

1 & 2 THESSALONIANS

Living for Christ's Return

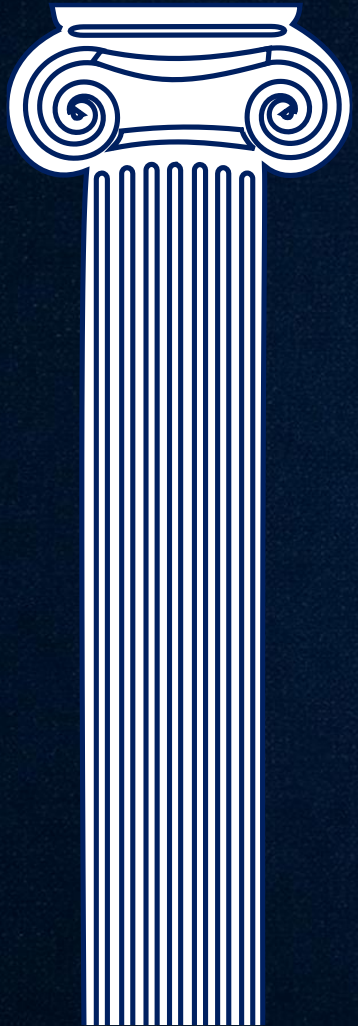
Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

1 Thessalonians 1:1



An Introduction

1 Thessalonians





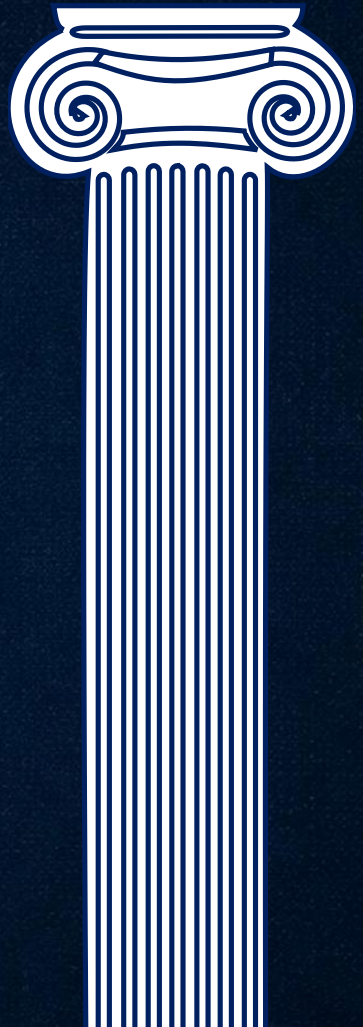
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1 Thessalonians 1:1



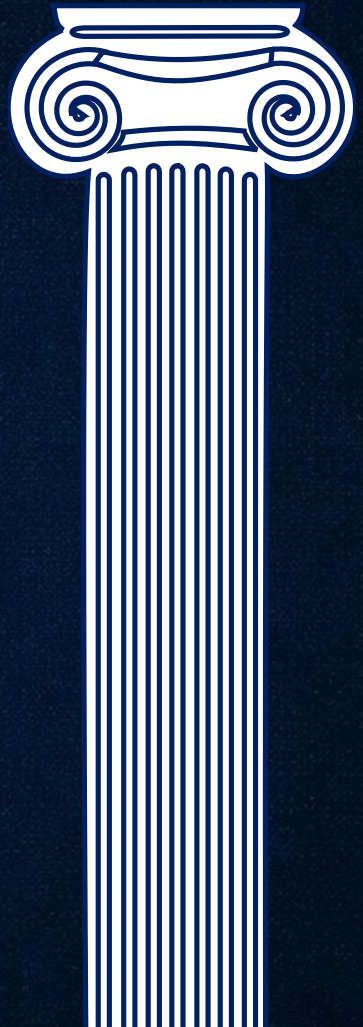
Author: Paul

Date: 51-52 AD



Key Points

- Responsibilities of the leaders to the congregation
- Responsibilities of the congregation to the leader
- Believers are to be growing
- Believers are to stand firm in persecution
- Church has a responsibility to discipline sinners
- Church has a responsibility to reach the lost with the Gospel




MACEDONIA
THRACE
Philippi
THESSALONICA
Amphipolis
Apollonia
Neapolis
Berea
Thermaic Gulf
EPIRUS
Troas
Assos
Aegean Sea
Mytilene
ASIA
(WESTERN ANATOLIA)
Delphi
Athens
Corinth
ACHAIA
Ionian Sea
Sparta
N
Sea of Crete
0 50 100 150 200 km
0 25 50 75 100 mi
Eastern Mediterranean, c. 45–50 AD


MACEDONIA
THRACE
BLACK SEA
BITHYNIA AND PONTUS
GALATIA
Some Jews cause uproar & attack Jason's House seeking for Paul & Silas
Philippi
Neapolis
Amphipolis
Thessalonica
Apollonia
Berea
Paul called to preach in Macedonia
MARMARA SEA
THASOS
SAMOTHRACE
Bereans receive the Word
Troas
MYSIA
Paul forbidden by the Spirit to preach in Asia & Bithynia
Ancyra
Timothy joins Paul & Silas
LEMNOS
Assos
LESBOS
AEGEAN SEA
Paul speaks at the Areopagus
Pergamum
ASIA
Mitylene
Thyatira
Caesarea
Paul meets Aquila & Priscilla Paul brought before Gallio
EUBOEA
CHIOS
Sardis
Smyrna
Philadelphia
Antioch in Pisidia
PHRYGIA
CAPPADOCIA
COMMAGENE
Corinth
Athens
Ephesus
Hierapolis
Iconium
SAMOS
Laodicea
Colossae
Lystra
Cenchreae
Milet
Derbe
Paul & Barnabas divided over John Mark
Barnabas & John Mark sail to Cyprus
Paul & Silas go through Syria and Cilicia
ACHAIA
PATMOS
CARIA
PAMPHYLIA
Tarsus
Sparta
Attalia
Perga
LYCIA
CILICIA
Euphrates River
Lydia & her household believe
Paul & Silas beaten & thrown in jail
Jailer and his household believe
SANTORINI
Patara
Aleppo
Seleucia Pieria
Antioch
RHODES
Orontes River
SYRIA
Salamis
CRETE
CYPRUS
Paphos
PHOENICIA
ABILENE
Sidon
Damascus
Tyre
Ptolemais (Acco)
Caesarea Maritima
Jordan River
Jerusalem
NABATEA
JUDEA
DEAD SEA
EGYPT
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
0 100 200 Miles
0 100 200 Kilometers
PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY
Acts 15:36 - 18:22
City
One of the "Seven Churches of Asia" - Rev. 2-3
Paul's Route
ConformingToJesus.com

THESSALONICA















ENGATIAN WAY – East to West main route

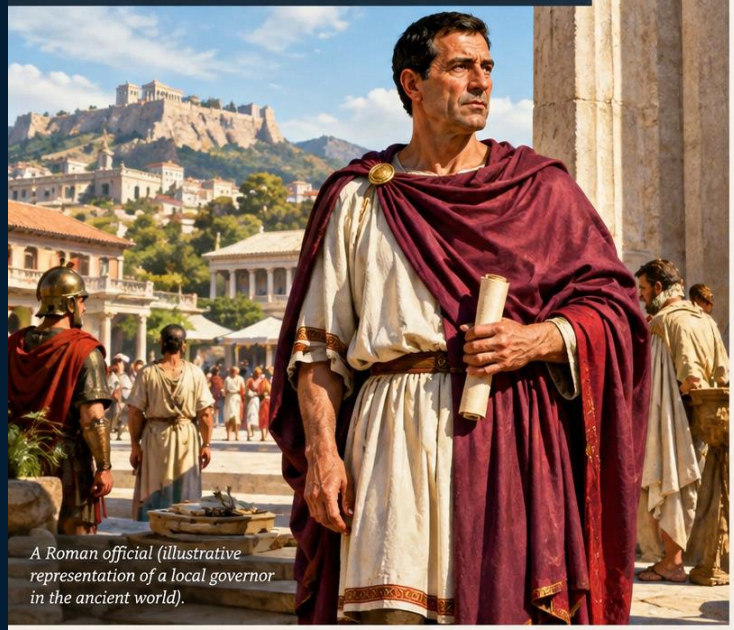
- Founded by Cassander in 315 BC
- City backed Antony and Octavian in 42 BC

POLITARCHES - The City Authorities

- Existed from ancient times until today
- Nazi's captured it in 1941 and deported 60,000 Jews

POLITARCHES

A local governor in the Roman world



A Roman official (illustrative representation of a local governor in the ancient world).



Evidence from the ancient world

Inscriptions and historical records from the Hellenistic and Roman periods confirm the use of the term *politarchēs* for local rulers and officials.

Stone inscription with the title "politarchēs" (Greek).

What was a politarchēs?

A *politarchēs* was a local ruler or governor in the Hellenistic and Roman periods, responsible for the administration of a city or region. The term is a combination of Greek words: "polis" (city) and "archēs" (ruler or leader).

Key responsibilities

- Governed a city or district
- Maintained order and security
- Collected taxes and managed local resources
- Oversaw the local administration and justice system
- Often held both civil and military authority

Historical context

In the Roman Empire, *politarchēs* was often used for local governors in various regions, including parts of Greece and Asia Minor. They were typically appointed by higher authorities (such as the Roman governor or the emperor) and could be Roman citizens or local elites.

In the Bible

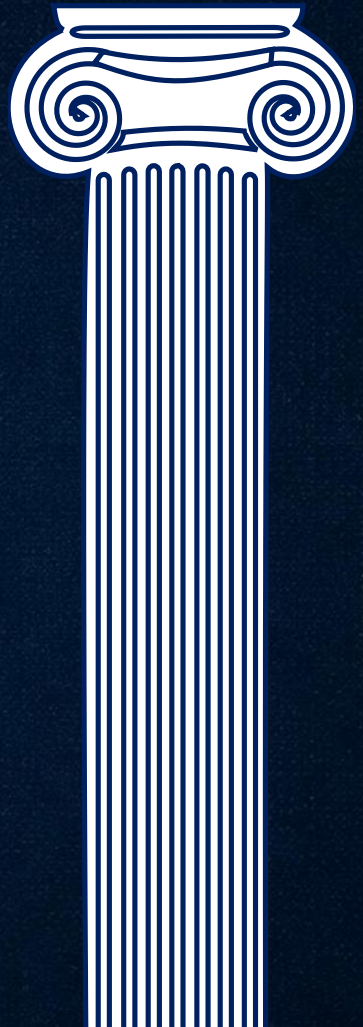
In Acts 17:6, the word *politarchēs* is used of the Roman official who stationed troops in Thessalonica (a reference to a local governor or magistrate).

"...and Jason and some of the brothers were... brought before the politarchēs..."

— Acts 17:6

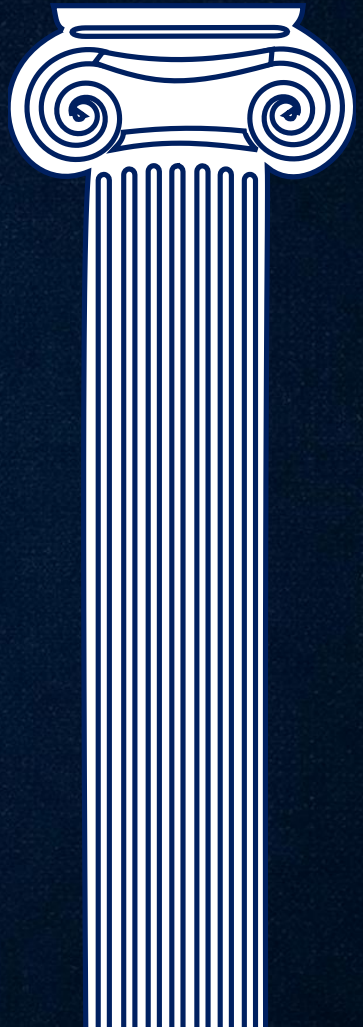
Acts 17:2

And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures,



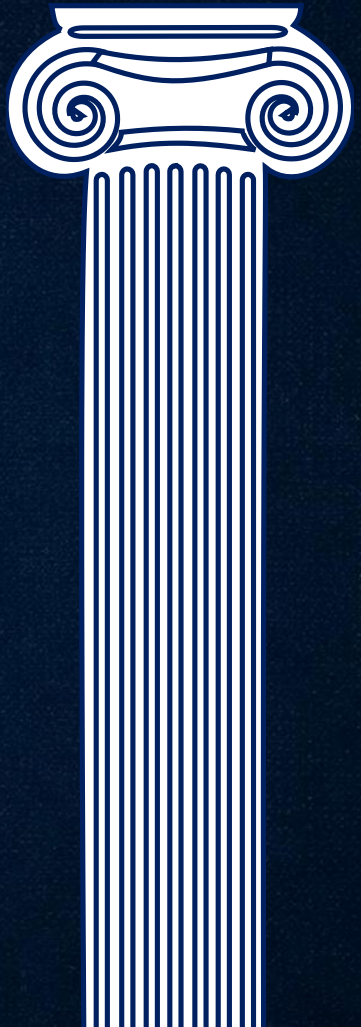
1 Thessalonians 2:9

For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil: we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.

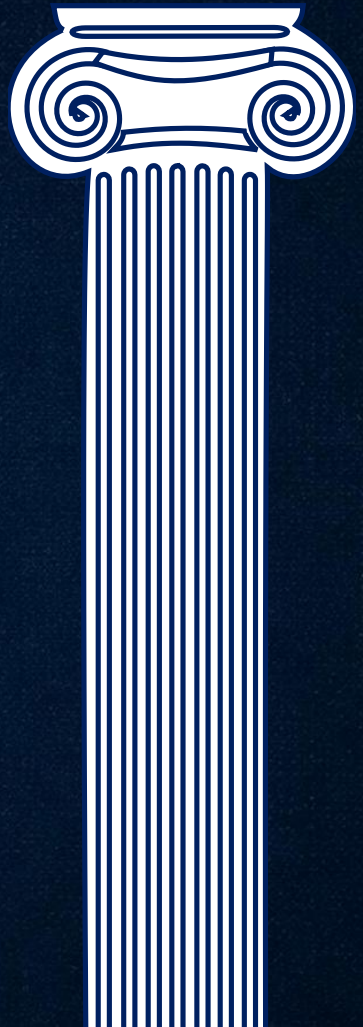


Philippians 4:16

Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again.

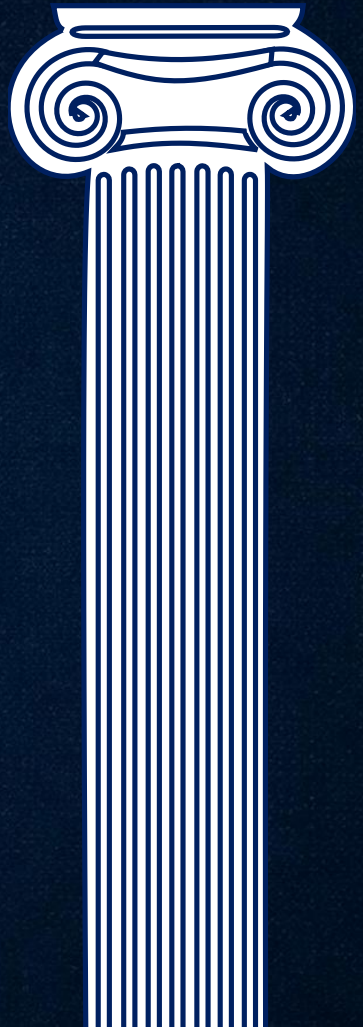


Acts 17:1–9 Paul's time in Thessalonica



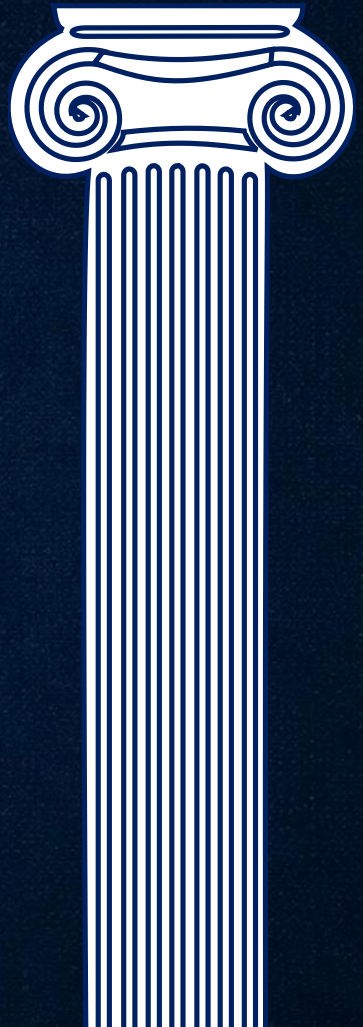
Now when they had passed through Amphipolis
and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where
there was a synagogue of the Jews.
2 And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on
three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from
the Scriptures,
3 explaining and proving that it was necessary
for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead,
and saying, "This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you,
is the Christ."

Acts 17:1–9 Paul's time in Thessalonica



4 And some of them were persuaded and joined
Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the
devout Greeks and not a few of the leading
women.
5 But the Jews were jealous, and taking some
wicked men of the rabble, they formed a mob, set
the city in an uproar, and attacked the house of
Jason, seeking to bring them out to the crowd.
6 And when they could not find them, they dragged
Jason and some of the brothers before the city
authorities, shouting, "These men who have
turned the world upside down have come here
also,

Acts 17:1–9 Paul’s time in Thessalonica

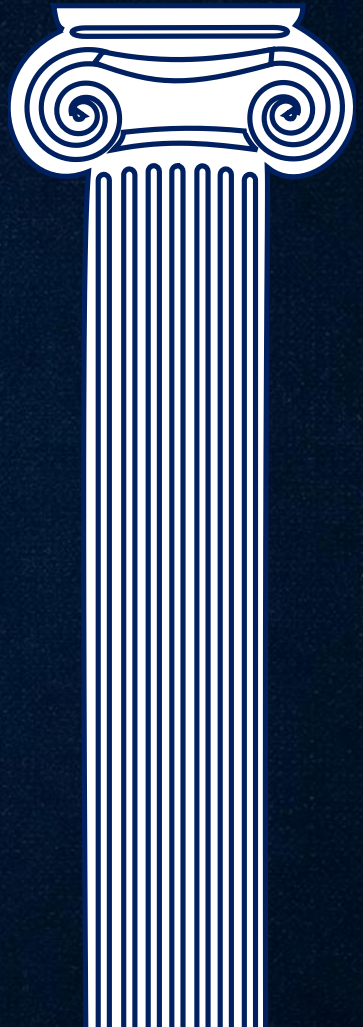


7 and Jason has received them, and they are all
acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying that
there is another king, Jesus.”
8 And the people and the city authorities were
disturbed when they heard these things.
9 And when they had taken money as security
from Jason and the rest, they let them go.

PAUL'S DESIRE:

1 Thessalonians 2:17-18

17 But since we were torn away from you,
brothers, for a short time, in person not
in heart, we endeavored the more eagerly
and with great desire to see you face to
face,
18 because we wanted to come to you—I,
Paul, again and again—but Satan
hindered us.





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