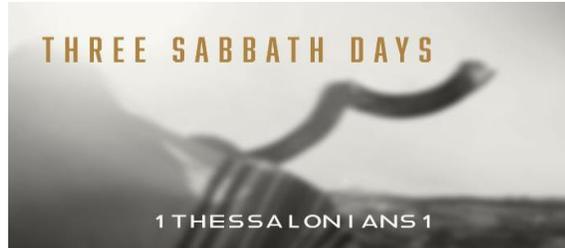


Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible  
Current Book: 1 Thessalonians – verse by verse

**Scripture(s) for Today: Acts 17:1-13; 1 Thessalonians 1 – A church is planted for Jesus Christ!**

Today's Message:

***“Three Sabbath Days”***



## INTRODUCTION

Today, we introduce our new book and learn of the incredible history of the church founded in Acts 17. Paul and his company arrived there during the 2<sup>nd</sup> missionary journey following persecution in Philippi. Paul spent **THREE** sabbath days reasoning out of the scriptures in the synagogue while laboring at night to supply the physical needs of his team. As many influential people responded to the gospel, the unbelieving Jews began to persecute Paul and his company. Thus, their ministry there was cut **SHORT**. Paul later sent this letter after receiving a good report from Timothy who was sent to know their estate. His primary purpose for this letter was to encourage, establish, and inspire this persecuted young church to continue to live their lives with the constant preoccupation of Christ's **SECOND** coming!

## LEARNING TOGETHER

### A. Overview of 1 Thessalonians \* FUNDAMENTAL INFORMATION \*

**Title Means:** **VICTORY**; a surprise or unexpected victory.

**The Numbers:** Chapters: 5 | Verses: 89 | Words: 1,857 Ps 12:6-7; Prov 30:5

**Author:** **PAUL** \*Paul includes his co-laborers Silvanus (Silas) and Timotheus (Timothy).

**Historical Time:** 51 AD to 54 AD (This is likely the very first church epistle written by Paul.)

**Theme:** **How to Live in Preparation for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ (Part 1)**

**Keynote:** This book is a comfort to those who live in these last days just before Christ appears in the air for His church. It is placed immediately after the epistle intended to be read to the “Laodiceans.” If a lukewarm church will respond to Colossians, they can be raptured!

### THREE BASIC APPLICATIONS

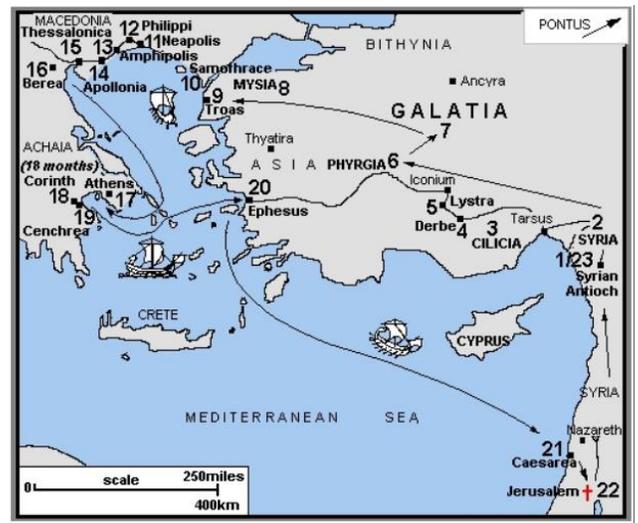
- 1. Historical** Paul's letter of encouragement to the suffering believers at Thessalonica; he writes after receiving Timothy's good report of their faithfulness.
- 2. Doctrinal** God's letter of encouragement to the suffering church in Smyrna that desires to be a model of faith; He reminds them of Christ's soon coming. (**Rev 2:8-11**)
- 3. Devotional** Keeping our hearts and minds fixed upon the soon return of Christ will cause us to be faithful through suffering, disciple making, walking close with God.

**2022 VISION:** *This is our time!*  
*Making disciples and caring for souls!*

**OUTLINE STRUCTURE – Basic Outline**

CH 1	<i>The model church</i>	...	A work of <i>faith</i>
CH 2	<i>The model servant</i>	...	A labour of <i>love</i>
CH 3	<i>The model life</i>	...	Unblameable in <i>holiness</i>
CH 4-5	<i>The model walk</i>	...	Faith in <i>action</i>

**MAPS**



**B. The Lesson Acts 17:1-13**

➤ **The Mission – the Holy Ghost brought a faithful team and His GOSPEL. (1-4)**

1. The **method** – Paul’s manner was to preach in the JEWISH synagogue. **Rom 9-11**
2. The **duration** – the missionary team had THREE sabbath days – 2 to 4 weeks maximum!
3. The **message** – Jesus Christ crucified; this Jesus whom I preach unto you is the CHRIST!
4. The **response** – some Jews, a great multitude of Greeks, many chief women BELIEVED!
5. The **fruit** – those that believed the gospel *consorted* with Paul – a church is PLANTED!

**NOTE** Those that got saved united in company with the Apostle Paul and the missionaries and started the church of the Thessalonians – Amen! This is God’s ordinary method!

➤ **The Persecution – Satan brought an evil team to OPPOSE God’s work. (5-13)**

1. The **unbelievers** – the Jews which believed not moved with ENVY. **Acts 7:9; Mt 27:18**
2. The **assault** – unbelieving Jews hired thugs to cause uproar and ASSAULT God’s church.
3. The **accusations** – those that turned the world upside down are here – KING Jesus!
4. The **trouble** – they drew Jason/certain brethren to city rulers and TROUBLED the church.
5. The **exit** – the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away to Berea to protect them!

**NOTE** This is Satan’s ordinary method; he doesn’t want churches planted and God’s glory!

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