

C. The Second Coming

1. Jesus will return. | 4:16-17
2. We will all witness his return. | 4:13-15
3. Christians should be encouraged. | 4:18
4. No one knows the hour. | 5:1-3

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Next Week: 2 Thessalonians

Core Seminars—New Testament Class 24: 1 Thessalonians: Life with the Kingdom in View



*He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.
-1 Thessalonians 5:10-11*

I. Introduction

“Your kingdom come, your will be done...” – Matt. 6:10

II. Purpose & Background

- Church established by Paul; Paul forced to leave quickly
- Some Thessalonians questioning Paul’s credentials. Others worried about dying before Jesus returns.

III. Outline

I. Opening (1:1)

II. Thanksgiving and Defense of Paul’s Ministry (1:2 – 3:13)

- A. Thanksgiving for the Thessalonians’ salvation (1:2-10)
- B. Paul’s defense of his ministry (2:1–2:16)
- C. Paul’s longing and Timothy’s report (2:17–3:10)
- D. A pastoral prayer for the Thessalonians (3:11–13)

III. Instruction and Exhortation (4:1 – 5:28)

- A. On pleasing God (4:1–12)
- B. On the second coming of Jesus (4:13–5:11)
- C. On community conduct (5:12–22)
- D. Prayer & assurance (5:23–24)

IV. Conclusion (5:25-28)

IV. Main Themes

A. 7 Signs of a Genuine Ministry

1. Prayer | *1:2-3, 3:9-13*
2. Self-sacrifice | *2:1-3*
3. Motherly Love | *2:7-8*
4. Fatherly integrity and encouragement | *2:10-12*
5. Desire for fellowship | *2:17, 3:6, 3:10*
6. Joy | *2:19-20, 3:9*
7. Hope | *1:4, 5:23-24*

B. 7 Signs of a Christian Life

1. Sexual purity | *4:3-8*
2. Brotherly love | *4:9-10*
3. Respectability | *4:11-12*
4. Being awake to God | *5:4-8*
5. Encouraging others | *5:11-15*
6. God-centeredness | *5:16-18*
7. Discernment | *5:19-22*