

1 Thessalonians (first letter Paul wrote) Salonica

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

[1Th 1:2 NASB] We give thanks to God always for all of you, making mention [of you] in our prayers;

[1Th 1:3 NASB] constantly bearing in mind your **work of faith** and **labor of love** and **steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ** in the presence of our God and Father,

[1Th 1:4 NASB] knowing, brethren beloved by God, [His] choice (ἐκλογή) of you;

[1Th 1:5 NASB] for our gospel did not come to you **in word only**, but also **in power** and **in the Holy Spirit** and **with full conviction**; just as you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.

- Changed lives

[1Th 1:6 NASB] You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit,

[1Th 1:7 NASB] so that **you became an example** to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

- [1Co 4:16 NASB] Therefore I exhort you, be imitators of me.
- [1Co 11:1 NASB] Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.
- [Eph 5:1 NASB] Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children;
- [1Th 1:6 NASB] You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit,
- [1Th 2:14 NASB] For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea, for you also endured the same sufferings at the hands of your own countrymen, even as they [did] from the Jews,

[1Th 1:8 NASB] For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith toward God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything.

- [2Co 2:14 NASB] But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place.
- [2Co 2:15 NASB] For we are a fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing;
- [2Co 2:16 NASB] to the one an aroma from death to death, to the other an aroma from life to life. And who is adequate for these things?

- [2Co 2:17 NASB] For we are not like many, peddling the word of God, but as from sincerity, but as from God, we speak in Christ in the sight of God.

[1Th 1:9 NASB] For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how **you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God,**

[1Th 1:10 NASB] and **to wait for His Son from heaven,** whom He raised from the dead, [that is] Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.

- 1.) The gospel changes lives
- 2.) It accomplishes this through the Holy Spirit
- 3.) We are most effective when our lives imitate Christ
- 4.) It's time to put off the worldly and put on the armor of God.
- 5.) Does your life serve as an example of Christ or did you come to the cross and leave unchanged?
- 6.) Thessalonica changed from a port city where paganism ruled, to one where Christ ruled, removing idols from the lives of those who believe in Him and believed Him.