

# Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians

BIBLE TEXT: 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians

LENGTH OF CLASS: 10 Weeks

COURSE CONTENT:

A comprehensive study of Paul's first two written epistles.

Students will:

- Have a clear and vivid understanding of the date, occasion, purpose, and authorship of these books.
- Be able to outline and evaluate the major doctrinal points of the books.
- be given a take-home review quiz after the completion of 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians and after the completion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians.

RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTAL TEXTBOOKS:

- **I and II Thessalonians, I and II Timothy, Titus and Philemon: A Commentary on the New Testament Epistles** by David Lipscomb (**ISBN-13:** 978-0892254422)
- **Thessalonians, Corinthians, Galatians and Romans (The Standard Bible commentary** by J.W. McGarvey & Philip Y. Pendleton (**ASIN:** B001IP6AF0)
  - Also available for free online at:  
[http://www.trchurchofchrist.com/resources/McGarveyThess\\_Cor\\_Gal\\_Rom/TCGR100.HTM](http://www.trchurchofchrist.com/resources/McGarveyThess_Cor_Gal_Rom/TCGR100.HTM)

## **1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians (Historical Section – Chapters 1-3)**

### **Class 1 – Introduction to 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians**

### **Class 2 – The Thessalonian Character**

Reading: 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 1

### **Class 3 – Paul's Character Amongst Them**

Reading: 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 2:1-12

### **Class 4 – Shared Christian Suffering**

Reading: 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 2:13-3:13

## **1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians (Practical Section – Chapters 4-5)**

### **Class 5 – Sexual Morality & Brotherly Love**

Reading: 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:1-12

### **Class 6 – Comfort & Warnings Regarding Jesus' Return**

Reading: 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

### **Class 7 – Encouragement to Fulfill Spiritual & Social Duties**

Reading: 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:12-28

Take Home Test – 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonian Letter

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 1**

### **Class 8 – The Retrospective Praise Chapter**

Reading: 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 1:1-12

### **Class 9 – The Second Coming Chapter**

Reading: 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 2:1-17

### **Class 10 – The Hortatory Chapter**

Reading: 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 3:1-18

Take Home Test – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonian Letter

# **1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians Exam**

1. What is the date and significance of this letter?

2. Who was with Paul when this letter was written?

3. What are the two sections of 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians?

Chapters \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Purpose:

Chapters \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Purpose:

4. Paul assured the Thessalonians that they were following the truth by reminding them of what four things?

5. To whom was the church of Thessalonica an example?

6. Who had heard of the Thessalonian conversion?

7. Where does Paul reference that he had suffered and shamefully treated?

8. What two family relationships does Paul compare his behavior toward the Thessalonians with?

9. Paul praised the church at Thessalonica for imitating whom?
10. Who stopped Paul from visiting the Thessalonians?
11. How did Paul find out how the Thessalonians were fairing?
12. What does Paul say is the “will of God”?
13. What should we aspire to?
14. What was the Thessalonian worry with death?
15. What are we told will be the sign of Jesus’ return?
16. What did Paul urge us to do regarding those that labor among us and are over us, and who in the church is that referring to?
17. What does it mean to ‘abstain from every form of evil’?
18. Who did Paul want the letter to be read to?

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians Exam**

1. What is the date of this letter?

2. What is the breakdown of the book?

Chapter 1 –

Chapter 2 –

Chapter 3 –

3. According to Paul what makes someone worthy of the kingdom of heaven?

4. What are the two characteristics of those that God will take vengeance upon?

5. What were the Thessalonians “shaken and troubled” about concerning the coming of Jesus?

6. What must take place before Jesus’ Second Coming?

7. What is the most prominent characteristic of the man of sin?

8. What two reasons do some people receive a “strong delusion” from God that they “should believe the lie” and “be condemned”?

9. What traditions were the Thessalonians supposed to receive and hold?

10. What were the Thessalonians supposed to do to someone that did not hold to the traditions they had received?

11. What was Paul's attitude toward work?

12. What was Paul's sign that accompanied all his letters and gave proof it was from him?