

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

4/15/26

- Tonight – Opportunity to give a Bible study
 - Current plan – Study some shorter books of the Bible – beginning with 1 Thessalonians
 - Title – “1 Thessalonians 1:1-10”
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Background

Following are excerpts from page 424 of “Nelson’s Complete Book of Bible Maps & Charts” –

· “First Thessalonians went unchallenged as a Pauline epistle until the 19th century, when radical critics claimed that its dearth of doctrinal content made its authenticity suspect. But the proportion of doctrinal teaching in Paul’s epistles varies widely, and 1 Thessalonians was written to deal with one particular doctrinal issue – the return of Christ.”

· “Both Thessalonian epistles were during Paul’s second missionary journey, thus making them among the earliest of the New Testament books. After a brief stay in Thessalonica (the capital city of Macedonia), Paul journeyed to the south through Berea and Athens to Corinth – where he spent 18 months. During the early part of his stay in Corinth from A.D. 51 to 52, Paul wrote 1 Thessalonians.”

· “A few months later, while Paul was still in Corinth, he received word from Thessalonica that his teaching on the day of the Lord had been misunderstood by some in the Thessalonian church. Paul then wrote another epistle (2 Thessalonians) to correct certain misunderstandings and further to encourage the church.”

· “In Paul’s time, Thessalonica was the prominent seaport and the capital of the Roman province of Macedonia. This prosperous city was located on the Via Egnatia (the main road from Rome to the east) and was within sight of Mount Olympus – legendary home of the Greek pantheon.”

· “A city of perhaps 200,000 in the first century A.D., Thessalonica had a sizable Jewish population, and the ethical monotheism of the Jewish religion attracted many Gentiles who had become disenchanted with Greek paganism. According to 1 Thessalonians 1:9 and 2:14-16, most of the Thessalonians converts were Gentiles who came out of idolatry.”

Acts 16:1	Derbe and Lystra
2	Lystra and Iconium
6	region of Galatia – forbidden to go to Galatia (to the North)
8	Troas
9	“Come over to Macedonia and help us”
11	sailing from Troas – to Neapolis

12	from there to Philippi – which is foremost city of that part of Macedonia
14-15	Lydia (was from the city of Thyatira)
16-19	slave girl – with a spirit of divination
20-35	magistrates – put Paul & Silas in prison
36-39	Paul asserted his Roman citizenship
40	gathering – house of Lydia in Philippi
Acts 17:1	Amphipolis, Apollonia, Thessalonica
2-10	Paul was forced out of Thessalonica – to Berea
11	the people of Berea – were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica
13	when the Jews of Thessalonica learned that the word of God was preached by Paul at Berea, they went there and stirred up the crowds
14	they sent Paul away to go to the sea – Silas & Timothy remained
15	they took Paul to Athens
Acts 18:1	Paul went to Corinth – (18 months – verse 11)
Phil. 4:16	when Paul was in Thessalonica – they sent aid once & again for necessities
2 Tim. 4:10	Demas left Paul – went to Thessalonica

1 Thes. 1:1	Paul, Silas and Timothy – to the Church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ – Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ
2	we give thanks to God always – mentioning you in our prayers
3	remembering – work of faith – labor of love – patience of hope – in our Lord Jesus Christ – in the sight of our God and Father
4	knowing (beloved brethren) your election from God
5	our gospel did not come to you in word only <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · also in power · and in the Holy Spirit · in much assurance · remembering what kind of men we were among you, for your sake
6	you became follower of us and the Lord – having received the word in much affliction – with joy of the Holy Spirit
7	examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia – who believe
8	from you the word sounded forth – not only in Macedonia and Achaia – but also in every place – your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything
9-10	they declare what manner of entry we had to you <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · how you turned to God – from idols to serve the living and true God · to wait for His Son from heaven – whom He raised from the dead – Jesus will delivers us from the wrath to come