies? (vv20-21)

Paul instructs the believers to not despise prophecies, and to test all things, holding on to that which is good.

1 Thessalonians 5:21**ULT**

²¹ Test all things. ^[1] Hold fast to what {is} good.

UST

²¹ {Instead,} keep evaluating all {of the prophecies and} retain {only} those that prove to be excellent.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:22**ULT**

²² Stay away from all appearance of evil.

UST

²² Refrain from any thing that appears to be wicked!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:23**ULT**

²³ Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your entire spirit, and soul, and body be kept blamelessly at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

UST

²³ In summary, we pray that God will personally make you live like people who completely belong to him. God is the one who gives his people peace. We also pray that God will preserve you completely innocent for the time when our Lord Jesus the Messiah arrives on earth again.

What does Paul pray that God will do for the believers?

Paul prays that God will sanctify the believers completely in spirit, soul, and body.

1 Thessalonians 5:24**ULT**

²⁴ Faithful {is} he who calls you, who will also do it.

UST

²⁴ The faithful God {continually} summons all of you {to live like those who completely belong to him. So, you can be certain that} he will also do {whatever is necessary for you to be able to live like those who completely belong to him}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:25**ULT**

²⁵ Brothers, pray also for us.

UST

²⁵ {Our} fellow believers in the Messiah, we also ask that you keep praying for me, for Silas, and for Timothy!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:26**ULT**

²⁶ Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss.

UST

²⁶ When you meet together {for worship}, affectionately greet each of your fellow believers in the Messiah in a way that is appropriate for those who belong to God.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:27**ULT**

²⁷ I solemnly charge you by the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers. ^[2]

UST

²⁷ I want you to swear an oath to the Lord {Jesus}, that you will read this letter to all the believers in the Messiah {among you}!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

1 Thessalonians 5:28**ULT**

²⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. ^[3]

5:21 ^[1] many ancient manuscripts read

5:27 ^[2]

5:28 ^[3]

UST

²⁸ May our Lord Jesus the Messiah {continue to} act kindly toward all of you!

What does Paul pray would be with the believers?

Paul prays that the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ would be with the believers.

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