

June 21, 2020

A Brand New Loyalty

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Lesson Text: I Thessalonians 1:1-10

Related Scriptures: Acts 1:1

Col 3:12

Time of Action: Between 700 and 695 B.C.

Roman 1:8-10

Col 1:4-5

Place of Action: Jerusalem

Acts 17:1-9

1 Thess. 5:10

Lesson Outline: (I) Greeting the Thessalonians- I Thessalonian 1:1-2

(II) Remembering the Thessalonians Godly Example- I Thessalonian 1:3-8

(III) Affirming the Thessalonians- I Thessalonian 1:9-10

Introduction to the Lesson Text

First Thessalonians is a letter of thanksgiving to God for the faith, love, and hope for the Thessalonian church. Paul, the Author of the book also presented some concerns in his letter. Most of us will remember those whose lives have had a profound impact on us. We will most likely remember their character and their deeds long after their words have faded from our memories. There may be a few wise words remember from our parents and grandparents, but for the most part, we remember such things as their faithfulness, kindness, love, diligence, attitudes, and other honorable qualities.

When the Apostle Paul wrote his first letter to the Thessalonians, he had things he wanted to teach them, and remind them of. The first chapter is primarily remembering the godly character, and actions of the Thessalonian believers. Such reminders of their godly example would encourage them to continue faithfully following Christ and challenge others, including us, to set a Christ like example for others to follow.

QUESTIONS

1. Why did Paul mention Slivanus, and Timothy in his greeting?
2. What had the Apostle Paul experienced in Thessalonica?
3. What virtues in the Thessalonian Christians did Paul commend?
4. What convinced Paul that the Thessalonians were chosen by God?
5. How did the Thessalonians reception of the gospel encouraged others?
6. How does the Apostle describe the evangelistic ministry of the Thessalonians?
7. Where did the news of the Thessalonians faith spread?

8. Who, besides the Apostle Paul, affirmed the faith, hope, and love of the Thessalonian church?
9. How is their conversion described?
10. What sure hope did the believers embrace and anticipate?

Lesson Principle: To show how believers in Thessalonica turned from their Idol gods, and their old way of life, to live for God by putting their faith in Christ, and becoming "**BRAND NEW**".

Lesson Application: To turn around from our old ungodly ways, and receive the gift of grace and an exciting new life in our Lord Christ Jesus despite our past. In doing so, we become an example of the power in Jesus to transform people and turn them away from Idols.

Concluding the Lesson: From the early Christians we learn that faith must be demonstrated in a way that "draws others" to our Lord Jesus Christ. The world needs to see "Christ in you". Paul says in 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore if any man be in Christ he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new". Ask yourself today; are you "**BRAND NEW**"?