ORDER OF SERVICE	April 9, 2023	Jesus' resurrection justifies all who tru	ust Him Rom. 4:25
Worship in Fellowship Worship in Music Worship in Congregational Reading Worship in Message Worship in Giving	Darren Schager Wayne Braudrick		
Love Lives			
Selected Scriptures	Love Is Series	When Jesus died, He died as my representative, and I died in Him; when He arose, He rose up as my representative, and I arose in Him; when He ascended on high and took His place at the right hand of the Father in the glory, He ascended as my representative and I ascended in Him, and today I am seated in Christ with God in the heavenlies. I look at the cross of Christ, and I know that atonement has been made for my sins; I look at the open sepulcher and the risen and ascended Lord, and I know the atonement has been accepted. There no longer remains a single sin on me, no matter how many or how great my sins have been. – R.A. Torrey, <i>The Bible and Its Christ</i>	
Life Change: We live victoriously in Jesus.			
"How can we stay sad when Jesus is alive?"			
Jesus' resurrection proves the Father is trust	worthy Luke 24	Jesus' resurrection promises ultimate	victory Is. 25:7-8
Jesus' resurrection proves the Son is God	Rom. 1:4	God so loved the world that he gave	the greatest Lover the greatest degree the greatest need the greatest act
		his only begotten Son, that whoever believes	the greatest gift the greatest opportunity the greatest simplicity

# STUDY OF THESSALONIANS

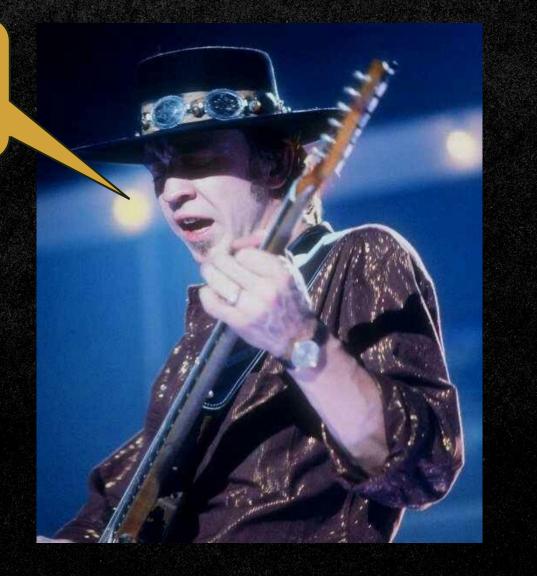
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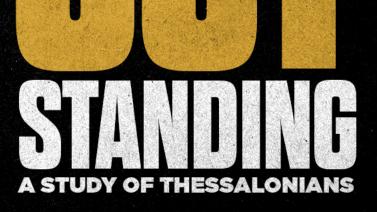


St. Paul writing Valentine de Boulogne 1618-1620

courtesy Random; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

## She's my pride & joy!





courtesy Montreaux Jazz Festival

<sup>17</sup> But as for us, brothers and sisters, after we were forced to leave you for a short time (in person, not in heart), we greatly desired and made every effort to return and see you face to face. <sup>18</sup> So we wanted to come to you—even I, Paul, time and again—but Satan hindered us. <sup>19</sup> For who is our hope or joy or crown of boasting in the presence of our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you? <sup>20</sup> Indeed you are our glory and joy!

**1** Thessalonians **2** CSB







GAL

EPH

<sup>5</sup> But the Jews became jealous, and they brought together some wicked men from the marketplace, formed a mob,

and started a riot in the city [of Thessalonica]. Attacking Jason's house, they searched for them [Paul & Silas] to bring them out to the public assembly.



Remains of the marketplace (agora or forum)

<sup>33</sup> "I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. <u>Be courageous</u>! I have conquered the world."

John 16 CSB

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, when we could no longer stand it, we thought it was better to be left alone in Athens.<sup>2</sup> And we sent Timothy, our brother and God's coworker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you concerning your faith, <sup>3</sup> so that no one will be shaken by these afflictions. For you yourselves know that we are appointed to this.<sup>4</sup> In fact, when we were with you, we told you in advance that we were going to experience affliction, and as you know, it happened.

### **1** Thessalonians **3** CSB





<u>6</u>



N



<sup>5</sup> For this reason, when I could no longer stand it, I also sent him to find out about your faith, fearing that the tempter had tempted you and that our labor might be for nothing.
<sup>6</sup> But now Timothy has come to us from you and brought us good news about your faith and love. He reported that you always have good memories of us and that you long to see us, as we also long to see you.

#### **1** Thessalonians **3** CSB

<sup>7</sup> Therefore, brothers and sisters, in all our distress and affliction, we were encouraged about you through your faith. <sup>8</sup> For now we live, if you stand firm in the Lord. <sup>9</sup> How can we thank God for you in return for all the joy we experience before our God because of you, <sup>10</sup> as we pray very earnestly night and day to see you face to face and to complete what is lacking in your faith?

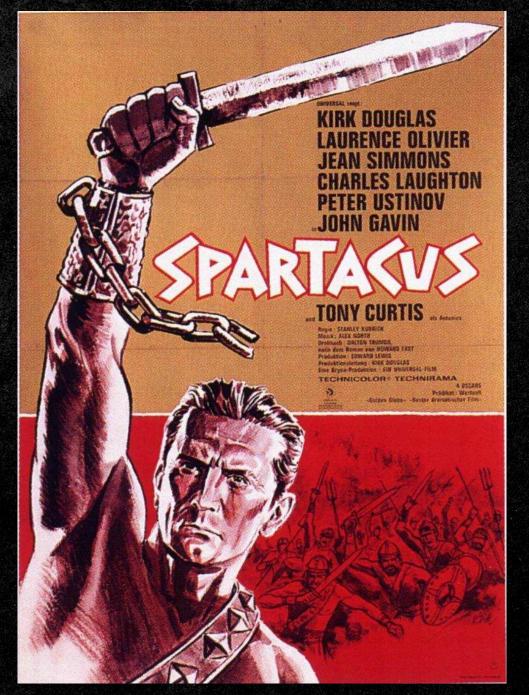
#### **1** Thessalonians **3** CSB

- A 2:17-18 Great desire to see your face.
  - 2:19-20 You are our glory and joy.

В

D

- C 3:1-2 When we could endure it no longer, we sent Tim to you.
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- C' 3:5 When I could endure it no longer, I sent him to you.
- B' 3:6-9 We have joy because of you.
- A' 3:10 We may see your face.



courtesy Universal

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**1** Thessalonians **2** CSB

You've got a friend in me You've got a friend in me You've got troubles, well I've got 'em too There isn't anything I wouldn't do for you We stick together and we see it through You've got a friend in me



You've got a friend in me You've got a friend in me When the road looks rough ahead And you're miles and miles From your nice warm bed Just remember what your old pal said Boy, you've got a friend in me <sup>17</sup> But as for us, brothers and sisters, after we were forced to leave you for a short time (in person, not in heart), we greatly desired and made every effort to return and see you face to face. <sup>18</sup> So we wanted to come to you—even I, Paul, time and again—but Satan hindered us. <sup>19</sup> For who is our hope or joy or crown of boasting in the presence of our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you? <sup>20</sup> Indeed you are our glory and joy!

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courtesy UT Austin

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Chad Bailey: Oh man, biblical community can be hard sometimes, but in the Spirit's strength, we can see miracles happen in our hearts and in our relationships!

courtesy TMCC

#### (Chad Bailey) So, Christian, when was the last time you...

- humbly spoke a hard truth to someone you love?
- graciously received a hard truth from someone who loves you?
- showed love to a Christian you do not like all that much?
- appreciated the diversity of thought and personality of someone with whom you disagree on important, but not Gospel, issues?
- learned something from someone younger/less experienced than you?
- celebrated someone's victory or provision in an area of life where you are still waiting on your own?

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, when we could no longer stand it, we thought it was better to be left alone in Athens. <sup>2</sup> And we sent Timothy, our brother and God's coworker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you concerning your faith

<sup>5</sup> For this reason, when I could no longer stand it, I also sent him to find out about your faith, fearing that the tempter had tempted you and that our labor might be for nothing.

#### **1** Thessalonians **3** CSB



DEN ONBEKENDEN GOD. DEZEN DAN DIEN GIJ NIET KENNENDE DIENT, VERKONDIG IK ULIEDEN' HAND. 17:23

courtesy Gospel Images

Paul before the Areopagus Jan van 't Hoff 2005



courtesy Random

<sup>30</sup> ...the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

**Ephesians 4 ESV** 

<sup>6</sup> I am confident of this very thing, that He [God] who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

**Philippians 1 NASB** 

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, when we could no longer stand it, we thought it was better to be left alone in Athens. <sup>2</sup> And we sent Timothy, our brother and God's coworker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you concerning your faith

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#### **1** Thessalonians **3** CSB

Having a child is like having your heart walk around outside your body for the rest of your life.



# I just wanted to hear your voice.



I am fine, Mom. No, I didn't call because no one uses a smart phone to actually call...it's creepy, archaic, and embarrassing...use finder the app like Dad does and you'll know where I am...

courtesy Shutterstock (conversation dialogue courtesy of your son)

#### 1 Thessalonians 3 CSB

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, when we could no longer stand it, we thought it was better to be left alone in Athens. <sup>2</sup> And we sent Timothy, our brother and God's <u>coworker</u> in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you concerning your faith

Greek: συνεργόν sunergon = compound formed of sun [the strongest term for unity] + ergo [work]; a person of teamwork in a super-strong partnership

#### 1 Thessalonians 3 CSB

<sup>6</sup> But now Timothy has come to us from you and brought us good news about your <u>faith</u> and love. He reported that you always have good memories of us and that you long to see us, as we also long to see you.

Greek:  $\pi$ io $\tau$ ic pistis = moral certainty about something that is true; from an earlier term that meant to be convinced of something reasonable

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Greek: συνεργὸν sunergon = compound formed of sun [the strongest term for unity] + ergo [work]; a person of teamwork in a super-strong partnership <sup>6</sup> But now Timothy has come to us from you and brought us good news about your <u>faith</u> and love.

Greek: πίστις pistis = moral certainty about something that is true; from an earlier term that meant to be convinced of something reasonable (Jodie Berndt) According to [a new study] prayer makes a difference – even when one or both partners are being unkind. It reads: "When people pray for the well-being of their spouse when they feel a negative emotion in the marriage, both partners – the one doing the praying and the one being prayed for – report greater relationship satisfaction." "When people pray for the well-being of their spouse when they feel a negative emotion in the marriage, both partners – the one doing the praying and the one being prayed for – report greater relationship satisfaction."

"Greater relationship satisfaction." That sounds very important and official. But let's put it plainly, shall we? If you're annoyed with your spouse – they left the toilet seat up, they were late again, they did whatever – don't get mad. Try praying for them instead. It will make you both happier. – Jodie Berndt, "The Secret to a Happy Marriage"

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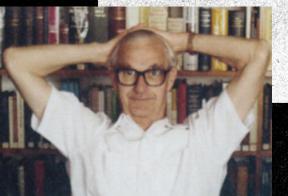
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<sup>6</sup> But now Timothy has come to us from you and brought us good news about your faith and <u>love</u>. He reported that you always have good memories of us and that you long to see us, as we also long to see you.

Greek: ἀγάπη agape = deepest of the four Greek words for love; other-centered, self-sacrificial, covenant love

The specifically Christian quality denoted by *agape* is never natural to man; it only comes to those who have been transformed by the



power of God. Whether it is exercised towards believers or non-believers, *agape* is the gift of God. – Leon Morris

<sup>7</sup> Therefore, <u>brothers and sisters</u>, in all our distress and affliction, we were encouraged about you through your faith.

Greek: ἀδελφός adelphos = from the womb; idea of being outside the womb but still connected by their parentage bond; a term Paul uses only of people who believe in Jesus



#### <sup>8</sup> For now we live, if you <u>stand firm</u> in the Lord.

#### Greek: στήκω steko = to stand fast, as in battle



### *Constellation* 372 gun power



*Vengeance* 559 gun power

courtesy US Naval Library



#### Thomas Truxton Captain



courtesy US Naval Academy





USS Constellation v. La Vengeance Tom Freeman 2016

#### **1** Thessalonians **3** CSB

# <sup>8</sup> For now we live, if you <u>stand firm</u> in the Lord.

## Greek: στήκω steko = to stand fast, as in battle

courtesy pinturadelaguerre

<sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup> And may the Lord cause you to increase and overflow with love for one another and for everyone, just as we do for you. <sup>13</sup> May he make your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. Amen.



courtesy Charles Stone

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courtesy Naijag

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courtesy life love and sugar



courtesy Irish Mirror



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**1** Thessalonians **3** CSB



courtesy dash of sanity [Why do cake websites have the best names?]

Wayne, I have spent some time meditating on your note and found it helpful. I am struggling with my attitude and behavior toward a few brothers and sisters in Christ. This text reminds me: that I must pray for them and myself; that I must remember how Jesus loved me and continues to love me even when I offend Him more than I am offended; and that one day I will stand before Him and give an account for how I loved them.

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[It's] an outburst of the earnest conviction which was uppermost in the Apostle's mind of the utter worthlessness of all human efforts without the divine aid. – J.B. Lightfoot, *Notes on the Epistles of St. Paul*.

