

# 1 Thessalonians 2

## Outline and Notes (lesson 4)

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### 1 Review of 1 Thess 1

- Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy brought the gospel to Thessalonika
- gospel came in ...
  - word
  - power
  - Holy Spirit
  - full conviction
- they became imitators of Paul, S. and T., and of the Lord
- recvd the gospel in tribulation yet with joy of the Holy Spirit
- gospel sounded forth to Macedonia and Achaia.
- turned from idolatry, to the living God

### 2 Overview of all 1 Thess

- chapter 1-3: Paul encourages them in their faith, longing to see them
- chapter 4:
  - instructions to excel still more,
  - avoid sexual immorality,
  - work hard.
  - instruction about Jesus' return
- chapter 5:
  - day of the Lord,
  - encourage one another,
  - appreciate those who labor and are in charge over you,
  - final instructions,
  - be kept blameless until He returns.

### **3 1 Thess 2 outline**

#### **3.1 We brought the gospel to you amidst opposition**

You know we spoke the gospel to you amid opposition.

1 For you yourselves know, brethren,  
that our coming to you was not in vain,

2 but  
after we had already suffered and been mistreated in Philippi,  
as you know,

we had the boldness in our God  
to speak to you the gospel of God  
amid much opposition.

#### **3.2 We did not come in error**

We did not come in error. We please God, not man.

3 For our exhortation does not come from  
error or  
impurity or  
by way of deceit;

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

5 For we never came with  
flattering speech, as you know,  
nor with a pretext for greed  
– God is witness –

#### **3.3 We did not come to seek glory**

We did not assert our authority

6 nor did we seek glory from men,  
either from you or from others,

even though as apostles of Christ  
we might have asserted our authority.

### 3.4 BUT: We came like a mother

We came in gentleness, giving you the gospel and our own lives, like a mother with fond affection

7 But we proved to be gentle among you,  
as a nursing mother tenderly cares for her own children.  
8 Having so fond an affection for you,  
we were well-pleased to impart to you  
not only the gospel of God  
but also our own lives,  
because you had become very dear to us.

### 3.5 We came like a father

We came in our own toil, proclaiming to you the gospel, like a father, so that you walk in a manner worthy of God.

9 For you recall, brethren,  
our labor and hardship, how working night and day  
so as not to be a burden to any of you,  
we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.

10 You are witnesses,  
and so is God,  
how  
devoutly and  
uprightly and  
blamelessly  
we behaved toward you believers;

11 just as you know how we were  
exhorting and  
encouraging and  
imploping  
each one of you  
as a father would his own children,

So that you walk in a manner worthy

12 so that  
you would walk in a manner worthy of the God  
who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

### **3.6 THUS: we thank God that you accepted the word of God**

THUS: we thank God that you accepted the word of God, which does its work

13 For this reason

we also constantly thank God  
that when you received the word of God  
which you heard from us,  
you accepted it not as the word of men,  
but for what it really is,  
the word of God,  
which also performs its work in you who believe.

The work of the word: imitators of Judean churches, amidst opposition of their own countrymen.

14 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,

An aside about the Jews opposing the Judean churches.

15 who both killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets,  
and drove us out.  
They are not pleasing to God,  
but hostile to all men,  
16 hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles  
so that they (the Gentiles) may be saved;  
with the result that they (the Jews)  
always fill up the measure of their sins.  
But wrath has come upon them (the Jews) to the utmost.

### **3.7 But we were eager to see you**

We wanted to see you, but were hindered. Are you not our hope or joy or crown?

17 But we, brethren,

having been taken away from you for a short while  
– in person, not in spirit –

were all the more eager with great desire to see your face.

18 For we wanted to come to you  
– I, Paul, more than once –

and yet Satan hindered us.

### **3.8 Because you are our glory and joy**

19 For who is our hope or joy or crown of exultation?

Is it not even you,  
in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming?

20 For you are our glory and joy.

## 4 1 Thess 2 key themes

- Paul describes how they came with the gospel:
  - amid opposition
  - not in error or greed
  - not seeking glory
  - like a mother
  - like a father
- So that they walk worthy
- Thus: Paul thanks God for them.
- key theme: the word (v 13). compare 2:13 with 1:5

**1 Thess 1:5-6:** 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. 6 You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit, 7 so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

1 Thess 1:5-6	1 Thess 2:13-14
gospel, not in word only	word of God
full conviction	accepted
in power	word performs its work
imitators of us and the Lord	imitators of churches in Judea
in tribulation	suffering at hands of own countrymen
with joy of Holy Spirit	

- key theme: imitators (1:6 and 2:14)

## 5 1 Thess 1-2 application / questions

- how did you receive the gospel? How did it come?
- how is your life an example to other believers?
- why would Paul need to remind them that they did not come in error? (2 Thess 2:3-5). A false teacher is motivated by greed, peddling a message that he gets paid for, living off those he deceives. But Paul worked to support himself.