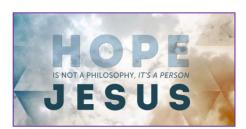


# **Thessalonians**



There Is Hope!

Lesson 06

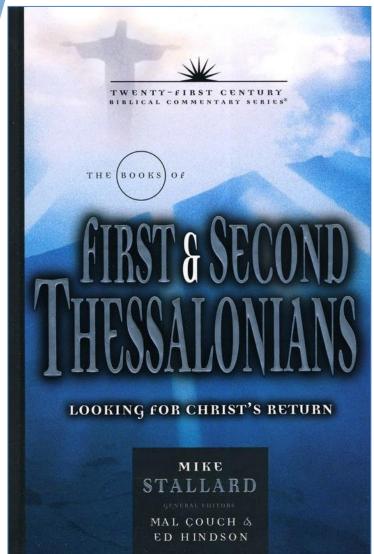
Purifying Hope: Part II

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

Philip Giorgio



# **Textbook**

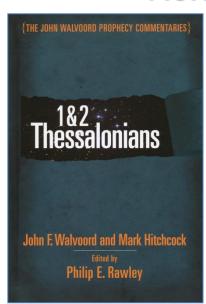


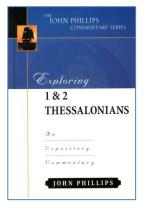


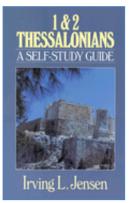


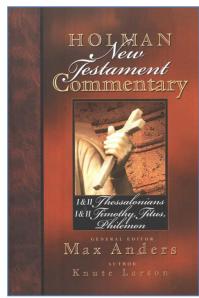
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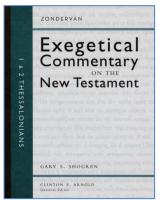


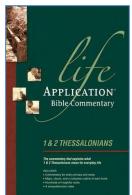


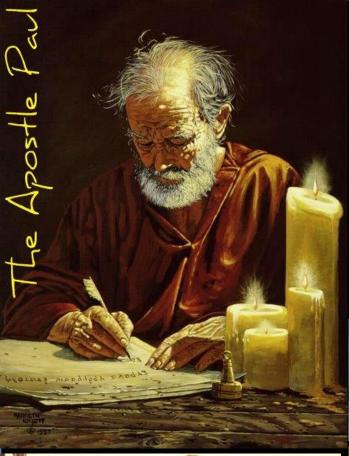








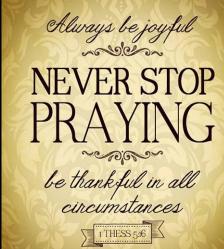




















# **Course Outline**

### 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]





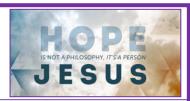
# **Lesson Outline**

#### Lesson 06 - Outline

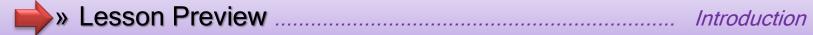


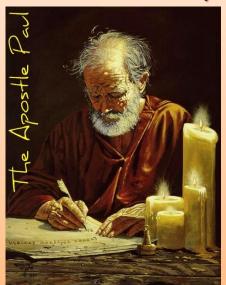
# • Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

Lesson 06: Purifying Hope: Part II



#### **✓** STRUCTURE







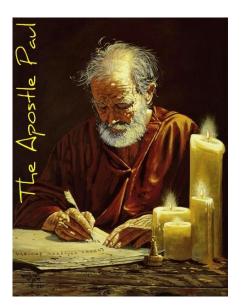


#### Lesson Preview - Introduction



Preview ... Purifying Hope: Part II

Paul urges the Thessalonian believers to continue on in holy living and moral purity, including abstinence from sexual immorality. Paul wants them to abound even more in unpretentious agape love toward one another and to live a life with a pure testimony before the unbelieving world.





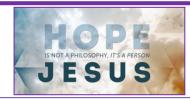


#### Lesson 06 - Outline



# Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

Lesson 06: Purifying Hope: Part II



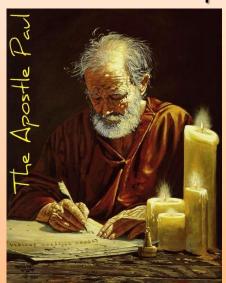
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» Lesson Preview .....

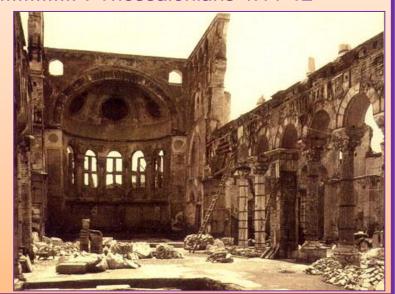
Introduction

» Plea For Purity ...... 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

» Walk Properly ...... 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12









4 Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God; <sup>2</sup> for you know what commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

--- 1 Thessalonians 4:1-2 ... NKJV

<sup>30</sup> But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God— and righteousness and sanctification and redemption— <sup>31</sup> that, as it is written, "He who glories, let him glory in the LORD."

-- 1 Corinthians 1:30-31 ... NKJV

## • Plea For Purity - How You Ought to Walk

- FINALLY: loipon [loi-po'n] ... Marks a transition
  - For Paul this does not mean he is finished
  - He is entering the final section of the letter
    - Marks the beginning of the practical instructional portion of the epistle
- Paul urges and exhorts the Thessalonians to abound more and more
  - Paul was thankful for the growth he saw in them, yet he still looked for the believers to abound more and more in their walk to please God.
  - Paul was referring to their deepening maturity in the Lord





4 Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God; <sup>2</sup> for you know what commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

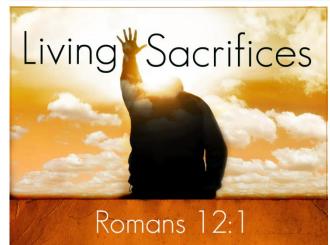
--- 1 Thessalonians 4:1-2 ... NKJV

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

- Plea For Purity How You Ought to Walk
  - Paul reminds the believers in Thessalonica that they had received instructions on how they ought to walk
    - Their REASONABLE SERVICE

**12** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

<sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. --- Romans 12:1-2 ... NKJV





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<sup>3</sup> For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, <sup>5</sup> not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God;

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

- Plea For Purity Abstain from Sexual Immorality
  - God's will is your sanctification.
  - SANCTIFICATION: hagiasmos [hä-gē-äs-mo's] separated for service to God
    - SANCTIFICATION is the process
    - HOLINESS is the final state (event).
  - Abstain from sexual immorality
    - In Paul's day, in the Greek culture, sexual sins were winked at - sound familiar.
    - Paul pushed back; he refused to allow the standards of the church to be decided by the philosophies of contemporary society.

DO WE SEE THESE PRESSURES IN OUR CULTURE?

--THE CULT OF POLITICALLY CORRECT TOLERANCE--



1 Corinthians 6:13-20

<sup>3</sup> For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, <sup>5</sup> not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God;

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

#### SANCTIFICATION AND HONOR

SEPARATED FOR SERVICE TO GOD BRINGS HONOR TO GOD!

## • Plea For Purity - Sanctification and Honor

- Each should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor

  Temple of the Holy Spirit
  - SELF-CONTROL over your body
  - SELF-CONTROL is one of the aspects of the fruit of the Spirit

16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. <sup>24</sup> And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. <sup>26</sup> Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

--- Galatians 5:16-26 ... NKJV

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<sup>3</sup> For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, <sup>5</sup> not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God;

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

SUPPRESSION OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD LEADS TO IDOLATRY; IDOLATRY LEADS TO IMMORALITY; IMMORALITY LEADS TO DEATH.

## • Plea For Purity - Sanctification and Honor

- ADULTERY: moicheia [moi-khā'-ä] sex between a married person and a person who is not their spouse
  - In Corinth adultery was a common subject of poetry and the arts. Note epistle was written from Corinth.
  - The "new" morality is the "old" immorality modernized with the latest technologies.
- FORNICATION: porneia [por-nā'-ä] all forms of illicit sexual intercourse; includes adultery, homosexuality, bestiality, pornography
- PASSION: *epithymia* [e-pē-thü-mē'-ä] Desire for what is forbidden; cravings; lust
  - Paul always uses the term "passion" in a negative sense

<sup>18</sup> For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ..... <sup>26</sup> For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. <sup>27</sup> Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

--- Romans 1:18, 26-27 ... NKJV

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<sup>6</sup> that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. <sup>7</sup> For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. 8 Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.

--- 1 Thessalonians 4:6-8 ... NKJV

- Plea For Purity Take Advantage of and Defraud
  - The sexually immoral take advantage of and defraud others in ways that are unimaginable.
    - The adulterer defrauds their spouse and children.
    - The fornicator defrauds their future spouse and illicit partner.
  - Leviticus 18 a chapter where God instructed Israel on the matter of sexual morality
    - The command is given to not uncover the nakedness of another who is not your spouse.
    - The underlying truth is that the nakedness of an individual belongs to their spouse and no one else; it is a violation of God's law to give that nakedness to anyone else, or for anyone else to take it.
    - Sin of Ham Curse of Noah ... Genesis 9:20-29

<sup>25</sup> Then he said:

"Cursed be Canaan; A servant of servants
He shall be to his brethren." ... Genesis 9:25 ... NKJV



<sup>6</sup> that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. <sup>7</sup> For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. 8 Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.

--- 1 Thessalonians 4:6-8 ... NKJV

- Plea For Purity Four Reasons for Purity
  - 1. BECAUSE THE LORD IS THE AVENGER OF ALL SUCH
    - FIRST of FOUR REASONS for PURITY: God's Punishment



- God will punish sexual immorality.
- No one gets away with this sin even if it is undiscovered.
- The Lord is the avenger of all impurity

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

<sup>9</sup> Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, <sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup> And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God. -- 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 ... NKJV

GOD IS SERIOUS ABOUT SIN.

HE WARNS US NOT TO BE DECEIVED.



<sup>6</sup> that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. <sup>7</sup> For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. 8 Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.

--- 1 Thessalonians 4:6-8 ... NKJV

- Plea For Purity Four Reasons for Purity
  - 2. FOR GOD DID NOT CALL US TO UNCLEANNESS



- SECOND of FOUR REASONS for PURITY: OUR CALL TO HOLINESS
- Our call is to HOLINESS NOT to UNCLEANNESS.
- Fornication is inconsistent with who we are in Jesus Christ.
- We should glorify God in our body and in our spirit, both of which belong to God. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20

<sup>18</sup> Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. <sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? <sup>20</sup> For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. -- 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 ... NKJV

GOD CALLS US TO BE HOLY!

- SET APART FOR SERVICE TO HIM-



<sup>6</sup> that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. <sup>7</sup> For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. 8 Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.

--- 1 Thessalonians 4:6-8 ... NKJV

## • Plea For Purity - Four Reasons for Purity

- 3. THEREFORE HE WHO REJECTS THIS DOES NOT REJECT MAN, BUT GOD
  - THIRD of FOUR REASONS for PURITY: OUR REJECTION OF GOD
  - To reject God's call to sexual purity is not rejecting man, but God Himself.
  - Despite the paltry ways many rationalize sexual immorality, we still reject God when we sin in this way.
  - Paul's strong command here did not seem to come because the Thessalonians were deep in sin.
  - No specific sin is mentioned; it seems that this was meant to prevent sin rather than to rebuke sin, in light of the prevailing low standards in their society and because of the seductive strength of sexual immorality.

RATIONALIZING IMMORALITY IS A REJECTION OF GOD! SOCIETAL MORES ARE NO EXCUSE FOR REJECTING GOD!



<sup>6</sup> that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. <sup>7</sup> For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. 8 Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.

--- 1 Thessalonians 4:6-8 ... NKJV

### • Plea For Purity - Four Reasons for Purity

4. Who has also given us His Holy Spirit



- FOURTH of FOUR REASONS for PURITY: GIFT OF HOLY SPIRIT
- We have been given the Holy Spirit
- Who empowers the willing, trusting believer to overcome all sin, including sexual sins.
- God has given us the means for victory through the Holy Spirit.

  You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.
- We are accountable for how yielded we are to the power of the Holy Spirit.

# HOW YIELDED ARE YOU TO THE WORKING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN YOUR LIFE?

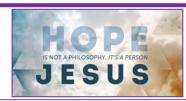
12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. 13 And do not present your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace. --- Romans 6:12-14 ... NKJV

#### Lesson 06 - Outline



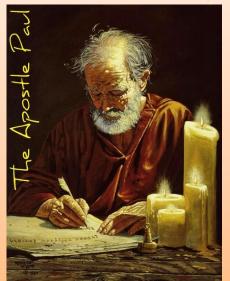
# • Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

Lesson 06: Purifying Hope: Part II



#### **✓** STRUCTURE

» Lesson Preview ...... Introduction







#### Brotherly Love - 1 Thessalonians 4:9 - OBSERVATIONS



<sup>9</sup> But concerning brotherly love you have no need that I should write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; 10 and indeed you do so toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more;

--- 1 Thessalonians 4:9-10 ... NKJV

FOR THE BELIEVER:

LOVE IS NOT A SUGGESTION. LOVE IS A COMMAND.

- Brotherly Love Taught by God
  - Paul introduces the topic of BROTHERLY LOVE
    - He states that there is really no need to write to the Thessalonian believers about it
    - They are taught by God to love one another.
    - Jesus had commanded His disciples to love one another
    - His disciples, including Paul, taught the believers to love one another -- It is the distinctive of every "true" believer -love one for another ... John 13:35; 1 John 3:11; 1 John 4:12-13

<sup>35</sup> By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." --- John 13:35 ... NKJV

11 For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, --- 1 John 3:11 ... NKJV

<sup>12</sup> No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. <sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. --- 1 John 4:12-13 ... NKJV

#### Brotherly Love - 1 Thessalonians 4:10 - OBSERVATIONS



<sup>9</sup> But concerning brotherly love you have no need that I should write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; 10 and indeed you do so toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more;

--- 1 Thessalonians 4:9-10 ... NKJV

Let brotherly love continue. Hebrews 13:1

### • Brotherly Love - Continue to Grow

- Paul's ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
  - Paul testifies of the Thessalonians love toward all in Macedonia.
- Paul's ENCOURAGEMENT
  - Paul then urges the believers to increase in this love toward one another.

17 You therefore, beloved, since you know *this* beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; 18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him *be* the glory both now and forever. Amen.

--- 2 Peter 3:17-18 ... NKJV

SANCTIFICATION IS A GROWTH PROCESS.

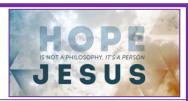
OUR GOAL SHOULD BE TO GROW IN THE GRACE AND KNOWLEDGE OF JESUS CHRIST.

#### Lesson 06 - Outline



# • Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

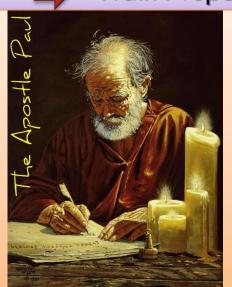
Lesson 06: Purifying Hope: Part II



#### **✓** STRUCTURE

» Walk Properly .

...... 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12







#### Walk Properly - 1 Thessalonians 4:11 - OBSERVATIONS



11 that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, 12 that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing.

-- 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 ... NKJV

WE NEED TO LIVE
QUIET LIVES SO WE
CAN LISTEN TO THE
HOLY SPIRIT TO DEEPEN OUR
RELATIONSHIP WITH
GOD!

- Walk Properly Toward Those Who Are Outside
  - Paul encourages the Thessalonians to heed his command to aspire, i.e., make it their ambition to...
    - 1. LEAD A QUIET LIFE
      - 2. MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS
      - 3. Work with your own hands

**ACTIONS** 

- LEAD A QUIET LIFE
  - QUIET: hēsychazō [hā-sü-khä'-zō] to be still; at rest
  - Opposite of the stereotypical American lifestyle
    - Pleasure, decadent, sinful
    - Narcissistic, self-absorbed, selfish
    - Addiction to entertainment and amusement

HEDONISTIC RELIGION Attributes

#### RELIGION OF THE HEDONISTIC WEST (MODERN AMERICA)

**PANTHEON:** Self, Money, Antichrist

PRIESTS: Celebrities, Scientists, Teachers

**PROPHETS:** Press, Television, Movies, Schools

PROSELYTIZE: Tabloids, Web Sites

PLACES OF WORSHIP:

TV, Internet, Social Media, Sports Arenas, Amusement Parks

DOCTRINE:

"If it feels good do it"

#### Walk Properly - 1 Thessalonians 4:11 - OBSERVATIONS



11 that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, 12 that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing.

-- 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 ... NKJV

"There is a great difference between the Christian duty of putting the interests of others first and the busybody's compulsive itch to put other people right." (F.F. Bruce)

- Walk Properly Toward Those Who Are Outside
  - Paul encourages the Thessalonians to heed his command to aspire, i.e., make it their ambition to...
    - LEAD A QUIET LIFE
    - 2. MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS
    - 3. Work with your own hands

**ACTIONS** 

- MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS
  - MIND: *prassō* [prä's-sō] to do; to commit; to keep
  - Focus on your own life your relationship with God
    - Don't meddle in the matters of others
    - Don't be a busy-body
    - Don't engage in gossip

<sup>20</sup> Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, who also had leaned on His breast at the supper, and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays You?" <sup>21</sup> Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, "But Lord, what *about* this man?" <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, what *is that* to you? You follow Me." -- John 21:20-22 ... NKJV

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#### Walk Properly - 1 Thessalonians 4:11 - OBSERVATIONS



to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, 12 that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and *that* you may lack nothing.

-- 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 ... NKJV



- Walk Properly Toward Those Who Are Outside
  - Paul encourages the Thessalonians to heed his command to aspire, i.e., make it their ambition to...
    - LEAD A QUIET LIFE
    - 2. MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS
    - 3. Work with your own hands

**ACTIONS** 

- Work with your own Hands
  - WORK: ergazomai [er-gä'-zo-mī] to labor; earn by working
  - We need to recognize the dignity and honor of work
  - Work was God's plan from the beginning
    - Adam was placed in the Garden to tend it (Genesis 2:15)
    - After the fall work became toilsome (Genesis 3:17-19)
  - Manual labor was despised by ancient Greek culture.
    - They thought that the better a man was, the less he should work.
    - In contrast, God gave us a carpenter King, fisherman apostles, and tent-making missionaries.

#### Walk Properly - 1 Thessalonians 4:12 - OBSERVATIONS



to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, 12 that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing.

-- 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 ... NKJV

night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and perfect what is lacking in your faith?

-- 1 Thessalonians 3:10 ... NKJV

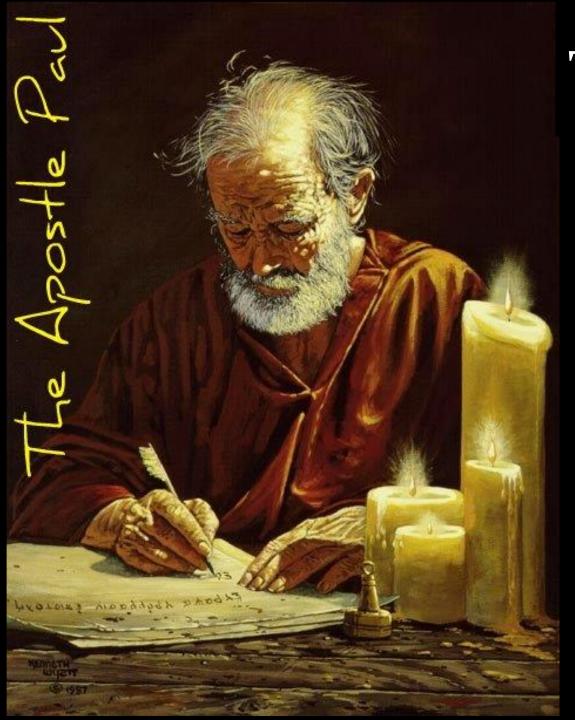
- Walk Properly Toward Those Who Are Outside
  - Paul presents TWO REASONS for the THREE ACTIONS in the previous verse ... that you may ...
    - 1. WALK PROPERLY TOWARD THOSE OUTSIDE



- WALK: *peripateō* [pe-rē-pä-te'-ō] to live; conduct
- PROPERLY: euschēmonōs [yü-skhā-mo'-nōs] decently; honestly
- Combining the love for one another with work, results in a proper walk.
- People who are not yet Christians (those who are outside) will see our example and be influenced to become followers of Jesus
- 2. LACK NOTHING



- LACK: chreia [khrā'-ä] lack; need; necessity
- Paul completes his thought from 1 Thessalonians 3:10.
  - IF they followed his teaching and example, they would lack nothing and come to the place of genuine Christian maturity.



# Thessalonians

"There Is Hope!"

End of

Lesson





Instructor: Philip Giorgio www.GiorgioMinistries.com







Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

Lesson 7: Comforting Hope

[1 Thessalonians 4:13-18]

**Next Lesson** 

## **Next Lesson**



# Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

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Lesson 02: Inspiring Hope [1 Thessalonians 1:1-10]
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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
Lesson 10: Blessed Hope: Part I [2 Thessalonians 1:1-12]
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Lesson 10: Blessed Hope: Part II

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