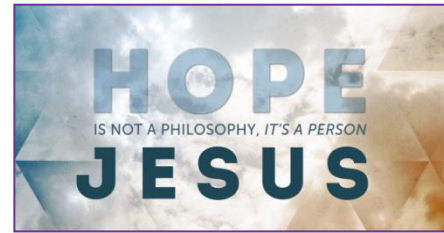




# Thessalonians



There Is Hope!

*Lesson 05*

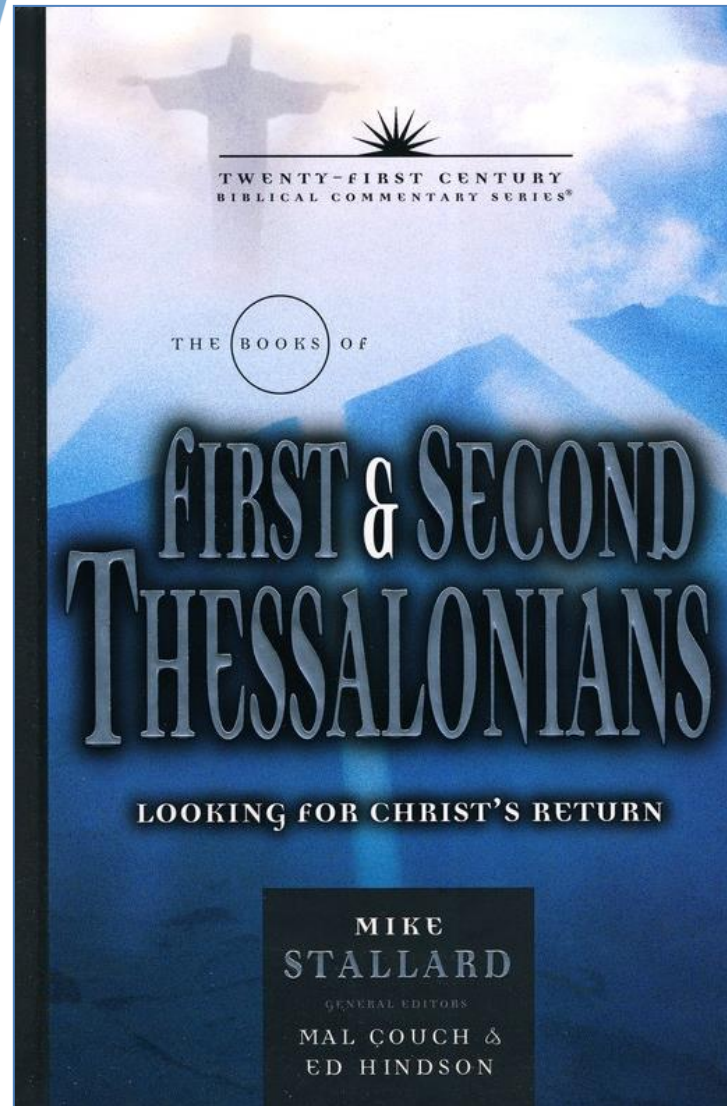
## Purifying Hope: *Part I*

1 Thessalonians 3:1-13

Philip Giorgio

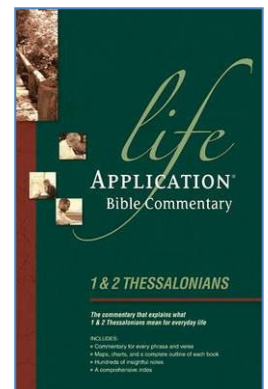
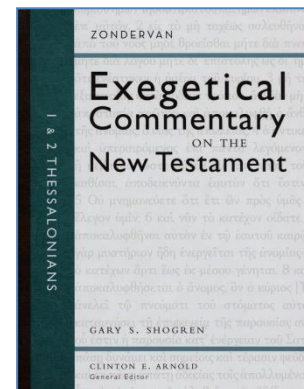
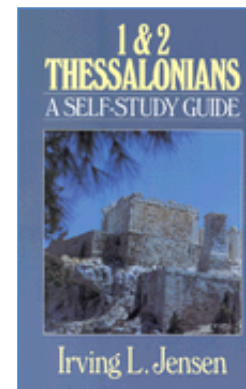
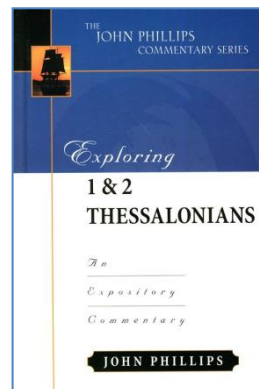
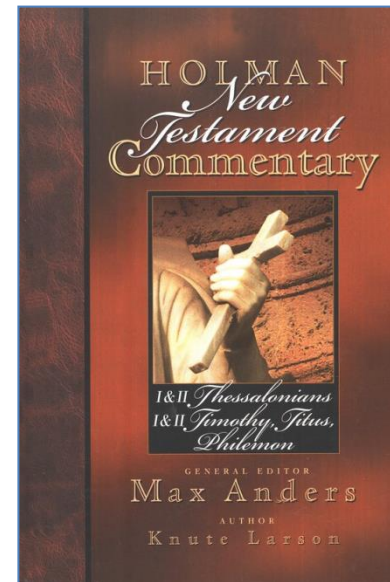
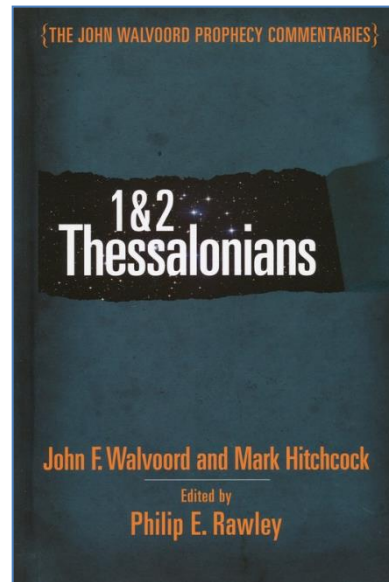


## Textbook



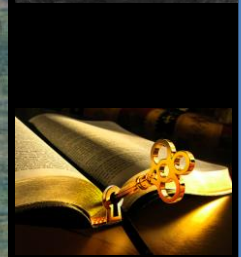
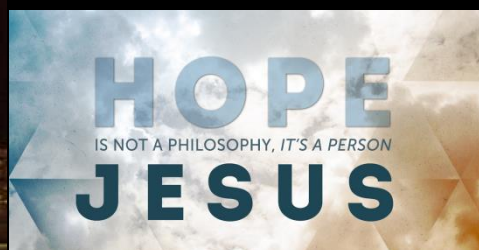
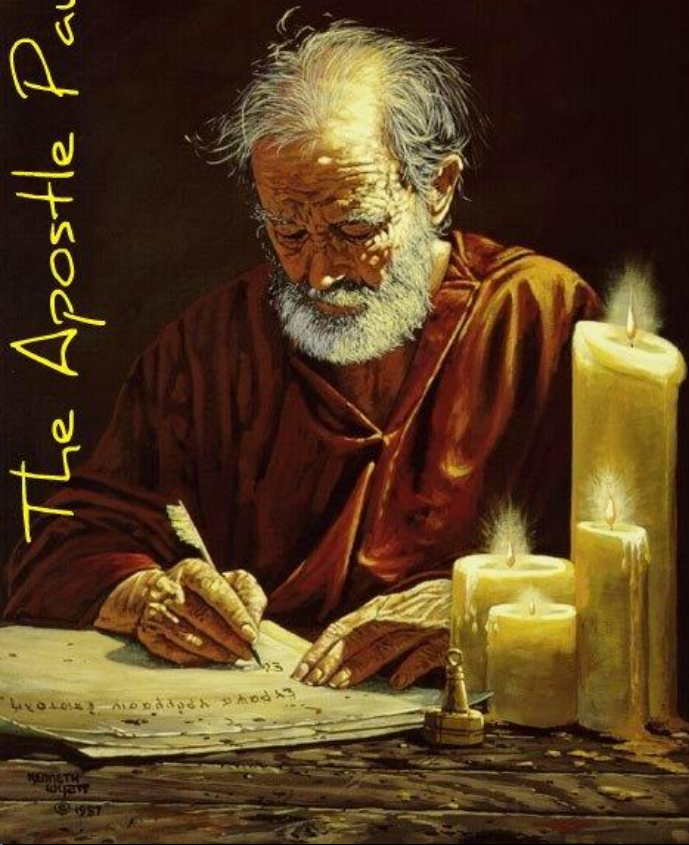


## References





# The Apostle Paul





# Course Outline



# Course Outline - Lessons

## ■ Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

- Lesson 01: Introduction ..... [THESSALONIANS]
- Lesson 02: Inspiring Hope ..... [1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-10]
- Lesson 03: Working Hope: *Part I* ..... [1 THESSALONIANS 2:1-12]
- Lesson 04: Working Hope: *Part II* ..... [1 THESSALONIANS 2:13-20]
- Lesson 05: Purifying Hope: *Part I* ..... [1 THESSALONIANS 3:1-13]
- Lesson 06: Purifying Hope: *Part II* ..... [1 THESSALONIANS 4:1-12]
- Lesson 07: Comforting Hope ..... [1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18]
- Lesson 08: Future Hope: *Part I* ..... [1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-11]
- Lesson 09: Future Hope: *Part II* ..... [1 THESSALONIANS 5:12-28]
- Lesson 10: Blessed Hope: *Part I* ..... [2 THESSALONIANS 1:1-12]
- Lesson 11: Blessed Hope: *Part II* ..... [2 THESSALONIANS 2:1-12]
- Lesson 12: Blessed Hope: *Part III* ..... [2 THESSALONIANS 2:13-17]
- Lesson 13: Living Hope ..... [2 THESSALONIANS 3:1-18]

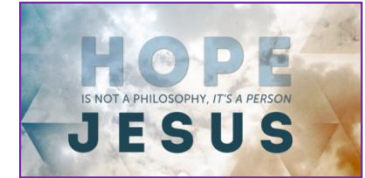


# Lesson Outline

# Lesson 05 - Outline

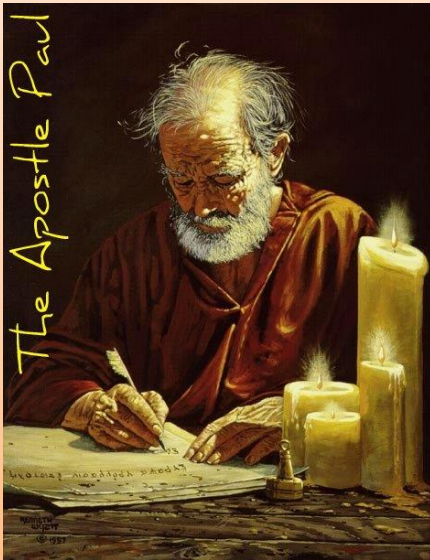
## ■ Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

### • Lesson 05: Purifying Hope: *Part I*



### ✓ STRUCTURE

- ➡ » Lesson Preview ..... *Introduction*
- » Paul's Concern ..... *1 Thessalonians 3:1-5*
- » Paul's Comfort ..... *1 Thessalonians 3:6-10*
- » Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming Prayer ..... *1 Thessalonians 3:11-13*

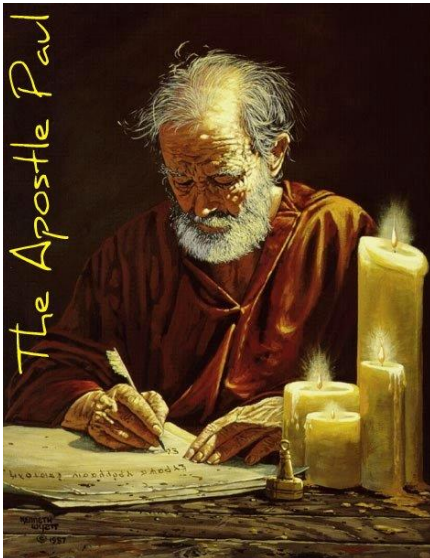




# Lesson Preview - INTRODUCTION

- Preview ... PURIFYING HOPE: *PART I*

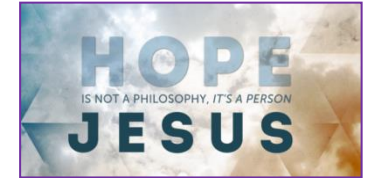
Paul sent Timothy to encourage and fortify the faith of the Thessalonian believers. The good news that Timothy brought back regarding their development strengthens the apostle. He prays that he will be able to return to help the believers grow to completion. Specifically, he prays that they will grow in love and holiness and that they will be ready at the coming of Christ Jesus with His saints.



# Lesson 05 - Outline

## ■ Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

### • Lesson 05: Purifying Hope: *Part I*



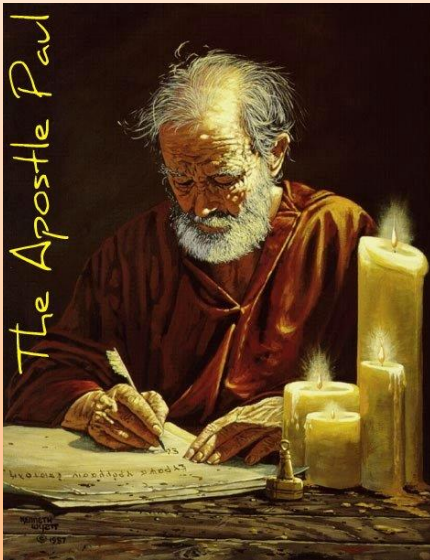
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» Paul's Comfort ..... *1 Thessalonians 3:6-10*

» Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming Prayer ..... *1 Thessalonians 3:11-13*



# Paul's Concern - 1 Thessalonians 3:1 - OBSERVATIONS

**3** Therefore, when we could no longer endure it, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone, <sup>2</sup> and sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith, <sup>3</sup> that no one should be shaken by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we are appointed to this.

--- 1 Thessalonians 3:1-3 ... NKJV

## • Paul's Concern - Left in Athens

- **THEREFORE** - a link to the last thought of the last chapter.
  - Paul expressed how he longed to see them - *last thought*
  - "Therefore" - *link to new thought*
  - When we could no longer endure the waiting and longing we thought it would be good to stay in Athens and send Timothy to you. - *new thought*
- Paul and Silas remain in Athens (we)
  - Paul addressing the Areopagus ... Act 17:16-34
    - Altar inscription : TO THE UNKNOWN GOD
    - Opportunity to present the gospel - Attentive audience until Paul mention the resurrection of the dead - reactions included...
      - Some mocked
      - Some were polite (*"we will hear you again on this matter"*)
      - Some believed

Ares (Mars): god of war

**AREOPAGUS** - "Ares Rock" ... aka Mars Hill  
NW of the Acropolis in Athens

Ares was tried by the gods here for the murder of Poseidon's son Alirrothios



# Paul's Concern - 1 Thessalonians 3:2-3 - OBSERVATIONS

**3** Therefore, when we could no longer endure it, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone, <sup>2</sup> and **sent Timothy**, our **brother** and **minister** of **God**, and **our fellow laborer** in the **gospel** of **Christ**, to **establish** **you** and **encourage** **you** **concerning** **your** **faith**, <sup>3</sup> that no **one** should be **shaken** by these **afflictions**; for **you yourselves** know that **we** are **appointed** to **this**.

--- 1 Thessalonians 3:1-3 ... NKJV

## • Paul's Concern - Timothy Sent

- **Paul** and **Silas** **send** **Timothy** to the **Thessalonians**
- **Timothy's CREDENTIALS**

- **OUR BROTHER** (*adelphos*) - brethren in Christ; believer
- **MINISTER OF GOD** (*diakonos*) - deacon; servant; table waiter
- **FELLOW LABORER** IN THE **GOSPEL** OF **CHRIST** (*synergos*) - companion in work; fellow worker

## • Timothy's MISSION

- To **ESTABLISH** (*strengthen*) the **Thessalonians**.  
Exodus 17:8-26 ... Victory over the Amalekites - *Support*
- To **ENCOURAGE** (*comfort*) the faith of the **believers**.
- **PURPOSE**: So that **none** of the **Thessalonian believers** would be **SHAKEN BY THE AFFLICTIONS** **they** were **facing**.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE SHAKEN BY AFFLICTION?

Parable of the Sower and the Soils - Matthew 13:18-23

# Paul's Concern - 1 Thessalonians 3:2-3 - OBSERVATIONS

**3** Therefore, when we could no longer endure it, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone, <sup>2</sup> and sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith, <sup>3</sup> that no one should be shaken by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we are appointed to this.

--- 1 Thessalonians 3:1-3 ... NKJV

## • Paul's Concern - Appointed for Affliction

- How do the Thessalonians know that they were appointed for affliction?

- Paul's teaching when he was with them (verse 4)

- Paul's COMMISSION (Acts 9)

<sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. <sup>16</sup> For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake." --- Acts 9:15-16 ... NKJV

- Our COMMISSION (Matthew 10:16-26)

<sup>21</sup> "Now brother will deliver up brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. <sup>22</sup> And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup> When they persecute you in this city, flee to another. For assuredly, I say to you, you will not have gone through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

HOW DOES THIS ALIGN WITH THE FALSE TEACHINGS OF THE  
"PROSPERITY GOSPEL" MOVEMENT?

Persecutions Are Coming- Matthew 10:16-26

## Paul's Concern - 1 Thessalonians 3:4 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>4</sup> For, in **fact**, **we** told **you before** when **we** were with **you** that **we** would **suffer tribulation**, just as it **happened**, and **you know**. <sup>5</sup> For this reason, when I could no longer endure it, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter had tempted you, and our labor might be in vain.

--- 1 Thessalonians 3:4-5 ... NKJV

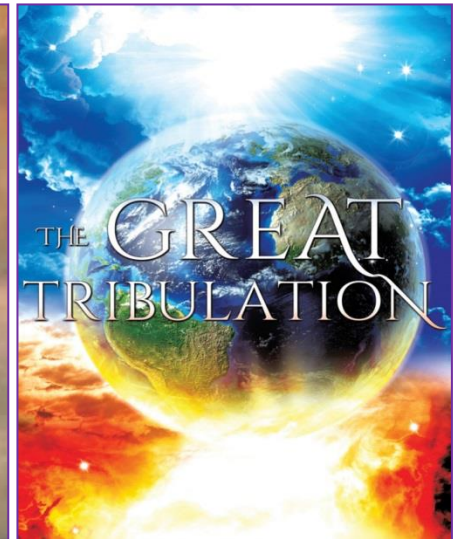
### • Paul's Concern - Tribulation Forewarned

- **Suffer tribulation**

- To oppress; distress; trouble; afflict by external means
- **Jesus** warned **us** ... John 16:33

<sup>33</sup> These things **I** have **spoken** to **you**, that in **Me** **you** may have **peace**. In the **world** **you** will have **tribulation**; but be of **good cheer**, **I** have overcome the world."

- This is not the **Great Tribulation** here in this verse  
- Paul will address this topic in 2 Thessalonians chapter 2.





## Paul's Concern - 1 Thessalonians 3:5 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>4</sup> For, in fact, we told you before when we were with you that we would suffer tribulation, just as it happened, and you know. <sup>5</sup> For this reason, when I could no longer endure it, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter had tempted you, and our labor might be in vain.

--- 1 Thessalonians 3:4-5 ... NKJV

### • Paul's Concern - For This Reason

- **For this Reason** - WHAT REASON?
  - Paul's concern for the Thessalonian believers had reached a point where he could no longer endure it
  - Because of this great concern for their faith, Paul sends Timothy to ascertain the state of the Thessalonian believers' faith.
  - In particular, Paul is worried that the tempter may have tempted the believers to depart from the faith
  - Paul was lamenting that if this in fact happened then the labor of his missionary team would have been in vain (useless or worthless).

HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU FOR OTHER BELIEVERS?

DO YOU HAVE GREAT CONCERN FOR THE FAITH OF OTHERS?

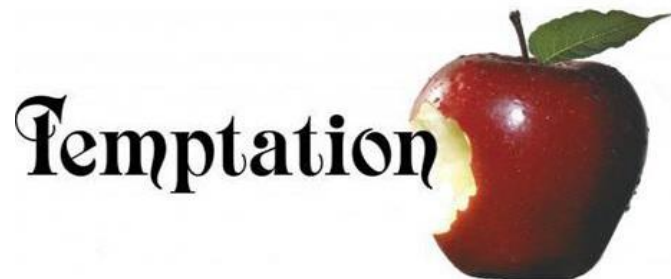
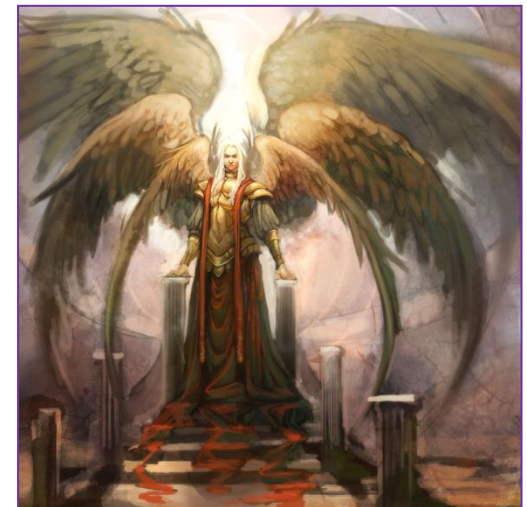
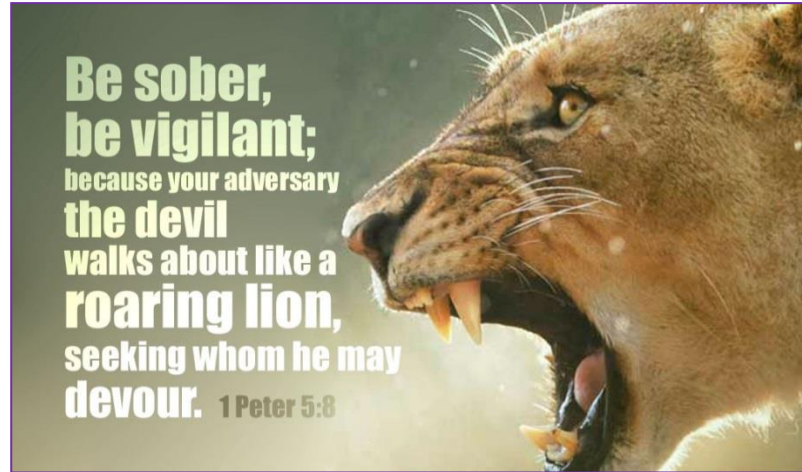
<sup>21</sup> For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup> But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. <sup>23</sup> For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. <sup>24</sup> Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you. --- Philippians 1:21-24 ... NKJV

# Paul's Concern - 1 Thessalonians 3:5 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>4</sup> For, in fact, we told you before when we were with you that we would suffer tribulation, just as it happened, and you know. <sup>5</sup> For this **reason**, when **I** could **no longer endure** it, **I** sent to **know your faith**, lest by some means the **tempter** had **tempted you**, and **our labor** might be in **vain**.

--- 1 Thessalonians 3:4-5 ... NKJV

- **Paul's Concern** - For This Reason
  - The **Tempter** here is a **reference** to **Satan**





## Profile: SATAN

### SATAN PROFILE

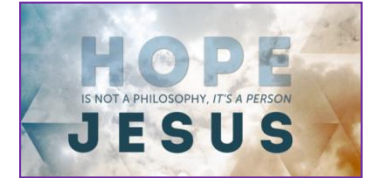
DESCRIPTION	SCRIPTURE
He is supreme in the realm of evil spirits.	Ephesians 2:2; 2 Thessalonians 2:9
He is always opposed to God and man's best interests.	Genesis 3; Job 1-2; 1 Chronicles 21:1; Psalm 109:6; Zechariah 3:1,2
Source of affliction.	2 Corinthians 12:7
Takes away the good seed from the hearts of men.	Mark 4:15
Sows evil seed in the world.	Matthew 13:39
As god of this world, he blinds the minds of the unbelieving.	2 Corinthians 4:4
He tempted the Lord.	Matthew 4, Luke 4
He tempts believers.	Luke 22:3, 1 Corinthians 7:5



# Lesson 05 - Outline

## ■ Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

### • Lesson 05: Purifying Hope: *Part I*



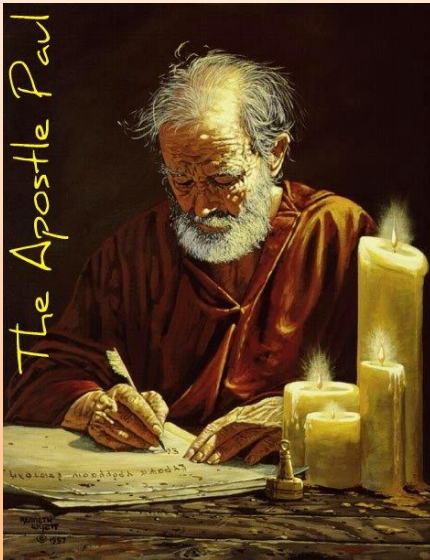
### ✓ STRUCTURE

» Lesson Preview ..... *Introduction*

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» Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming Prayer ..... *1 Thessalonians 3:11-13*



# Paul's Comfort - 1 Thessalonians 3:6 - OBSERVATIONS

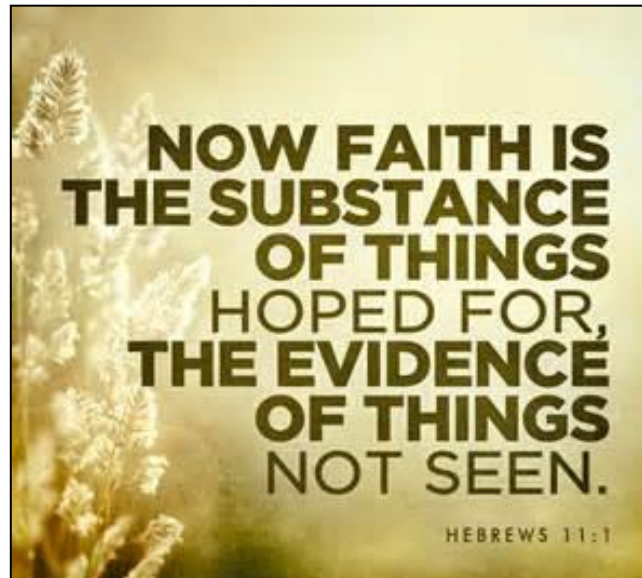
<sup>6</sup> But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always have good remembrance of us, greatly desiring to see us, as we also to see you— <sup>7</sup> therefore, brethren, in all our affliction and distress we were comforted concerning you by your faith. <sup>8</sup> For now we live, if you stand fast in the Lord.

--- 1 Thessalonians 3:6-8 ... NKJV

## • Paul's Comfort - Timothy Returns

- Timothy returns to Paul and Silas with good news regarding the Thessalonian believers.
- Thessalonian REPORT CARD

- FAITH remained strong
- LOVE remained strong
- REMEMBRANCE: Fond memories of Paul and his team
- ANTICIPATION: Longing to see Paul and Silas once again



## Paul's Comfort - 1 Thessalonians 3:7 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>6</sup> But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always have good remembrance of us, greatly desiring to see us, as we also *to see you*— <sup>7</sup> **therefore, brethren,** in all **our affliction and distress we were comforted concerning you by your faith.** <sup>8</sup> For now we live, if you stand fast in the Lord.

--- 1 Thessalonians 3:6-8 ... NKJV

### • Paul's Comfort - By Your Faith

#### • THEREFORE

- **Links** the **good news** from previous verse
- With the **comfort** in this verse

- This is the **fourth time** in this chapter that **Paul references** the **Thessalonians' faith**
- Even in **Paul** and **Silas' affliction** and **distress**, **they** were **comforted** with the **good report** of the **Thessalonians' faith** - **conveyed** to them by **Timothy**.



## Paul's Comfort - 1 Thessalonians 3:8 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>6</sup> But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always have good remembrance of us, greatly desiring to see us, as we also *to see you*— <sup>7</sup> therefore, brethren, in all our affliction and distress we were comforted concerning you by your faith. <sup>8</sup> For now **we live**, **if you stand fast** in the **Lord**.

--- 1 Thessalonians 3:6-8 ... NKJV

### • Paul's Comfort - Stand in the Lord

- **Paul** concludes this thought with a declaration that **he** and **his** team now live **since** the **Thessalonians believers** are standing fast in the **Lord**.

- **They** were **enduring** the **persecution** and **afflictions**.
- **They** were **remaining strong** in their **faith**.

<sup>27</sup> Only let **your** conduct be **worthy** of the **gospel** of **Christ**, so that whether **I come** and see **you** or am **absent**, **I** may **hear** of **your affairs**, that **you stand fast** in **one spirit**, with **one mind** **striving together** for the **faith of the gospel**, --- Philippians 1:27 ... NKJV

PAUL WAS CONSUMED WITH THE SPIRITUAL WELFARE OF  
OTHER BELIEVERS.

CAN YOU SAY THE SAME?

**WE ARE TO COMFORT ONE ANOTHER -  
NOT COMPETE WITH ONE ANOTHER!**

# Paul's Comfort - 1 Thessalonians 3:9-10 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>9</sup> For what **thanks** can **we** **render** to **God** for **you**, for all the **joy** with which **we** **rejoice** for **your** sake **before** **our** **God**, <sup>10</sup> **night** and **day** **praying** **exceedingly** that **we** may see **your** **face** and **perfect** what is **lacking** in **your** **faith**?

--- 1 Thessalonians 3:9-10 ... NKJV

## • Paul's Comfort - Thanksgiving

- **Paul** is **overwhelmed** with **inexpressible** **joy**.
  - What **thanks** can **we** **render** to **God** for **you**?
- **Paul** is **prayerfully** **rejoicing** for the **Thessalonians**
  - **We** **rejoice** for **your** sake **before** **our** **God**
- **Paul** is **praying** for an **opportunity** to **see** the **Thessalonian** **believers** once again, **face-to-face**
  - **Night** and **day** **praying** **exceedingly** - *continuously, abundantly*
  - That **we** may **see** **your** **face**
  - And **perfect** (complete) what is **lacking** in **your** **faith**



<sup>6</sup> being **confident** of this very thing, that **He** who has **begun** a **good** **work** in **you** will **complete** **it** **until** the **day** of **Jesus** **Christ**;

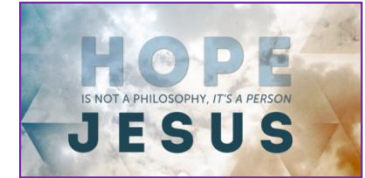
--- Philippians 1:6 ... NKJV

WHO WILL COMPLETE THE GOOD WORK  
IN YOU?

# Lesson 05 - Outline

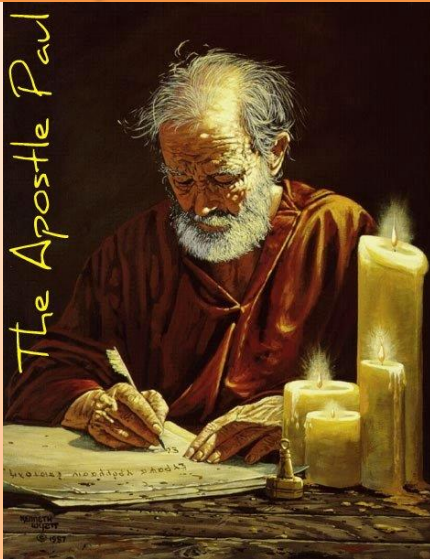
## ■ Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

### • Lesson 05: Purifying Hope: *Part I*



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- » Lesson Preview ..... *Introduction*
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- » Paul's Comfort ..... *1 Thessalonians 3:6-10*
- ➔ » Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming Prayer ..... *1 Thessalonians 3:11-13*





# Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming Prayer - 1 Thessalonians 3:11 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>11</sup> Now may **our God** and **Father Himself**, and **our Lord Jesus Christ**, **direct our way** to **you**. <sup>12</sup> And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we *do* to you, <sup>13</sup> so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

-- 1 Thessalonians 3:11-13 ... NKJV

## • 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming Prayer - Directed Path

- Notice **Paul** always **presents God the Father** and **our Lord Jesus Christ** as **co-equal members of the trinity** (*along with the Holy Spirit*).
- Any **one who denies** this is not a **Christian** (an essential doctrine of the Christian faith).

<sup>22</sup> **Who** is a **liar** but **he who denies** that **Jesus** is the **Christ**? **He** is **antichrist who denies** the **Father** and the **Son**. <sup>23</sup> **Whoever denies** the **Son** does not have the **Father** either; **he who acknowledges** the **Son** has the **Father** also. ---1 John 2:22-23 ... NKJV

- **Paul understands** it is **God** who **directs our paths**.

<sup>5</sup> **Trust** in the **LORD** with **all your heart**, And **lean not** on **your own understanding**; <sup>6</sup> In all **your ways acknowledge Him**, And **He shall direct your paths**. --- Proverbs 3:5-6 ... NKJV

- **Paul prays** that **God** will **make a way** to **Thessalonica** for **him** and **his team**.

# Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming Prayer - 1 Thessalonians 3:12 - OBSERVATIONS

**11** Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you. **12** And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you, **13** so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

-- 1 Thessalonians 3:11-13 ... NKJV

## • 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming Prayer - Increase and Abound in Love

- Paul prays that the Lord (Holy Spirit) will make the Thessalonian believers ...

Fill to overflowing

- Increase in (AGAPE) LOVE to one another and to all - growth
- Abound in (AGAPE) LOVE to one another and to all - overflow

- Paul adds, "just as we do to you"

PAUL NEVER ASKED OTHERS TO DO WHAT HE WAS NOT WILLING TO DO!



We love, because He loved!

# Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming Prayer - 1 Thessalonians 3:13 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup> And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we *do* to you, <sup>13</sup> so that **He** may **establish** **your** **hearts** **blameless** in **holiness** **before** **our** **God** and **Father** at the **coming** of **our** **Lord** **Jesus** **Christ** **with** **all** **His** **saints**.

-- 1 Thessalonians 3:11-13 ... NKJV

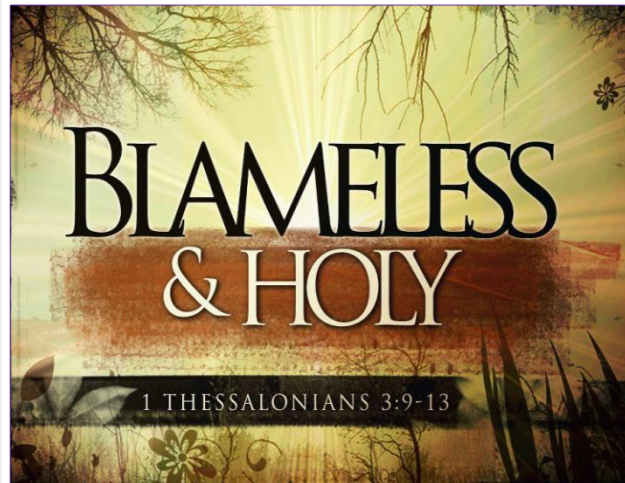
## • 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming Prayer - Established Hearts

- **Paul** **prays** **He** (**Holy** **Spirit**) will
- **Establish** the **believers** **hearts**



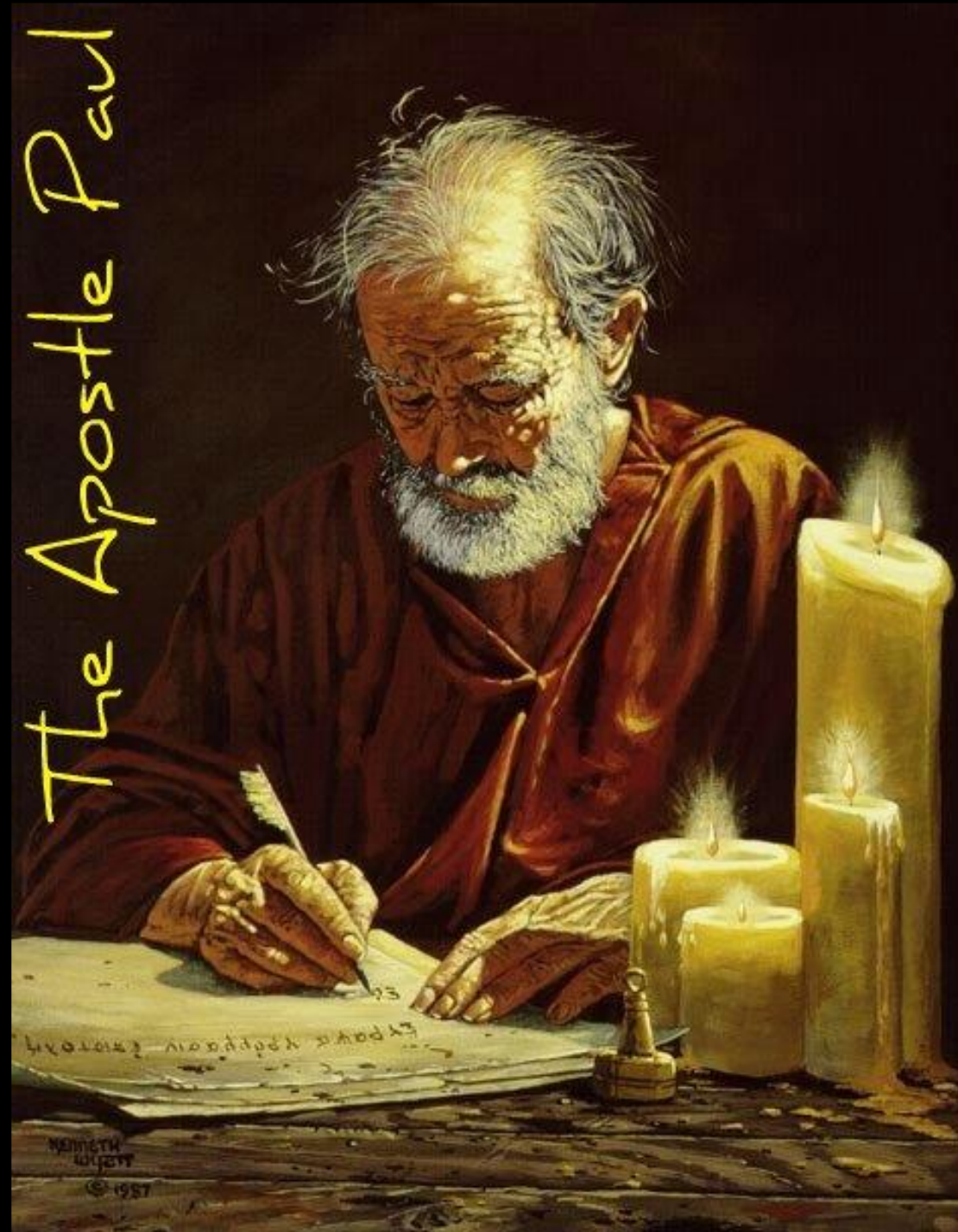
TRINITY ALERT

- **Blameless** in **holiness** - condition... *How?*
- **Before** **our** **God** and **Father** - location... *Where?*
- **At the coming** of **our** **Lord** **Jesus** **Christ** - time... *When?*
- **With** **all** **His** (**Jesus'**) **saints** - together with... *Who?*



Reference to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Christ





The Apostle Paul

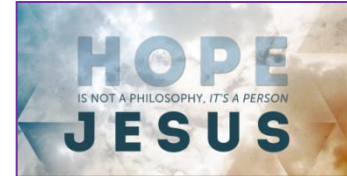
# Thessalonians

*"There Is Hope!"*

## *End of Lesson*



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# Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

Lesson **6**:  
Purifying Hope: *Part II*  
[1 Thessalonians 4:1-12]

***Next Lesson***

# Next Lesson

## ■ Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

- Lesson 01: Introduction ..... [THESSALONIANS]
- Lesson 02: Inspiring Hope ..... [1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-10]
- Lesson 03: Working Hope: *Part I* ..... [1 THESSALONIANS 2:1-12]
- Lesson 04: Working Hope: *Part II* ..... [1 THESSALONIANS 2:13-20]
- Lesson 05: Purifying Hope: *Part I* ..... [1 THESSALONIANS 3:1-13]
- Lesson 06: Purifying Hope: *Part II* ..... [1 THESSALONIANS 4:1-12]
- Lesson 07: Comforting Hope ..... [1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18]
- Lesson 08: Future Hope: *Part I* ..... [1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-11]
- Lesson 09: Future Hope: *Part II* ..... [1 THESSALONIANS 5:12-28]
- Lesson 10: Blessed Hope: *Part I* ..... [2 THESSALONIANS 1:1-12]
- Lesson 11: Blessed Hope: *Part II* ..... [2 THESSALONIANS 2:1-12]
- Lesson 12: Blessed Hope: *Part III* ..... [2 THESSALONIANS 2:13-17]
- Lesson 13: Living Hope ..... [2 THESSALONIANS 3:1-18]



