

CLASS

LESSON NUMBER

466 A

# THOUGHT PROVOKING BIBLE STUDIES



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## THE BOOK OF 1 THESSALONIANS – LESSON ONE

1. **Background** The name of this ancient Turkish seaport city of Thessalonica is reputed by some to have come from Thessalonica, wife of Cassander, and daughter of Philip. Paul and Silas, on what was the Second Evangelistic Tour (Appx. 49-52 AD), were responsible for the conversion (Acts 17:4) “*of the devout \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ multitude, and of the chief \_\_\_\_\_ not a few.*”
2. **More** The Jews were so incensed that the brethren sent (V10) Paul and Silas to \_\_\_\_\_. When the enraged Jews followed (V15-16) Paul escaped to \_\_\_\_\_ and soon thereafter (18:1) went to Corinth. Timothy and Silas afterward edified the Thessalonian brethren and their favorable reports to Paul initiated the first Thessalonian epistle, the second one following shortly thereafter.

### Chapter One

3. **Salutation (V1)** “*Paul, and Silvanus, and \_\_\_\_\_...*” Paul is the author. He mentions his co-worker, Silas, whom he had chosen to accompany him (Acts 15:40) after he and Barnabas parted company. He includes Timothy (16:1ff) who joined him at Lystra during the Second Tour.
4. **(V1) Continued** “*...unto the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Thessalonians which is \_\_\_\_\_ God the Father and \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord Jesus Christ: \_\_\_\_\_ be unto you, and \_\_\_\_\_, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.*” They were “*in God*” as opposed to the larger population there being unconverted and therefore remaining heathen. The statement (V9) that they “*\_\_\_\_\_ to God from \_\_\_\_\_*” shows their former paganism. They were also (V1) “*in the Lord Jesus Christ,*” further proof that they were primarily Gentiles. Paul wishes them grace and peacefulness.
5. **Paul’s Standard Wish (V2)** “*We give \_\_\_\_\_ to God \_\_\_\_\_ for you all, making mention of you in \_\_\_\_\_ prayers.*” The pronoun “*we*” simply includes Silas and Timothy as sending well wishes and the “*you all*” means the collective saints. One doesn’t pray for something that isn’t on his mind. Paul’s heart was filled with concern and love for them, as for all men.
6. **Their Patient Faithfulness (V3)** “*Remembering without \_\_\_\_\_...*” The testament of true concern is whether or not we soon forget. Paul hadn’t forgotten “*your \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_*” which resulted from their “*\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in our Lord Jesus Christ.*” The final phrase “*in the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and our Father,*” reminds of Elisha H. Hoffman (1839-1929) and his 1899 hymn *Is Thy Heart Right With God*. The chorus: “*Is thy heart right with God, Washed in the crimson flood, Cleansed and made holy, humble and lowly, Right in the sight of God?*” Do you stand approved in the sight of God? \_\_\_\_\_
7. **Election (V4)** “*Knowing, brethren beloved, your \_\_\_\_\_ of God.*” All men are chosen of God to choose God but His “*elect*” are those who (Eph 6:6) choose to do “*the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_.*” Each individual has (Deut 30:19) the choice of “*life and \_\_\_\_\_.*”