

# **1 Thessalonians.**

## **A translation.**



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## 1 Thessalonians.

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy write this letter to the Thessalonian church. You are in God, the father. You are in the lord Jesus, the messiah. We wish mercy and peace for you.

*We thank God for you.*

We always thank God for each of you. We constantly talk about you in our prayers. We remind our God and father about your faithful work, loving labor, and hopeful commitment. You hope for our lord Jesus, the messiah.

Brothers, know this: God loves you. God picked you. The good news did not come to you just with words. It was powerful. It was through the holy spirit. It was with full conviction.

You know how we lived for your sake. You imitated both us and the lord.

You received the word during some huge trouble. You still had joy from the holy spirit. You became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. The news of the lord about you did not just sound out in Macedonia and Achaia. Your faith in God went everywhere. It is not necessary to say more about you.

The believers report how you welcomed us. You turned to God from idols. You now serve the living and true God. You wait for his son from heaven. God raised him from the dead. Jesus saves us from God's future anger.

*Our visit was not a failure.*

Brothers, you know this: Our visit with you was not a failure. You know how we suffered and were mistreated. God made us bold in Philippi. We told you the good news about God in spite of strong opposition.

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*Our visit was not a failure.*

Our appeal is not from lies, impure motives, or deceit. God decided to trust us with the good news. So, we speak. We do not seek men's approval. We seek God's approval. God judges our hearts.

You know this: We did not use flattering words. We did not have greedy motives. God is our witness. We did not seek fame from men, you, or anyone else.

We could have made demands like apostles of the messiah. Instead, we were like infants among you.

We were like a nurse taking care of her children. We did not just want to give you God's good news. We also wanted to give our own lives. You became dear to us.

Brothers, you remember our labor and toil. We worked day and night. We did not want to burden anyone. We proclaimed God's good news to you.

You and God are our witnesses. We were holy, righteous, and blameless toward you who believe.

You know this: We were like a father with each of his own children. We encouraged you. We comforted you. We urged you: Live honorably before God. He calls you into his kingdom and glory.

#### *You suffered.*

This is why we constantly give thanks to God. You accepted the word that you learned from us as a message from our God. You did not receive it as man's word. It is truly the word of God. It is at work in you believers.

Brothers, you imitated God's church in Judea. They are in Jesus, the messiah.

You suffered the same things. The locals mistreated you. The Jews mistreated them. They murdered both the lord Jesus and the prophets. They chased us. They displease God. They oppose everyone. They kept us from speaking to the pagans. They could have become saved. They completely sinned in every way. God's anger finally came on them.

#### *We want to visit.*

Brothers, we were separate from you for a while. It was physical, but not emotional. We really wanted to see you as soon as possible.



We wanted to visit you. I, Paul, tried multiple times. Satan prevented me. Who will be our hope, our joy, and our crown of boasting before our lord Jesus in his return? Isn't it you? You are our glory and joy.

So, we could take it no longer. We decided to stay in Athens by ourselves. However, we sent Timothy. He is our brother and God's coworker in the good news of the messiah.

Timothy strengthened you. He provided comfort for your faith until the troubles passed. You know this is our job. When we were with you, we warned you there would be trouble. You know that it happened, just like we said.

I could not wait any longer to know about your faith. Did the tempter get you? Were our efforts for nothing?

*Timothy told us the good news.*

Timothy came to see you from us. He told us the good news about your faith and love. You always have good memories about us!

We really wanted to see you. You wanted to see us.

Brothers, we are comforted by your faith because of all our trouble and persecution. Now we can live. You are still in the lord.

How could we thank God enough? How could we repay you for all the joy you give us before God? Didn't we seriously pray day and night to see you? Didn't we fix what was missing in your faith?

*May God strengthen your hearts.*

May our God and father with the lord Jesus direct our way back to you. May the lord increase and enrich your love for each other and everyone. We feel that way about you.

May he strengthen your hearts. May you become holy and blameless before God our father. Our lord Jesus will return with all his holy ones.

*We gave you instructions.*

Brothers, we continue our appeal to you. We urge you in the lord Jesus. Just like we told you: You must live to please God. So, do it even more.

You know the instructions we gave you through the lord Jesus.

This is God's will: Be holy. Avoid sexual misconduct. You know this: Exercise self control with your bodies in holiness and honor. Do not operate with passionate lust like the pagans. They do not know God.

No one should mistreat or cheat his brother in any matter. The lord will pass judgment on these matters. We warned you and told you: God did not call you to impurity. He called you to holiness. Therefore, the one who rejects this does not reject man. He rejects God, who gave his holy spirit to you.

We do not need to write you about brotherly love. God taught you directly to love each other. You do it for all the brothers in the entire region of Macedonia. Brothers, we urge you: Do it even more.

Make this your goal: Live a responsible life. Mind your business. Work with your hands. This is what we ordered you. Live respectably around outsiders. Do not be dependent on anyone.

*Do not be ignorant about the dead.*

Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who are already dead. Do not grieve like everyone else. They are without hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose. Through Jesus, God will bring the dead back with him.

We tell you this by the lord's word: When the lord returns, those still alive definitely will not precede the dead.

The lord himself will return with a command. The head angel will shout. The trumpet of God will sound. He will come down out of the sky.

The dead in the messiah will rise first. Then he will take those still alive together with them. They will rise into the air on the clouds to meet the lord. We will be with the lord forever.

Encourage one another with these words.

Brothers, we do not need to write you about the exact time or date. You cannot know exactly. The day of the lord comes like a thief at night.

People will say, "Peace and safety." Disaster will arrive suddenly like labor pains. There will be no escape.

Brothers, do not live in darkness. Do not let the day catch you like a thief. You are sons of the light. You are sons of the daytime. We are not from the night or the darkness.

Do not sleep like everyone else. Stand watch. Stay sober. People sleep at night. They get drunk at night. We are from the daytime. We stay sober.

Put on the breastplate of faith and love. Wear the helmet of hope for salvation.

God did not appoint us for anger, but to possess salvation through our lord Jesus, the messiah. He died for us. Whether we stand watch, or whether we die, we will live with him.

Encourage each other. Strengthen each other one on one. Keep doing what you are doing.

*We urge you.*

Brothers, we urge you: Observe those who work hard among you. Observe those who care for you in the lord. Observe those who warn you. Especially regard them with love because of their behavior. Be at peace among yourselves.

Brothers, we urge you: Warn the lazy. Comfort the discouraged. Help the weak. Be patient with everyone.

Make sure that no one repays anyone with evil for evil. Always pursue what is best for each other in every situation.

Be happy all the time. Pray continually. Give thanks in every situation. This is God's will for you in the messiah, Jesus.

Do not restrain the spirit. Do not despise prophesy.

Test everything. Retain what is good. Abstain from every kind of evil.

May God himself make you completely holy. May he keep your whole spirit, soul, and body blameless when our lord Jesus, the messiah, returns. The one who selected you is faithful. He will make it happen.

Brothers, pray for us.

Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss.

I charge you in the lord: Read this letter to all the brothers.

We wish the grace of our lord Jesus, the messiah, on you.