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1 Thessalonians

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1 Thessalonians

Chapter 1

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

²We give thanks to God always for all of you, making mention {of you} in our prayers continually, ³remembering your work of faith and labor of love and endurance of hope of our Lord Jesus Christ before our God and Father; ⁴knowing, brothers loved by God, your election, ⁵because 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. ⁶And you yourselves became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became examples to all the ones believing in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For 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, so that we do not have need to say anything. ⁹For they themselves report concerning us what kind of entrance we had to you and how you turned to God from the idols to serve the living and true God ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from the heavens, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, the one rescuing us from the coming wrath.

1:1 ^[1]

Chapter 2

¹For you yourselves know, brothers, that our entrance to you has not been in vain. ²But having previously suffered and having been mistreated at Philippi, just as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much struggle. ³For our exhortation {was} neither from error, nor from impurity, nor in deceit, ⁴but 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 examining our hearts. ⁵For we were not at that time in a word of flattery, just as you know, nor in a pretext of greed—God {is} witness— ⁶nor seeking glory from men, neither from you nor from others, ⁷being able to be a burden as apostles of Christ; but we became little children^[1] in the midst of you, as if a mother might comfort her own children. ⁸Longing for you in this manner, we were pleased to share with you not only the gospel of God, but also our own souls. For you became beloved to us. ⁹For 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. ¹⁰You and God {are} witnesses, how piously and righteously and blamelessly we were to you, the ones believing, ¹¹just as you know how, {with} each one of you, as a father his own children, ¹²exhorting you and encouraging and testifying in order that you might walk worthily of God, the one calling you into his own kingdom and glory.

¹³And because of this, we also thank God continually, that having received the word of hearing of God from us, you received it not {as} the word of men, but just as it truly is, the word of God, which is also working in you, the ones believing. ¹⁴For 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, ¹⁵the ones having killed both the Lord Jesus and the prophets and having persecuted us and not being pleasing to God and {being} hostile to all men, ¹⁶forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles so that they might be saved, so that {they} always fill up their sins. But the wrath has come upon them to the end.

¹⁷But we, brothers, having been separated from you for the time of an hour, by face, not by heart, became extremely eager to see your face, in much desire. ¹⁸For we desired to come to you—indeed I, Paul, both once and

twice—but Satan hindered us. ¹⁹For what {is} our hope or joy or crown of boasting?^[2] Or {is it} not also you before our Lord Jesus at his coming? ²⁰For you are our glory and joy.

2:7 ^[1]

2:19 ^[2]

Chapter 3

¹Therefore, enduring {it} no longer, we thought it good to be left behind in Athens alone, ²and we sent Timothy, our brother and a servant of God^[1] in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you regarding your faith, ³that no one be disturbed by these afflictions. For you yourselves know that for this we are appointed. ⁴For also when we were with you, we were telling you in advance that we are about to be afflicted, just as also it happened and you know. ⁵Because of this, I also, no longer enduring {it}, sent to know about your faith, lest somehow the tempter had tempted you, and our labor might have been in vain. ⁶But just now Timothy has come to us from you and has told us the good news about your faith and love and that you always have good memory of us, longing to see us just as we also, you. ⁷Because of this, brothers, we were encouraged about you in all our distress and affliction, through your faith. ⁸For now we live, if you yourselves stand firm in the Lord. ⁹For what thanks are we able to give back to God concerning you for all the joy with which we rejoice because of you before our God,^[2] ¹⁰night and day pleading earnestly to see your face and to provide what {is} lacking in your faith?

¹¹But may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²Now may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we also toward you, ¹³to 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]

Chapter 4

¹Therefore, finally, brothers, we ask and encourage you in the Lord Jesus, just as you received from us how it is necessary for you to walk and to please God (just as also you are walking), that you might abound even more. ²For you know what commands we gave you through the Lord Jesus. ³For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you keep yourselves from sexual immorality; ⁴that each of you knows to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, ⁵not in the passion of lust (just as also the Gentiles, the ones not knowing God); ⁶not to transgress and take advantage of his brother in this matter, for the Lord {is} an avenger concerning all these things, just as we also said before to you and testified. ⁷For God did not call us for uncleanness, but in sanctification. ⁸Therefore, the one rejecting this rejects not man, but God, the one giving^[1] his Holy Spirit to you.^[2]

⁹But 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. ¹⁰For also you do it to all the brothers who {are} in all Macedonia. But we encourage you, brothers, to abound even more ¹¹and to strive to be quiet and to perform your own things and to work with your own hands, just as we commanded you, ¹²so that you may walk properly before the ones outside and have need of nothing.

¹³Now we do not want you to be ignorant, brothers, concerning the ones sleeping, so that you may not grieve just as also the rest, the ones not having hope. ¹⁴For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, thus also God will bring the ones having slept through Jesus with him. ¹⁵For this we say to you in a word of the Lord, that we, the ones living, the ones surviving to the coming of the Lord, will certainly not go before the ones having slept. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with a trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we, the ones living, the ones surviving, 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. ¹⁸Therefore, encourage one another with these words.

4:8 ^[1]

4:8 ^[2]

4:9 ^[3]

Chapter 5

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need {for anything} to be written to you. ²For you yourselves know perfectly well that the day of the Lord comes in this manner—as a thief in the night.

³Whenever they say, “Peace and safety,” then sudden destruction comes on them, just as the birth pain to the one having in the womb, and they will certainly not escape. ⁴But you, brothers, are not in darkness, so that the day might overtake you as a thief. ⁵For you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night, nor of darkness. ⁶So then, let us not sleep as the rest, but let us keep watch and be sober. ⁷For the ones sleeping sleep at night, and the ones getting drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But let us, being of day, be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and of love, and a helmet—the hope of salvation. ⁹For God did not appoint us for wrath, but for the obtaining of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰the one having died for us so that, whether we keep watch or sleep, we will live together with him. ¹¹Therefore, encourage one another and build up one the one, just as also you are doing.

¹²Now we ask you, brothers, to recognize the ones laboring among you and leading you in the Lord and admonishing you, ¹³and to regard them highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. ¹⁴Now we encourage you, brothers: Admonish the disorderly, comfort the discouraged, help the weak, be patient toward all. ¹⁵See that no one repays evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue {what is} good, both for one another and for all. ¹⁶Rejoice always. ¹⁷Pray continually. ¹⁸In everything give thanks, for this {is} the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies. ²¹Test all things. ^[1] Hold fast to what {is} good. ²²Keep yourselves from every form of evil.

²³Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, and soul, and body be kept blamelessly at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴Faithful {is} the one calling you, who also will do {it}.

²⁵Brothers, pray also for us.

²⁶Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss. ²⁷I solemnly charge you {by} the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers. ^[2]

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

5:21 ^[1]

5:27 ^[2]

5:28 ^[3]

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