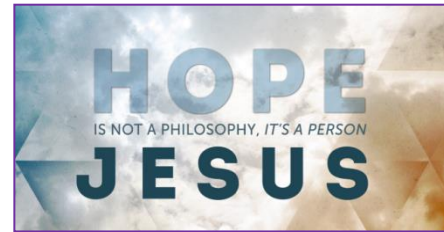




# Thessalonians



**There Is Hope!**

*Lesson 01*

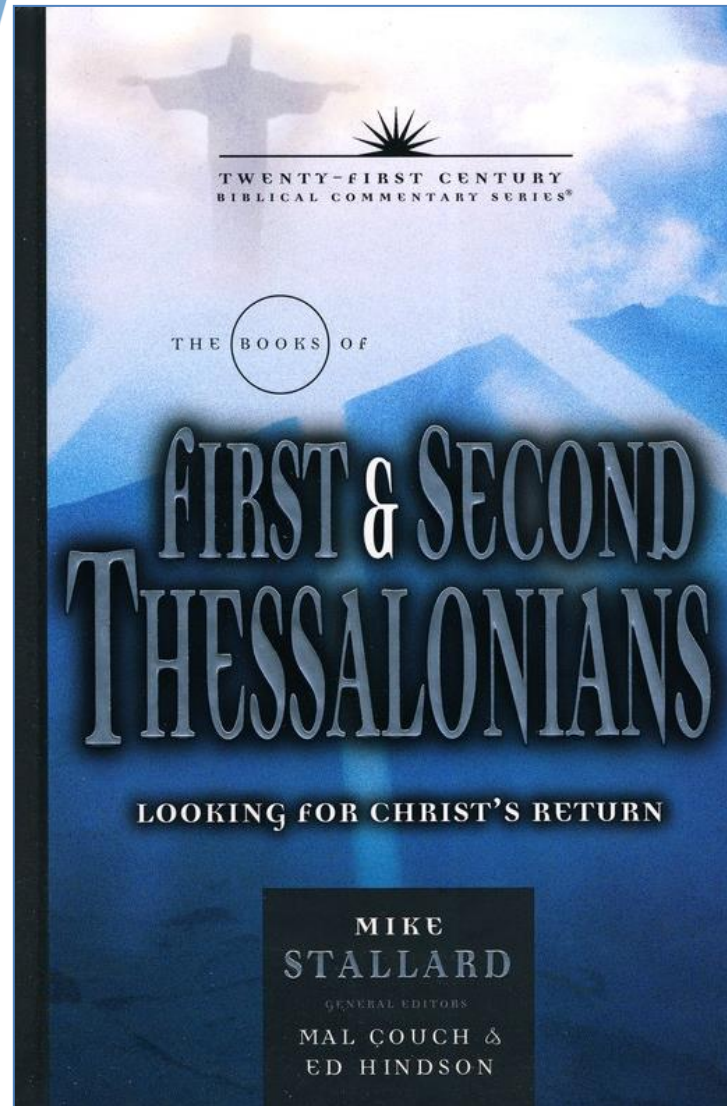
## Introduction

**Various**

Philip Giorgio

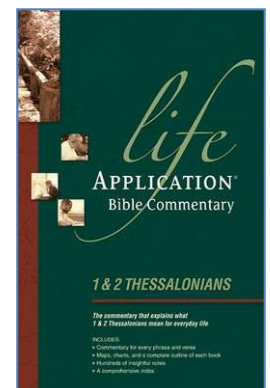
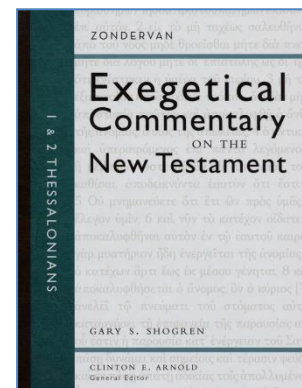
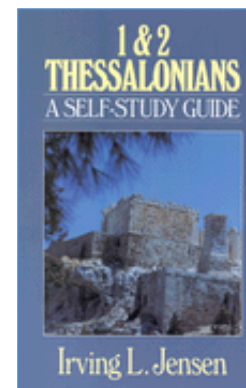
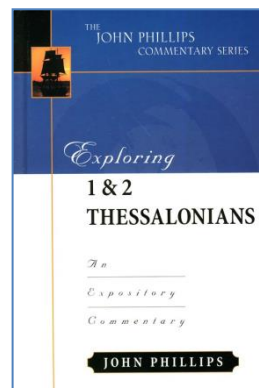
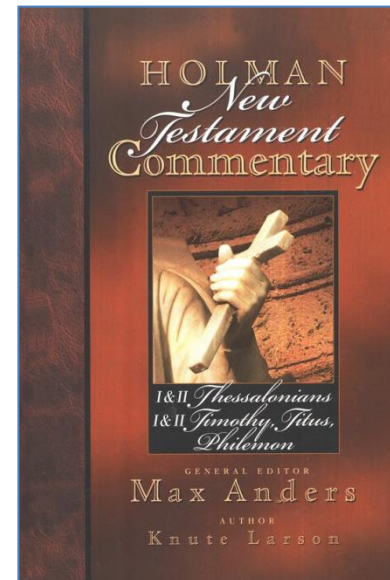
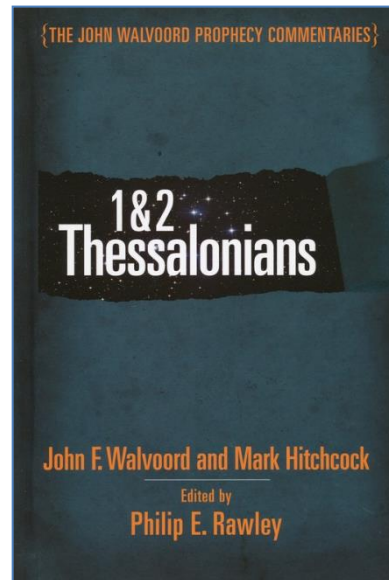


## Textbook



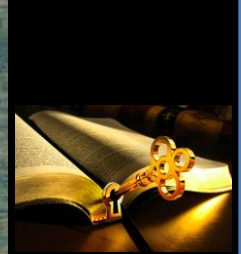
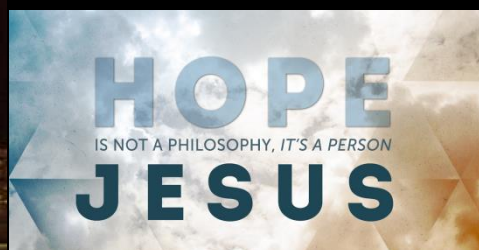
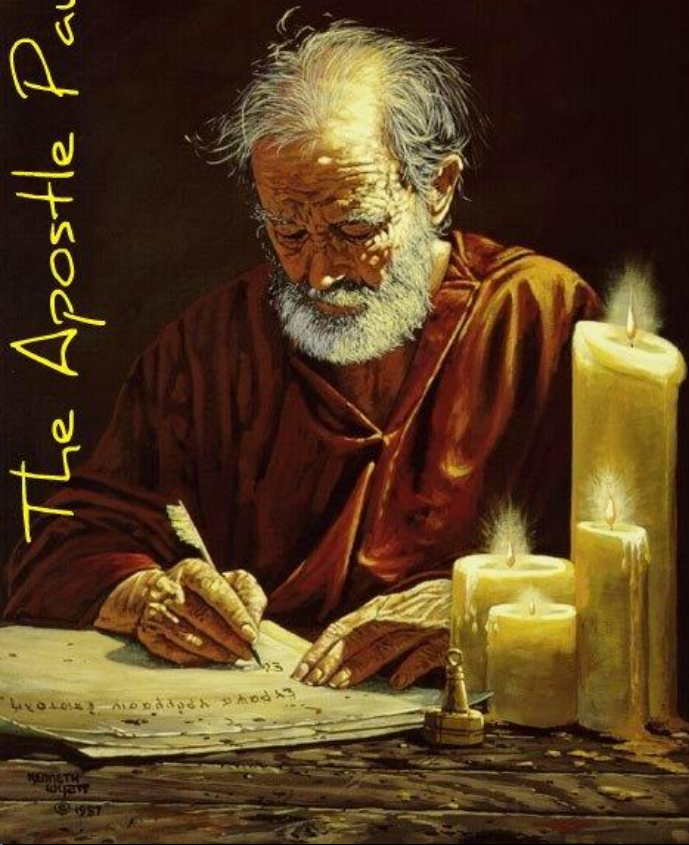


## References





# 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]

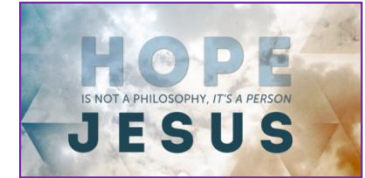


# Lesson Outline

# Lesson 01 - Outline

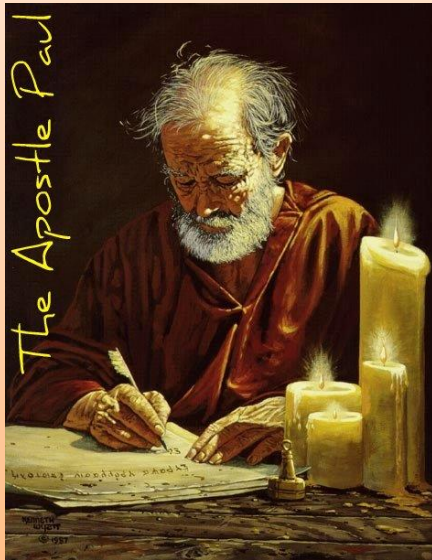
## ■ Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

### • Lesson 01: Introduction



### ✓ STRUCTURE

- ➔ » Lesson Preview ..... *Introduction*
- » Background: 1 Thessalonians ..... *Various*
- » Background: 2 Thessalonians ..... *Various*

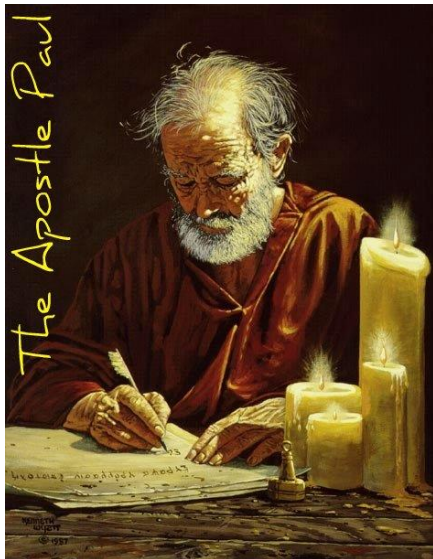




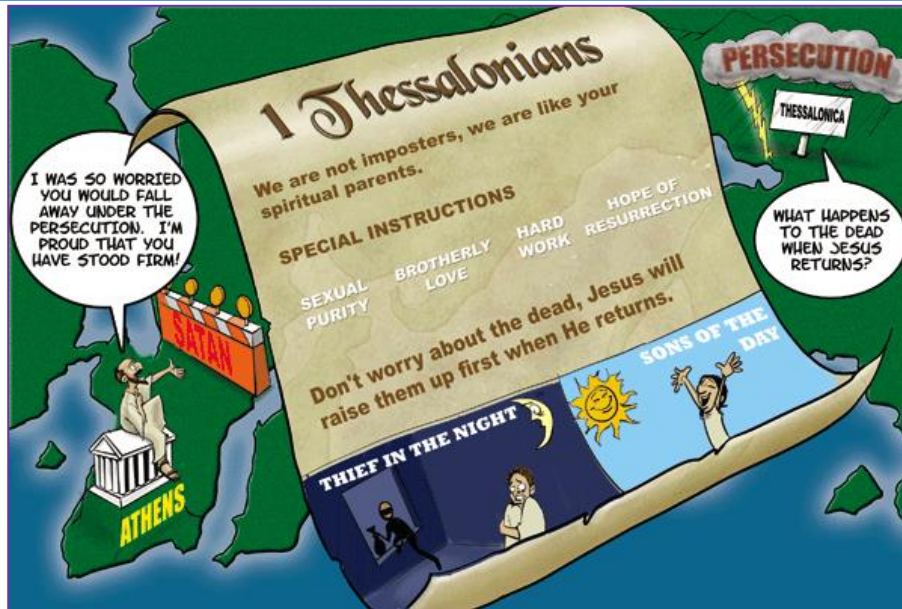
# Lesson Preview - INTRODUCTION

- Preview ... *Introduction to the Thessalonian Epistles*

In the 1<sup>st</sup> century **Thessalonica** was the capital of **Macedonia** and a thriving commercial center with a **population** of about 200,000. The church of **Thessalonica** was founded by **Paul** and **Silas** on **Paul's** 2<sup>nd</sup> **missionary journey** in the spring of AD 50. While **Paul** communicated much truth to the group of young **believers** at **Thessalonica** regarding **eschatology**, these epistles also cover many additional **doctrinal** and **practical** problems.

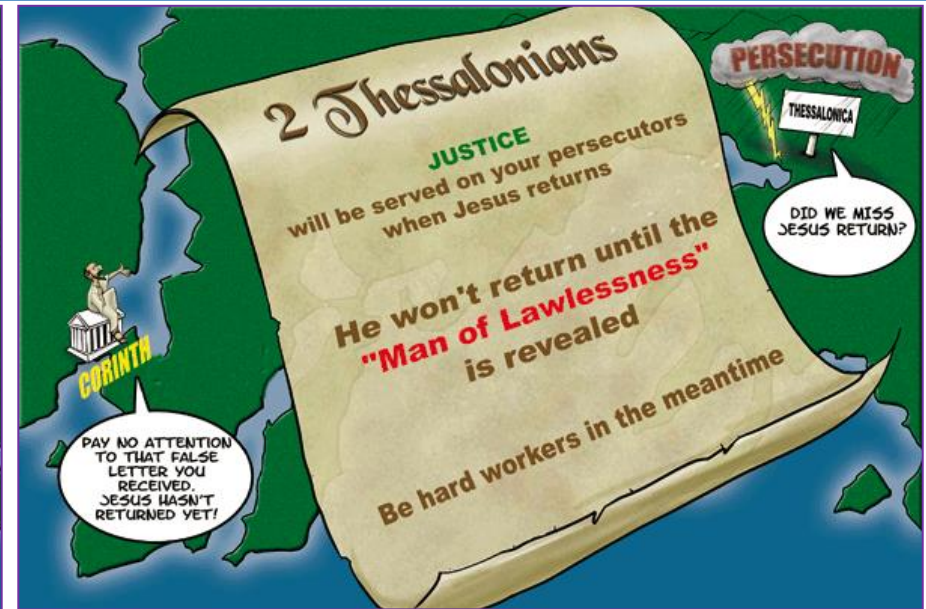


# Lesson Preview - INTRODUCTION



1 Thessalonians was written, by Paul, to encourage the believers in their suffering, and to draw their attention to the comfort that can be found in the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ.

RELEVANT TO OUR TIME AND CULTURE!



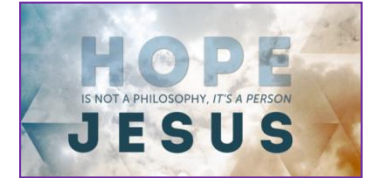
With 2 Thessalonians Paul continues to remind them that Christ's return will vindicate their place as rightful children of the living God. He corrects the false teachings of some who said that the seven year Tribulation had already begun and that the Lord's return was so imminent that people should quit their jobs.



# Lesson 01 - Outline

## ■ Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

- Lesson 01: Introduction

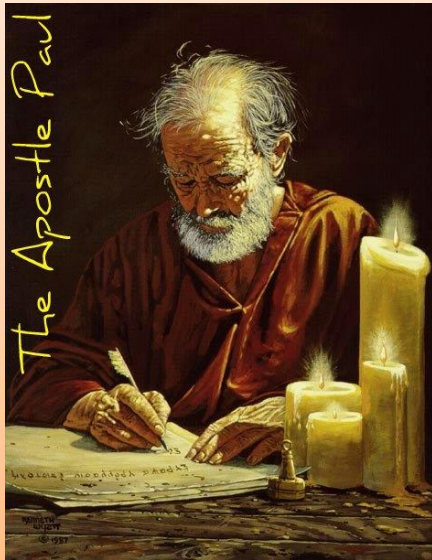


### ✓ STRUCTURE

» Lesson Preview ..... *Introduction*

➔ » Background: 1 Thessalonians ..... *Various*

» Background: 2 Thessalonians ..... *Various*

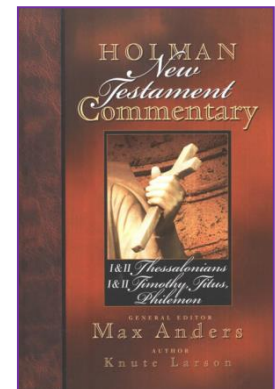
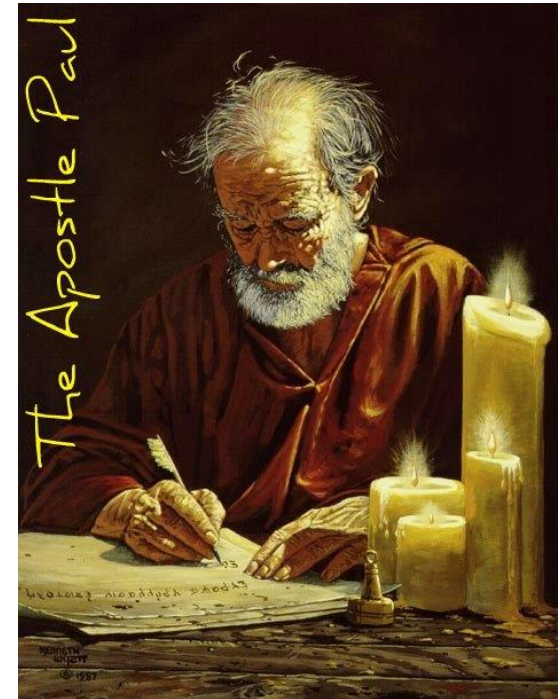




## Background: 1 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

### • Paul - Author Profile

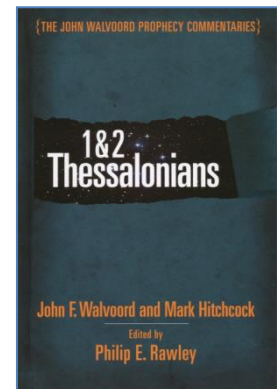
- Jewish-born in Tarsus, near the Lebanese border in modern Turkey.
- Roman citizen.
- Prominent Jewish religious leader, highly educated as a Pharisee.
- Persecuted Christians before his own dramatic conversion in AD 35 (Acts 9).
- Visited Thessalonica on his 2<sup>nd</sup> missionary journey about AD 50 (Acts 17). There he witnessed instant conversions followed by strong persecution.
- Known for his tireless pioneer work to the Gentiles.
- Imprisoned by Nero's regime in AD 67 in Rome (2 Timothy 4), where he was executed the next year.



## Background: 1 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

### • Thessalonica - City Profile

- **Thessalonica** was founded in 325 BC by **Cassander**, who was one of **Alexander the Great's** generals.
  - **Cassander** named the city after his wife **Thessaloniki**, who was **Alexander's** step-sister.
- **Thessalonica** is situated on the **Thermaic Gulf** and is an important port in **Macedonia**.
- The modern city of **Salonica** or **Thessaloniki** is **Greece's** second-largest city.
- Located in present day **Balkans**
- In the 1<sup>st</sup> century **Thessalonica** was the capital of **Macedonia** and a thriving commercial center with a population of about 200,000.
- The city was also strategically situated on the **Via Egnatia** or **Egnatian Way** - a major-stone highway that was an extension of the **Appian Way** in **Italy** and connected **Rome** to the **East**.



# Background: 1 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

## • Thessalonica - City Profile

- **Antony** and **Octavius** (*the future Augustus*) were here after their victory at **Philippi**.
  - In gratitude for their cooperation in the struggle against **Cassius** and **Brutus**, **Thessalonica** was made a **free city** like **Athens**.
  - No Roman **soldiers** were stationed in it; government was in the hands of a people's assembly, from whom the **magistrates** were chosen.
  - Kingdom preaching would make **them** **fearful** of losing their **privileges** of **free status**.

**Marcus Antonius** (January 14, 83 BC – August 1, 30 BC), commonly known in English as **Mark** or **Marc Antony**, was a Roman politician and general who played a critical role in the transformation of the Roman Republic from an oligarchy into the autocratic Roman Empire.

Wikipedia

### Augustus



The statue known as the Augustus of Prima Porta, 1st century

### 1st Emperor of the Roman Empire

Reign	16 January 27 BC – 19 August 14 AD (40 years)
Successor	Tiberius

### Roman Republic

Official name (as on coins)

**Roma**

after c. 100 BC:

**Senatus populusque Romanus** (Latin)  
(**SPQR**)

("The Senate and People of Rome")

**509 BC–27 BC**

### Roman imperial dynasties

#### Julio-Claudian dynasty

#### Chronology

Augustus	27 BC – 14 AD
Tiberius	14–37 AD
Caligula	37–41 AD
Claudius	41–54 AD
Nero	54–68 AD

2

#### Family

Gens Julia

Gens Claudia

Julio-Claudian family tree

Category:Julio-Claudian dynasty

#### Succession

Preceded by	Followed by
Roman Republic	Year of the Four Emperors

### Roman imperial dynasties

#### Year of the Four Emperors

#### Chronology

Galba	68–69
Otho	69
Vitellius	69
Vespasian	69–79

3

#### Succession

Preceded by	Followed by
Julio-Claudian dynasty	Flavian dynasty

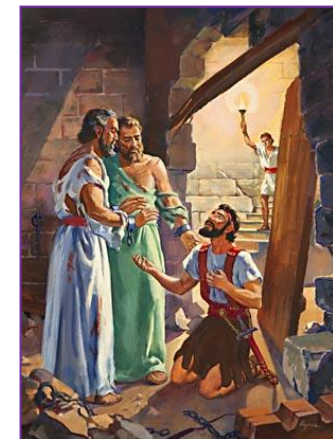
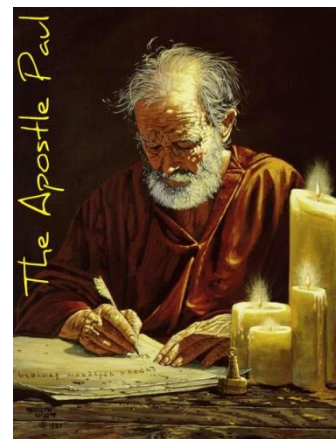
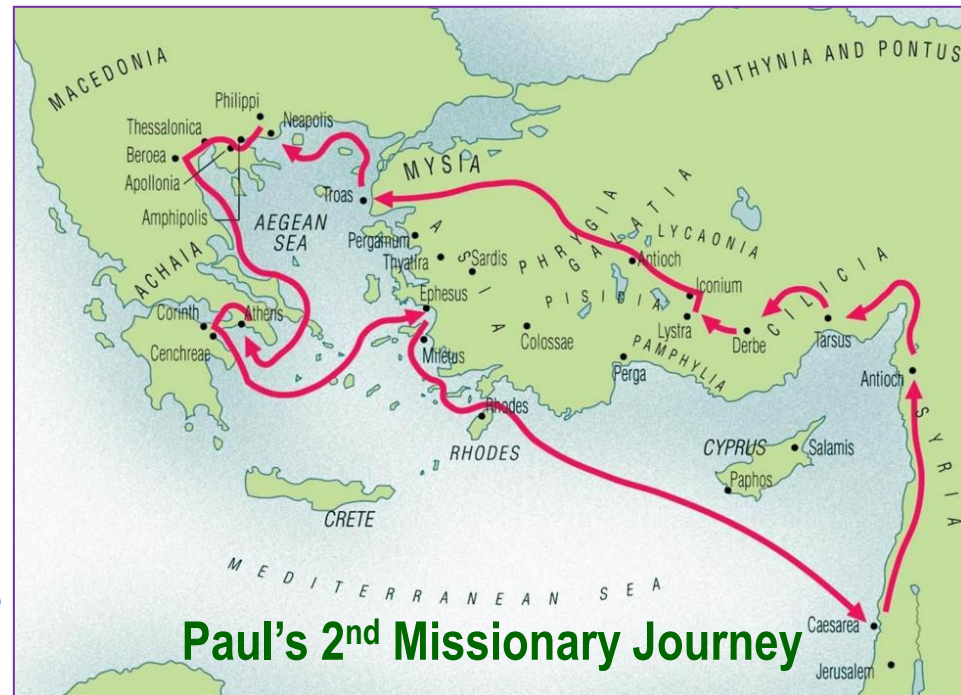
Wikipedia



# Background: 1 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

## • Occasion - 1 Thessalonians

- The church of **Thessalonica** was founded by **Paul** and **Silas** (**Silvanus**) on **Paul's** 2<sup>nd</sup> missionary journey in the spring of AD 50
  - Date varies - Early AD 50s (within 20 years of **Christ's** resurrection)
- After **their** imprisonment and release in **Philippi**, **Paul** and **Silas** traveled along the **Egnatian Way** about 100 miles to the next major city, **Thessalonica**.
- **Luke** and **Timothy** were left behind in **Philippi** to establish the infant church there.
- **Timothy** later rejoined **Paul** and **Silas** in **Berea** (Acts 17:10-14)



# Background: 1 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

## • Occasion - 1 Thessalonians

- When the apostle **Paul**, accompanied by **Silas**, entered **Thessalonica**, their ministry was probably the first gospel witness ever given there (Acts 17:1-9)
- **Paul** reasoned with the **people** for **3 Sabbaths**
- **Paul** emphasized **3 points...**

PAST

1. The **Messiah** of the **Old Testament** had to suffer and rise again from the dead (Acts 17:3)

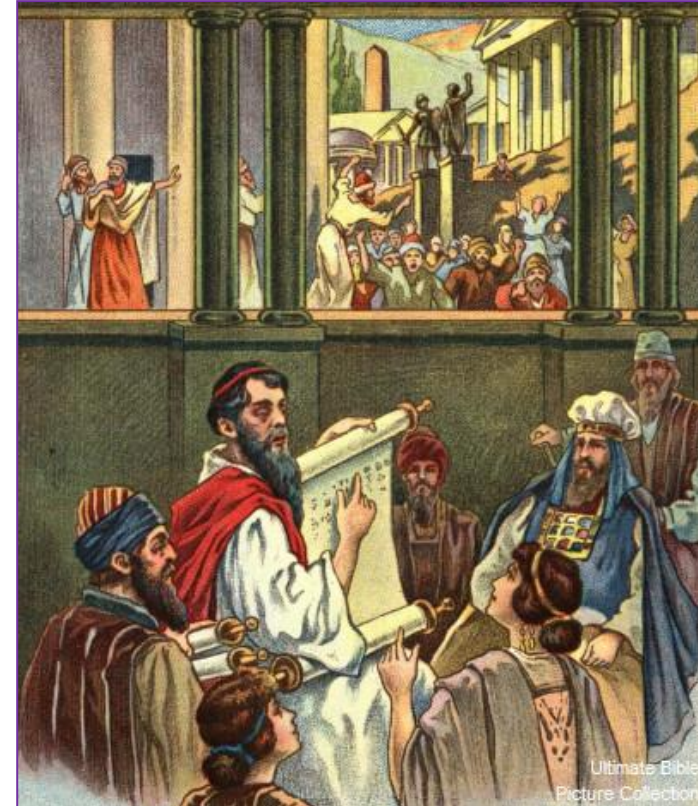
PRESENT

2. **Jesus** is the promised **Messiah** (Acts 17:3)

FUTURE

3. **Jesus** is the **King** who will return to earth to reign (Acts 17:7)

- In a few short weeks, a small group of **Thessalonians** came to know **Jesus Christ** as their **Savior**.

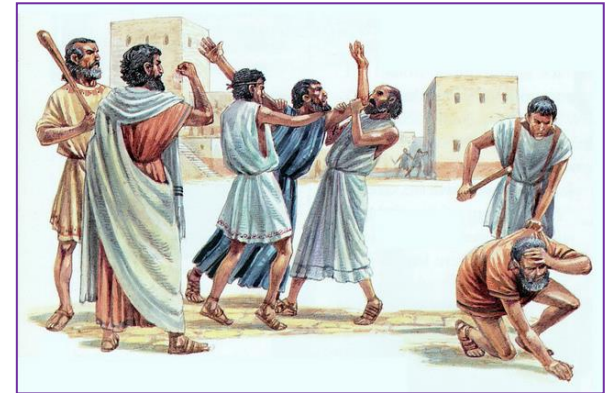


Ultimate Bible  
Picture Collection

# Background: 1 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

## • Occasion - 1 Thessalonians

- Because of **Paul's** success, the **Jews** were moved to jealousy and gathered a group of **thugs** from the marketplace to set the city in an uproar.
- When **they** discovered that **Paul** and **Silas** were at the home of **Jason**, they dragged **Jason** and some of the other **believers** before the ruling body (*politarchs*) of the city.
- The **rulers** made **Jason** and the **others** post a bond and release **them**. The bond may have included the assurance that **Paul** and **Silas** would leave town and not return.
- **Paul** and **Silas** left the city that night, realizing **their** presence was causing added affliction for the **believers**.
- **Their** next stop was **fifty** miles south on the **Egnatian Way** in **Berea** (Acts 17:10)
- Once again **they** encountered opposition when some antagonistic **Jews** from **Thessalonica** heard about **Paul's** preaching, came to **Berea**, and incited the **people** to run **Paul** out of their city.

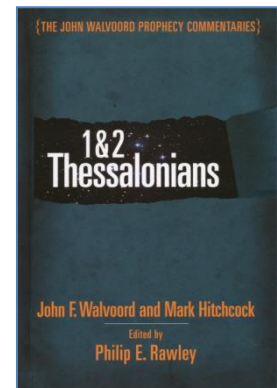
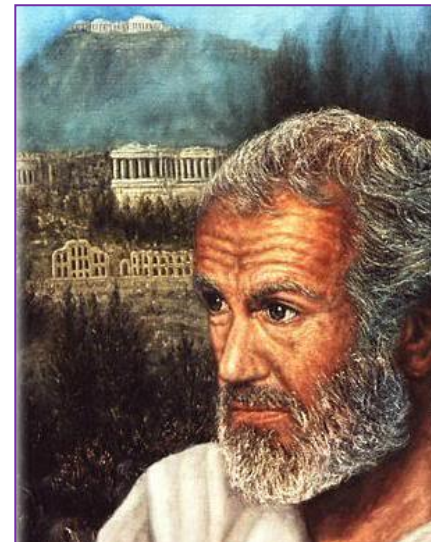




# Background: 1 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

## • Occasion - 1 Thessalonians

- After leaving **Berea**, **Paul** traveled alone to **Athens** (Acts 17:16-34), and then on to **Corinth**.
- **He** was deeply concerned about the plight of the new **believers** in **Thessalonica**, so **he** sent **Timothy** there to check on **their** welfare.
- Some months later **Timothy** and **Silas** rejoined **Paul** in **Corinth**, bringing **him** news of conditions in the **Thessalonian** church (Acts 18:5; 1 Thessalonians 3:1-6).
- From this series of events **we** can construct the background of the epistle - NEXT SLIDE



# Background: 1 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

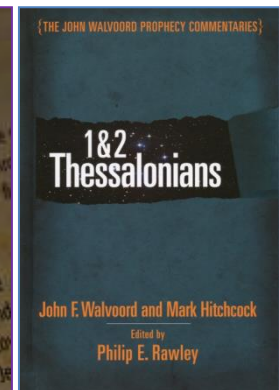
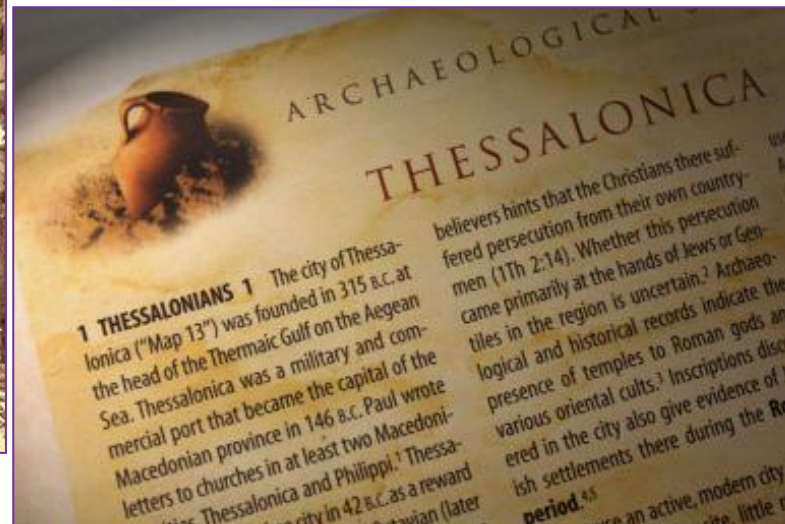
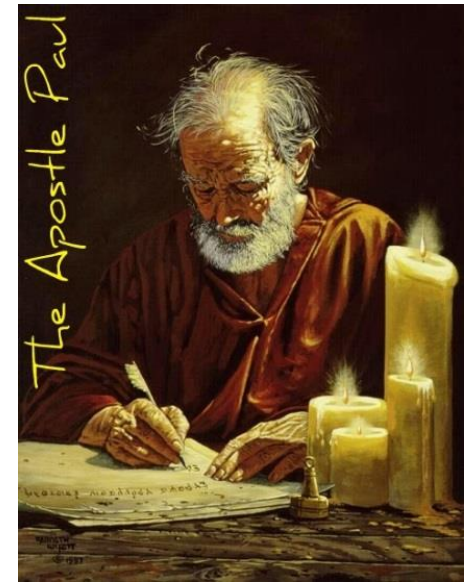
## CHRONOLOGY

EVENT	DESCRIPTION	REFERENCE
01	Paul, Silas, Timothy and Luke came to Philippi.	--
02	Paul and Silas went on to Thessalonica, leaving Timothy and Luke in Philippi	Acts 17:4,10
03	Timothy left Philippi to rejoin Paul and Silas in Berea	Acts 17:14
04	Paul departs from Berea, leaving Silas and Timothy there with instruction to join him in Athens	Acts 17:14-15
05	Silas and Timothy rejoin Paul at Athens	Acts 17:16
06	Timothy was sent to Thessalonica from Athens. Since Timothy was not with Paul and Silas when they were forced out of town, he could visit the city without forfeiting the bond that was posted by Jason and the others.	1 Thessalonians 3:2 Acts 17:9
07	After Timothy left, then Silas was also sent to Thessalonica.	Acts 18:5
08	Paul traveled from Athens to Corinth.	Acts 18:1
09	Timothy and Silas came to Paul at Corinth from Macedonia at the same time.	Acts 18:5; 1 Thessalonians 3:6
10	After hearing of the continued faithfulness of the Thessalonian converts to Christ in the midst of persecution, Paul sent them his first epistle to the Thessalonians from Corinth (~AD 50). He sent the letter in his name and those of Silas and Timothy.	1 Thessalonians 1:1

# Background: 1 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

- **Purpose** - Purpose of The 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle to Thessalonians
  - Why was this book written to the original audience?
  - **Paul** wrote this letter with three key **purposes**...

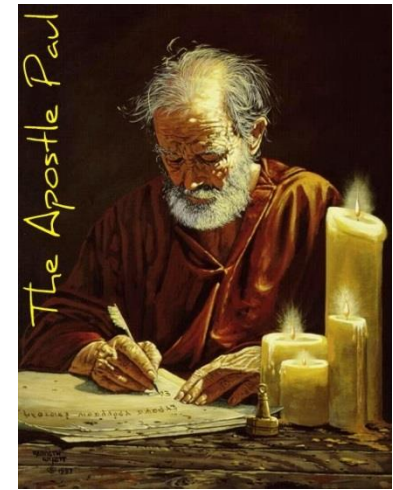
1. Express **his** thanks to **God** for **them** (1:2; 2:13; 3:9)
2. Explain why **he** had not yet visited **them** again (2:17-18)
3. **Correct doctrinal** (3:10; 4:13; 5:1-11) and **practical** (4:1-12; 5:12-18) **problems**.





## Background: 1 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

- **Theme** - What is the major emphasis of the First Epistle?
  - Although **Paul** was in **Thessalonica** only a short time, yet **he** touched on many of the great **doctrines** of the church.
  - Among them was the **second coming of Christ**. This theme was not above the heads of the new **converts**, according to the great **apostle**.
  - The particular phase in the **second coming of Christ** which **he** emphasized was **Christ's coming** for **believers** - the **Rapture**.
  - The **second coming of Christ** in relationship to **believers** is a **comfort** (1 Thessalonians 4:18).
  - The **rapture** is also referred to as the **Blessed Hope!** (Titus 2:11-13).



<sup>11</sup> For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, <sup>12</sup> teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, <sup>13</sup> looking for the **blessed hope** and **glorious appearing** of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, -- Titus 2:11-13 ... NKJV

## Background: 1 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

- **Theme** - What is the major emphasis of the First Epistle?

THE FOCUS ON CHRIST'S COMING		
CHAPTER	VERSE	REFERENCE
1	1:10	and to <b>wait</b> for His Son from <b>heaven</b> , whom <b>He</b> raised from the dead, even <b>Jesus</b> who delivers <b>us</b> from the wrath to <b>come</b> .
2	2:19	For what <i>is</i> <b>our</b> hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? <i>Is it</i> not even <b>you</b> in the presence of our <b>Lord Jesus Christ</b> at <b>His coming</b> ( <i>parousia</i> )?
3	3:13	... so that <b>He</b> may establish <b>your</b> hearts blameless in holiness before our <b>God</b> and <b>Father</b> at the <b>coming</b> of <b>our Lord Jesus Christ</b> with all <b>His saints</b> .
4	4:15	For this <b>we</b> say to <b>you</b> by the word of the <b>Lord</b> , that <b>we</b> who are alive <i>and</i> remain until the <b>coming</b> of the <b>Lord</b> will by no means precede <b>those</b> who are asleep.
5	5:23	Now may the <b>God</b> of peace <b>Himself</b> sanctify <b>you</b> completely; and may <b>your</b> whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the <b>coming</b> of <b>our Lord Jesus Christ</b> .

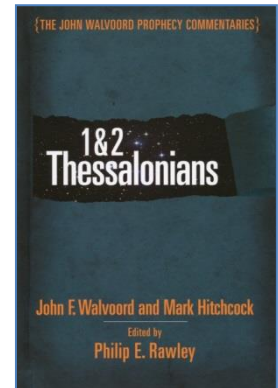
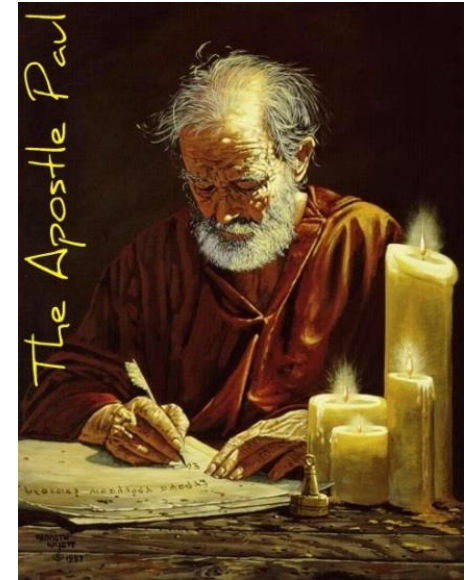
- ❖ In light of **Christ's** coming , the **saints** are to be alert and sober (5:6).
- ❖ **Paul** warns **them** to abstain from every form of evil (5:22).
- ❖ **Paul's** final wish was for **God** to sanctify **them** entirely and make **them** without blame at the **coming** of **Jesus** (5:23).

# Background: 1 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

- **Outline** - 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle to the Thessalonians

#	TITLE	REFERENCE
1	The Coming of the Lord and <b>Salvation</b>	1:1-10
2	The Coming of the Lord and <b>Service</b>	2:1-20
3	The Coming of the Lord and <b>Sanctification</b>	3:1-13
4	The Coming of the Lord and <b>Surety</b>	4:1-18
5	The Coming of the Lord and <b>Safety</b>	5:1-28

EVERY CHAPTER REFERS TO THE SECOND COMING!

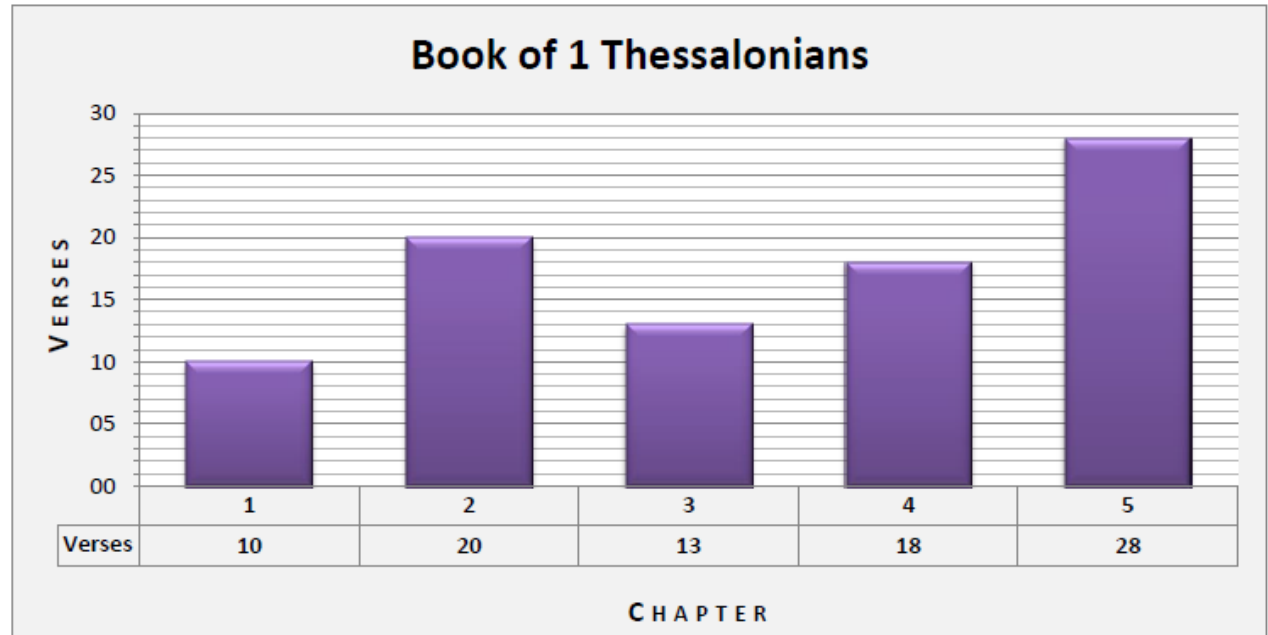




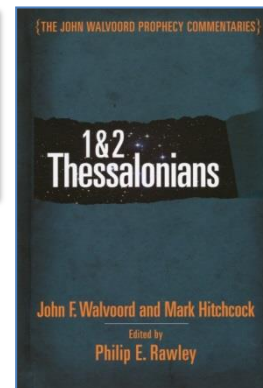
# Background: 1 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

- Metrics** - 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle to Thessalonians

Book of 1 Thessalonians	
Total Chapters	22
Total Verses	89
Chapter	Verses
01	10
02	20
03	13
04	18
05	28
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>17.8</b>
<b>MEDIAN</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>MINIMUM</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>MAXIMUM</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>RANGE</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>RANGE SPREAD</b>	<b>1.8</b>
<b>STD DEV</b>	<b>6.9</b>



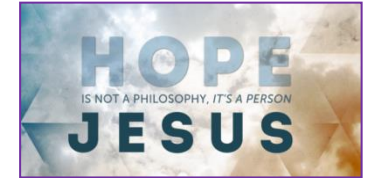
**23** of the **89** verses relate to the future.  
That's **26%** of the book.



# Lesson 01 - Outline

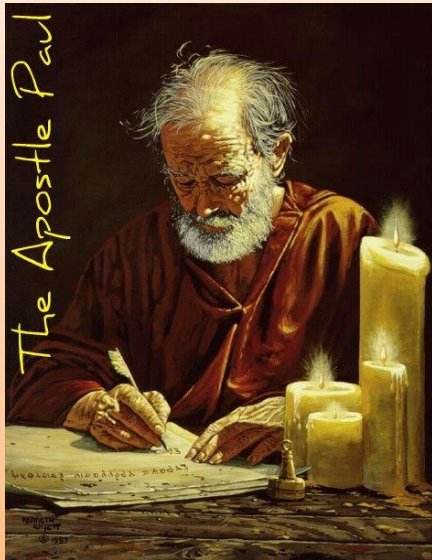
## ■ Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

- Lesson 01: Introduction



### ✓ STRUCTURE

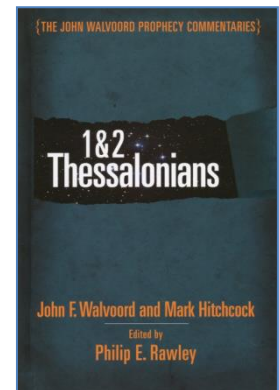
- » Lesson Preview ..... *Introduction*
- » Background: 1 Thessalonians ..... *Various*
- ➔ » Background: 2 Thessalonians ..... *Various*



# Background: 2 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

## • Occasion - 2 Thessalonians

- While still at **Corinth**, shortly after writing **1 Thessalonians**, **Paul** received more news regarding the condition of the church at **Thessalonica**.
- With **Silas** and **Timothy** at his side, **Paul** wrote the 2<sup>nd</sup> letter to the church probably about 2-3 months after **1 Thessalonians** was written.
- The occasion for **2 Thessalonians** was the receipt of the news that the **Thessalonians** had received a **spurious letter**, apparently an intentional **forgery**, teaching **them** that **they** were already in the **day of the Lord** and its awful **judgments**.
- The **background** of both **Thessalonian** epistles indicates that the **church** was going through a terrible time of **persecution** and **hardship**.
- In the midst of these **trials**, **they** began to wonder if **they** were in the **day of the Lord**, a **period** described at great length in the OT and concerning which **Paul** had taught **them**, both when **he** was with **them** and in writing **1 Thessalonians** 5.

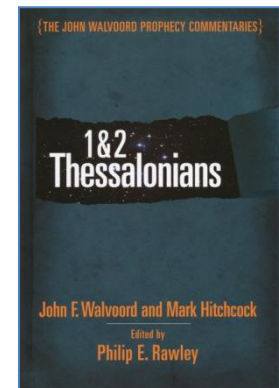




# Background: 2 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

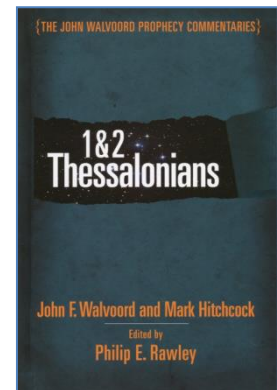
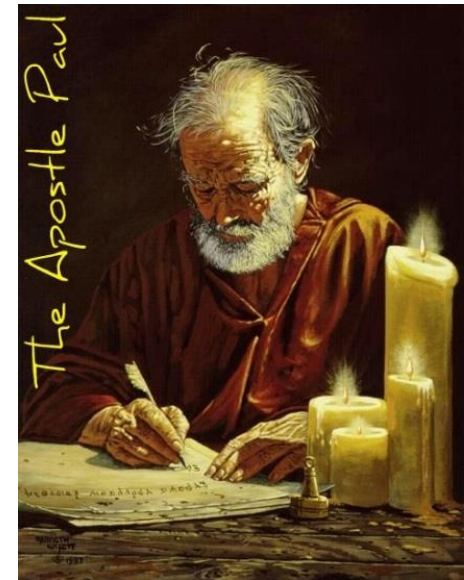
## • Occasion - 2 Thessalonians

- The **beginning** of this **period** of tremendous **trouble** and **conflict** in the **world** is identified with great **judgments** that will be **poured out** on the **world** before the **2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ**.
- The **Thessalonians**, on the basis of the **forged** letter, wondered if **they** were in this **time of trouble**, in contradiction to **Paul's** teaching that the **church** would be **translated** before the **day of the Lord** began (1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:9).
- **Paul** penned this **letter** to **correct** this **error**.
- **Paul's** answer, in a word, was that this **predicted time of trouble** which begins the **day of the Lord** was **still future**.
- The **persecutions** they were **undergoing** were the normal **persecutions** that may be **experienced** by all **Christians** throughout the **church age**.



## Background: 2 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

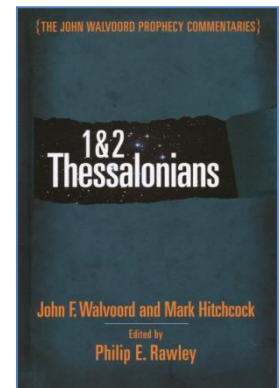
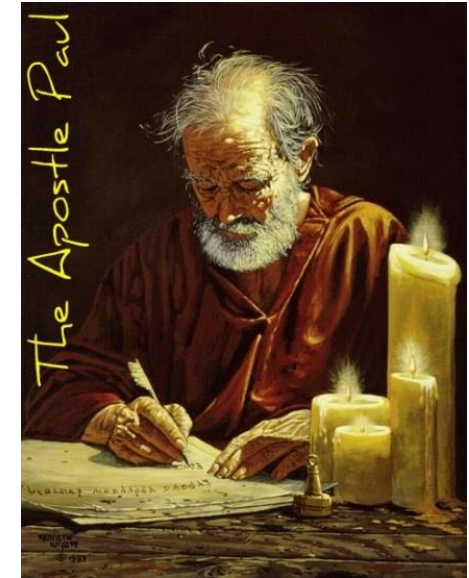
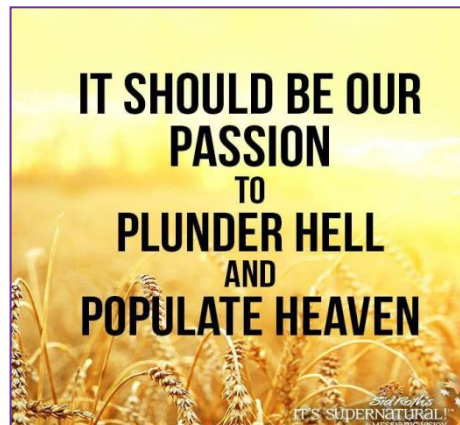
- **Purpose** - Purpose of The 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle to the Thessalonians
  - The **primary purpose** for this epistle was to correct a **wrong understanding** concerning the **day of the Lord**.
    - Some **false teachers** had produced **spurious information** to the effect that **Paul** had said the **day of the Lord** was present (2:1).
    - Since the church at **Thessalonica** was undergoing severe **persecution**, this appeared to be a logical **conclusion** (1 Thessalonians 1:6; 2:14; 3:3).
  - The **second purpose** was to **comfort** and **encourage** the **Thessalonian believers** to remain **steadfast** under **persecution** (1:4-12).
  - A **third purpose** was to **correct disorderliness** in the **church**. **Some** believed they could **leave their jobs** because the **coming of the Lord** was so **near** (3:6-16).



# Background: 2 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

- Outline** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle to the Thessalonians

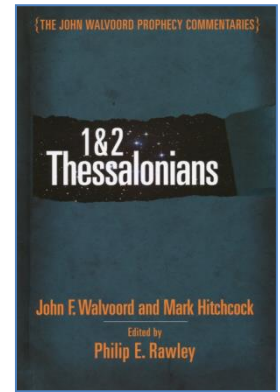
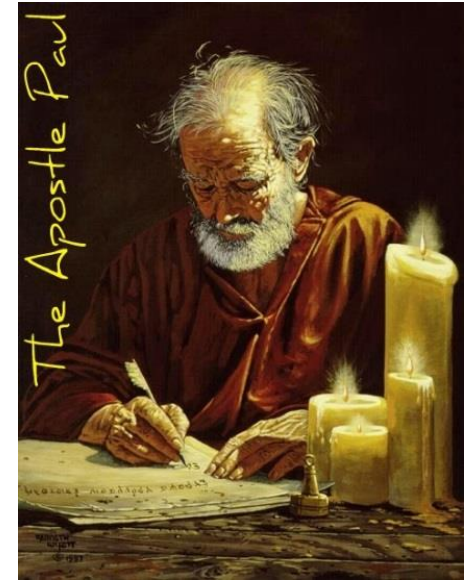
#	TITLE	REFERENCE
1	Introduction	1:1-2
2	A Word of <b>Comfort</b> Pastoral ... <b>The Revelation of Christ</b>	1:3-12
3	A Word of <b>Caution</b> Prophetic ... <b>The Rebellion of Antichrist</b>	2:1-17
4	A Word of <b>Command</b> Practical ... <b>The Responsibility of Christians</b>	3:1-16
5	Conclusion	3:17-18





## Background: 2 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

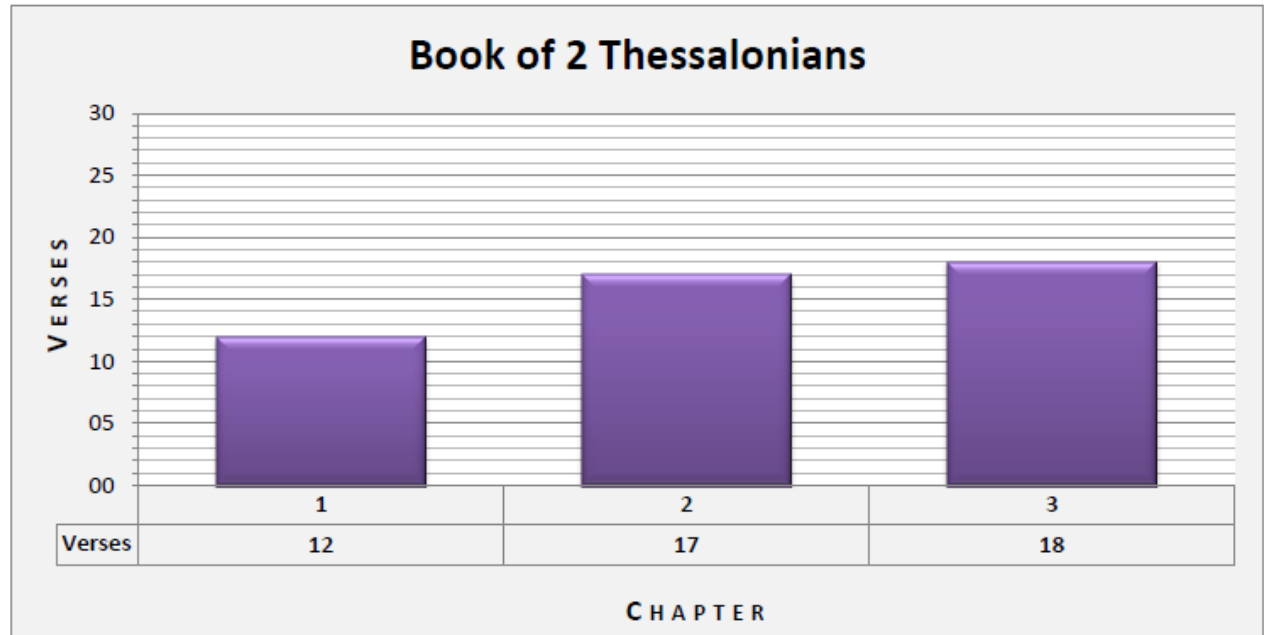
- **Audience** - Target Audience for 2 Thessalonians
  - **Three main groups of people** are addressed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle to the **Thessalonians**.
    1. Persecutors of the church (chapter 1)
    2. False teachers (chapter 2)
    3. Idle church members (chapter 3)
  - **Each chapter ends with a prayer**
    1. Prayer for **power** (1:11-12)
    2. Prayer for **comfort and strength** (2:16-17)
    3. Prayer for **peace** (3:16-17)



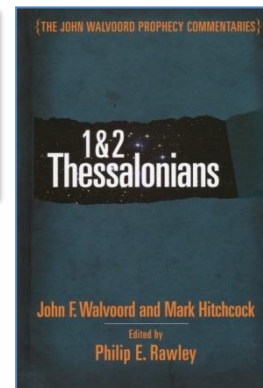
# Background: 2 Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

- Metrics** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle to Thessalonians

Book of 2 Thessalonians	
Total Chapters	3
Total Verses	47
Chapter	Verses
01	12
02	17
03	18
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>15.7</b>
<b>MEDIAN</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>MINIMUM</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>MAXIMUM</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>RANGE</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>RANGE SPREAD</b>	<b>0.5</b>
<b>STD DEV</b>	<b>3.2</b>



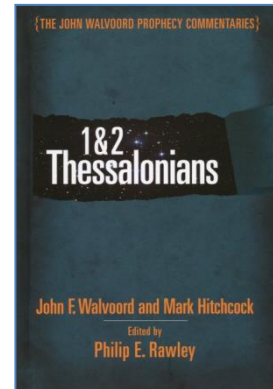
**19** of the **47** verses relate to the future.  
That's **40%** of the book.



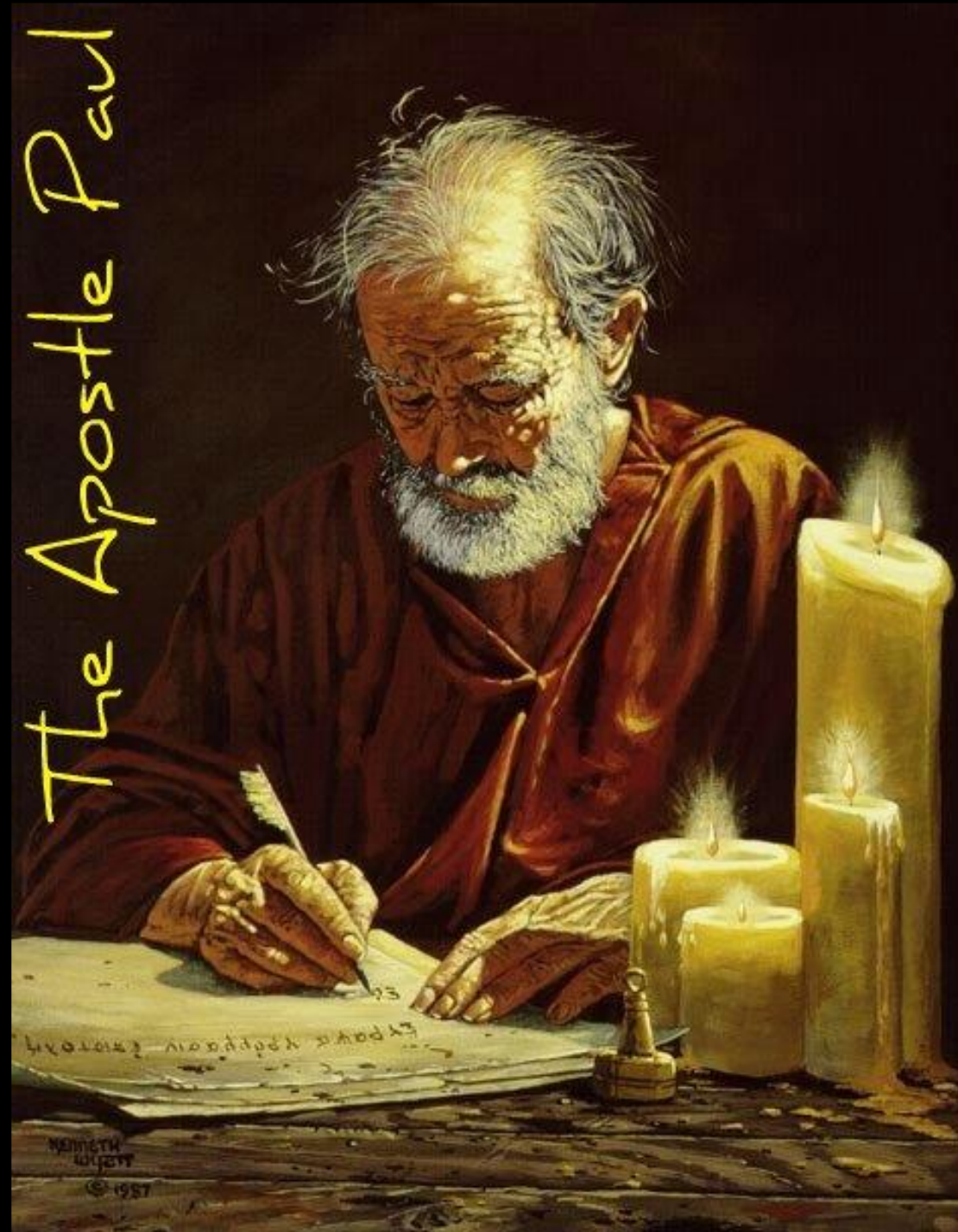
# Background: Thessalonians - BASIC BOOK FACTS

- Comparison** - 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistles to the Thessalonians

COMPARING FIRST AND SECOND THESSALONIANS	
1 <sup>ST</sup> THESSALONIANS	2 <sup>ND</sup> THESSALONIANS
Emphasis on the <b>coming of the Lord</b> in the <b>air</b> <u>for</u> His saints	Emphasis on the <b>coming of the Lord</b> to the <b>earth</b> <u>with</u> His saints
Coming of <b>Christ</b>	Coming of <b>Antichrist</b>
Theme is <b>comfort</b>	Theme is <b>correction</b>







The Apostle Paul

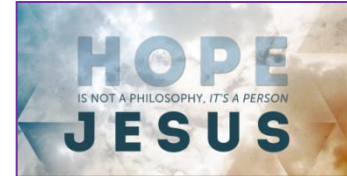
# Thessalonians

*"There Is Hope!"*

## *End of Lesson*



Instructor: Philip Giorgio  
[www.GiorgioMinistries.com](http://www.GiorgioMinistries.com)



# Thessalonians: There Is Hope!

## Lesson 2: Inspiring Hope

[1 Thessalonians 1:1-10]

***Next Week's Lesson***

# Next Week's 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]



