

and them of Hierapolis.  
*2. Tim. 4. 21.* 14 \* Luke the beloued physitiō greteth you,  
 and Demas.

15 Salute the brethren which are of Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the Church which is in his house.

*g* Either *en* Paul, or *els* *w* they wolde write as an answer to this epistle *set* to *g* Colosiās

16 And when this epistle is red of you, cause that it be red in the Church of the Laodiceans also, and that ye likewise read the epistle *g* written from Laodicea.

17 And say to Archippus, Take hede to the ministerie, that thou hast receiued in the Lord, that thou fulfil it.

18 The salutation by the hand of me Paul. Remember my bādes. Grace be with you, Amen.

Written from Rome to the Colosians and sent by Tychicus, and Onesimus.

# THE FIRST EPISTLE of Paul to the Thessalonians.

## THE ARGUMENT.

**A**fter that the Thessalonians had bene wel instructed in the faith, persecution, which perpetually followeth the preaching of the Gospel, arose, against the which although they did constantly stand, yet S. Paul (as most careful for them) sent Timothee to strengthen them, who sone after admonishing him of their estate, gaue occasion to the Apostle to confirme them by diuers arguments to be constant in faith, & to suffer whatsoever God calleth them vnto for the testimonie of the Gospel, exhorting them to declare by their godlie liuing the puritie of their religion. And as the Church can neuer be so purged that some cockle remaine not among the wheat, so there were among them wicked men, which by mouing vaine and curious questions to ouerthrowe their faith, taught falsely, as touching the point of the resurrection from the dead: whereof he briefly instructeth them what to thinke, earnestly forbidding them to seke curiously to knowe the times, willing them rather to wathe list the sudden comming of Christ come vpon them at vnwares: and so after certeine exhortations, and his commendations to the brethren, he endeth.

### CHAP. I.

*a* He thanketh God for them, that they are so stedfast in faith & good workes, *b* And receiue the Gospel with such earnestnes. *7* That they are an example to all others.

*a* For there is no Church *w* is not ioynd together in God.



Paul and Siluanus, and Timotheus, vnto the Church of the Thessalonians, which is in God the Father, and in the Lord Iesus Christ: Grace be with you, and peace from God our Father, & from the Lord Iesus Christ.

*2. Thess. 1. 3.*

*Philip. 1. 3.*

*b* Which declareth it selfe by moste liuelie fruites

*c* Whereby you declared your selues more readie and painful to helpe the poore

*d* The effectual preaching of the Gospel is an euident token of our election

*e* To cleane, & to be all-persuaded to haue the gifts of the holie Ghost, and ioyfully to suffer

2 \* We giue God thanks alwayes for you all, making mention of you in our prayers  
 3 Without ceasing, remēbring your effectual faith, & diligent loue & the patience of your hope in our Lord Iesus Christ in the sight of God euen our Father,  
 4 Knowing, beloued brethren, that ye are elect of God.

5 For our Gospel was not vnto you in worde onely, but also in power, and in the holie Ghost, & in muche assurace, as ye knowe after what maner we were among you for your sakes.

6 And ye became followers of vs, and of the Lord, and receiued the worde in muche affliction, with ioye of holie Ghost, for Christs sake, are most certeine signes of our election.

7 So that ye were as ensamples to all that beleue in Macedonia and Achaia.

8 For from you sounded out the worde of the Lord, not in Macedonia & in Achaia onely: but your faith also which is towards God, spread abroad in all quarters, that we nede not to speake any thing.

9 For they them selues shewe of you what maner of entring in we had vnto you, and how ye turned to God from idoles, to serueth the liuing and true God,

10 And to loke for his Sonne from heauen, whome he raised from the dead, euen Iesus which deliuereth vs from the wrath to come.

*f* To wit, all faithful.

*g* For idoles are dead things and onely fained fantasies.

*h* Which he shal execute vpon the wicked.

### CHAP. II.

1 To the intent they shoulde not faint vnder the crosse,

2 He commendeth his diligence in preaching, 13 And theirs in obeying. 18 He excuseth his absence, that he coulde not come and open his heart to them.

**F**or ye your selues knowe, brethren, that our entrance in vnto you was not in vaine,

2 But euen after that we had suffered before, and were shamefully entreated at Philippi (as ye knowe) we were bolde in our God, to speake vnto you the Gospel of God with muche struiuing.

3 For our exhortatio was not by deceit, nor by vnclennes, nor by guile.

4 But as we were allowed of God, that the

*a* Not in ourwarde shewe and in pompe, but in trouble & in the feare of God.

*Alf. 16. 22.*  
*b* By his holpe and grace.

# Against menpleasers. I. Theſſalonians. Appointed to afflictions.

Gospel ſhulde be committed vnto vs, ſo we ſpeake, not as they that c pleaſe men, but God, which trieth our hearts.

5 Nether yet did we euer vſe flattering wordes, as ye know, nor colored couetouſnes, God is recorde.

6 Nether ſoght we praife of men, nether of you, nor of others,

7 When we might haue bene chargeable, as the Apoſtles of Chriſt: but we were gentle among you, euen as a d nource cheriſheth her children.

8 Thus being affectioned toward you, our good wil was to haue dealt vnto you, not the Gospel of God onely, but alſo our owne ſoules, becauſe ye were dere vnto vs.

9 For ye remember, brethren, \* our labour & trauail: for we laboured day & night, becauſe we wolde not be chargeable vnto any of you, & preached vnto you the Gospel of God.

10 Ye are witneſſes, and God alſo, how holily, & iuſtly, & vnblameably we behaued our ſelues among e you that beleue.

11 As ye knowe how that we exhorted you, and comforted, and beſoght euerie one of you (as a father his children)

12 That ye \* wolde walke worthie of God, who hath called you vnto his kingdome and glorie.

13 For this cauſe alſo thanke we God without ceaſing, that whē ye receiued of vs the worde of the preaching of God, ye receiued it not as the worde of men, but as it is in dede the worde of God, which alſo worketh in you that beleue.

14 For brethren, ye are become followers of the Churches of God, which in Iudea are in f Chriſt Ieſus, becauſe ye haue alſo ſuffred ſame thinges of your owne countrey men, euen as they haue of the Iewes.

15 Who bothe killed the Lord Ieſus and their owne Prophetes, & haue perſecuted vs, and God they pleaſe not, and are contraries to all men,

16 And forbid vs to preache vnto the Gentiles, that they might be ſaued, to h fulfil their finnes alway: for the wrath of God is i come on them, to the vtmoſte.

17 Forasmuche brethren, as we were kept from you for a ſeaſon, cōcerning ſight, but not in the heart, we \* enforced the more to ſee your face with great deſire.

18 Therefore we wolde haue come vnto you (I Paul, at leaſt once or twiſe) but Sara hindered vs.

19 For what is our hope or ioye, or crowne of reioycig, are not euē you in y preſence of our Lord Ieſus Chriſt at his cōmīg?

20 Yes, ye are our glorie and ioye.

## CHAP. III.

2 He ſheweth how greatly he was affectioned toward them bothe in that he ſent Timotheus to them, 10 And alſo prayed for them.

W Herefore ſince we colde no longer forbear, we thought it good to remaine at Athens a alone,

2 \* And haue ſent Timotheus our brother & miniſter of God, and our labour fellow in the Gospel of Chriſt, to ſtabliſh you, and to comfort you touching your faith,

3 That no man ſhulde be moued with theſe afflictions: for ye your ſelues knowe, that we are appointed thereunto.

4 For verely when we were with you, we tolde you before that we ſhulde ſuffre tribulations, euen as it came to paſſe, and ye knowe it.

5 Euen for this cauſe, when b I colde no longer forbear, I ſent him y I might knowe of your faith, leſt the c tēpter had tempted you in any ſorte, and that our labour had bene in vaine.

6 But now lately when Timotheus came from you vnto vs, and brought vs good tidings of your faith & loue, and that ye haue good remembrance of vs alwayes, deſiring to ſee vs, as we alſo do you,

7 Therefore, brethren, we had conſolation in you, in all our affliction and neceſſitie through your faith.

8 For now are we d alieue, if ye e ſtand faſt in the Lord.

9 For what thākes can we recōpenſe to God againe for you for all the ioye wherewith we reioyce for your ſakes before our God,

10 Night and day \* praying exceedingly y we might ſee your face, & might f accompliſh that which is lacking in your faith?

11 Now God him ſelf, euen our Father, and our Lord Ieſus Chriſt, guide our iorney vnto you,

12 And the Lord increaſe you & make you abunde in loue one toward another, and toward all mē, euē as we do toward you:

13 \* To make your hearts ſtable and vnblameable in holines before God euen our Father, at the comming of our Lord Ieſus Chriſt with all his Saints.

## CHAP. IIII.

1 He exhorteth them to holines, 6 Innocencie, 9 Loue, 11 Labour, 13 And moderation in lamenting for the dead, 17 Deſcribing the end of the reſurrección.

1 And furthermore we beſeche you, brethren, & exhorte you in the Lord Ieſus that a ye increaſe more and more, as ye haue receiued of vs, how ye ought to walke, and to pleaſe God.

2 For ye knowe what b commandements we gaue you by the Lord Ieſus.

3 \* For this is the wil of God euen your ſanctification, c & that ye ſhulde abſteine from fornication,

4 That euerie one of you ſhulde know, how to poſſeſſe his d veſſel in holines & honour,

to dedicate your ſelues wholly vnto God. d That is, his bodie phanaed by ſuche ſubſtances.

a Rather ſeek your commoditie, then mine own: in ſending of Timotheus to you. Act. 16. 1.

b His great affliction toward the ſinners. c Meaning Satan.

d If ye remaine conſtant in faith and true doctrine, I ſhall thinke that all mine afflictions be ſo many pleaſures, and ſhall be reſtored from death to life. Rom. 1. 10.

e If you perſeuer in faith. f We muſt daily growe from faith to faith.

Chap. 5. 23. 1. corin. 5. 8.

a And as it were, euer come your ſelues.

b The greke wordes ſignified ſuch commandments as one receiue from ſome mā to giue them in his name to others.

Rom. 12. 2. eph. 5. 17. c That is, that you ſhulde de which is pro-

5 And

c Which declareth a naughty conſcience.

d Or, in auerſe

d He humbled himſelf to ſupporte all thinges without all reſpecte of lucre: euen as y tender mother which nouriſheth her children, and thinketh no office to vile for her childrens ſake. Act. 20. 34.

1. cor. 4. 14. a. theſ. 3. 8.

e For it is not poſſible to auoide the reproches of y wicked, which euer hate good doings.

Eph. 4. 1. philip. 1. 27. col. 1. 10.

f In his Name and vnder his protection.

g And wolde hinder all me from their ſaluation.

h And heape vp the meaſure. Mat. 13. 12.

Rom. 1. 11.

i He meaneth not this of all the Iewes in general: but of certeine of the particularly ceaſed nor after they had put Chriſt to death, to perſecute his worde, and his miniſters.

k Therefore I colde not forget you, except I wolde forget my ſelf.

# The day of the Lord .Chap.V. Christian armour. 96

5 And not in the lust of cōcupiscence, euen as the Gentiles which knowe not God:

1 Cor. 6, 8. 6 \*That no man oppresse or defraude his brother in any matter: for y<sup>e</sup> Lord is a venger of all suche things, as we also haue tolde you before time and testified.

1 Cor. 1, 2. 7 \*For God hathe not called vs vnto vnclennes, but vnto holines.

8 He therefore that despiseth *these things*, despiseth not man, but God who hathe euen giuen\* you his holie Spirit.

9 But astouching brotherlie loue, ye nede not y<sup>e</sup> I write vnto you: \*for ye are taught of God to loue one another.

10 Yea, & that thing verely ye do vnto all y<sup>e</sup> brethren, which are throughout all Macedonia: but we beseeche you, brethré, that ye increase more and more,

11 \*And that ye studie to be quiet, and to medle with your owne busines, & to worke with your *towne* hands, as we commanded you,

12 That ye may behaue your selues honestly towarde them that are without, & that nothing be *h* lacking vnto you.

13 ¶ I wolde not, brethren, haue you ignorāt concerning the which are a slepe, that ye isorowe not euē as other y<sup>e</sup> haue no hope.

14 For if we beleue that Iesus is dead, and is risen, euē so them which slepe in *I* Iesus, wil God bring with him.

15 For this say we vnto you by the *m* worde of the Lord, \*that we which liue, & are remaining in the cōming of the Lord, shal not preuent them which slepe.

16 For the Lord him self shal descēd from heaue with a shouwe, & with the voyce of the Archāgel & \*with the trūpet of God: and the dead in Christ shal rise first.

17 Then shal we which liue and remaine, be *o* caught vp with them also in the cloudes, to mete the Lord in the ayer: & so shal we euer be with the Lord.

18 Wherefore, comfort your selues one another with these wordes.

## CHAP. V.

He enformeth them of the day of iudgement & coming of the Lord, & exhorting the to watch, 12 And so regard suche as preache Gods worde among them.

But of the *r*imes & seasons, brethren, ye haue no nede y<sup>e</sup> I write vnto you.

For ye your selues knowe persitely, that the *d*ay of the Lord shal come, euen as a thefe in the night.

For when they shal say, Peace, and safetic, then shal come vpon them sudden destruction, as the *b* trauail vpon a woman with childe, and they shal not escape.

But ye, brethren, are not in darkenes, that

that 2000 yere before the Lawe, 2000 vnder the Lawe and 2000 after the Lawe the worlde shal endure. *Mat* 24, 44. *2 pet* 3, 10. *reuel* 3, 3 & 16, 15. *b* That is, suddenly & vnlooked for.

that day shulde come on you, as it were a thefe.

Ye are all the children of light, and the childré of the day: we are not of the night nether of darkenes.

Therefore let vs not *s*lepe as do other, but let vs *d* watch and be sober.

For they that slepe, slepe in the night, & they that be dronken, are dronken in the night.

But let vs which are of the *d*ay, be sober, \*putting on y<sup>e</sup> brest plate of faith & loue, & of the hope of saluation for an helmet.

For God hathe not appointed vs vnto wrath, but to obtaine saluatiō by the meanes of our Lord Iesus Christ,

Which dyed for vs, that whether we wake or *s*lepe, we shulde liue together with him.

Wherefore exhorte one another, & edifie one another, euen as ye do.

Now we beseeche you, brethren, that ye knowe them, which labour among you, & are ouer you in the Lord, and s admonish you,

That ye haue them in singular loue for their workes sake. Be at peace amōg your selues.

We desire you, brethré, admonish them that are vnruilie: comforte the feble minded: beare with the weakē: be patient towarde all men.

\*Se that none recompense euil for euil vnto any man: but euer followe that which is good, bothe towarde your selues, and towarde all men.

Reioyce euermore.

\*Pray continually.

In all things giue thanks: for this is the wil of God in Christ Iesus towarde you.

Quench not the *s* Spirit.

Despise not *l* prophecyng.

Trye all things, and kepe that which is good.

Absteyne from all appearance of euil.

Now the verie God *o*f peace sanctifie you throughout: and *I pray* God that your *m*whole spirit and soule and bodie, may be kept blameles vnto the comming of our Lord Iesus Christ.

\*Faithful *is* he which calleth you, which wil also do it.

Brethren, pray for vs.

Grete all the brethré with an holie kisse.

I charge you in y<sup>e</sup> Lord, that this epistle be red vnto all the brethren the Saintes.

The grace of our Lord Iesus Christ be with you, Amen.

The first epistle vnto the Theſſalonians written from Athens.

AAa. iiii.

*e* Here slepe is taken for cōtempt of saluation, when men continue in sinnes and wil not awake to godlines.  
*d* And not be ouercome with the cares of y<sup>e</sup> worlde.  
*e* That is, lightened by y<sup>e</sup> Gospel.

*1 I*sa. 59, 17.  
*e*ph. 6, 17.

*f* Here it is taken onely to dye, & is ment of the faithful.  
*g* As the flecke is bounde to loue y<sup>e</sup> shepherde, so is it his due tie to teache the & exhort them in true religion.  
*h* Where this cause ceaseth, that they worke not: the hope nor also ceaseth, and they must be expelled as wolues out of the flocke.

*Prou*. 17, 13.  
*Ec*. 20, 22.

*Mat*. 3, 39.  
*rom*. 12, 19.

*1 pet*. 3, 9.

*i* Haue a quiet minde & conscience in Christ which shal make you reioice in the middes of sorrowes, *Rom* 5, 3, 2 cor. 6, 10.

*Luk* 18, 1.  
*eccl*. 18, 12.

*col*. 4, 3.

*k* God that ha the giuen his Spirit to his elect, wil neuer suffer it to be quenched, but ha the reuiled by what means it may be mainteined, y<sup>e</sup> is, by suche exhortations as theſe, & by cōtinual increaſe in godlines.  
*l* The preachig of y<sup>e</sup> worde of God.

*Chap*. 3, 12.  
*1 cor*. 1, 8.

*1 cor*. 1, 8.

*m* Then is a man fully sanctified & perfect, when his mindethinketh nothing, his soule, that is, his vnderstanding and wil, ceueth nothing: neither his bodie doeth execute any thing contrary to the wil of God.

*o* By these precepts of godlie life it appeareth what were the commandements which Paul gaue vnto them.

*1 Cor*. 7, 40.

*1 Iohn* 13, 34.  
*Ec*. 15, 12.

*1 Iohn* 2, 8.  
*Ec*. 4, 21.

*2 Theſſ*. 3, 7.  
*f* And not be idle.

*g* As Strangers and infidels.

*h* But that ye may be able by your diligence to supplie your want and neede.

*i* He doeth not condemne all kinde of sorrow, but that which procedeth of infideltie.

*k* Or, haue continued constant in the faith of Christ.

*l* By raising their bodies out of the graue.

*m* Which is in the Name of the Lord, and as he shulde speake hi self.

*1 Cor*. 15, 23.

*Mat*. 24, 31.

*1 cor*. 15, 52.

*n* Meaning the which shal be founde a liue.

*o* In this suddē taking vp there shalbe a kinde of mutatiō of the qualities of our bodies which shalbe as a kinde of death.

*a* So muche more we ought to beware of all dreames & fantasies of me.

*b* which weare them selues & others in searching out curiously the time that the Lord shal appeare, alledgig for them selues a vaine prophetic, and more fallie ascribed to Elias.

*c* That 2000 yere before the Lawe, 2000 vnder the Lawe and 2000 after the Lawe the worlde shal endure.

*d* That is, suddenly & vnlooked for.