

As you all know being, a First Christian Church we are so blessed to understand the scripture and the teachings of the early Church through expository preaching and teaching. Which is Chapter by Chapter and Verse by Verse.

As you can see, while we study and teach the scriptures in that way, we are able to see that much of what is being taught in Churches today do not follow the teachings of the early Church but are holding to the traditions, opinions, and systems of men. There will come times in your life while studying and reading in an expository manner you will have a “wait a minute” moment.



These are good and healthy. They maybe “wait a minute” this is not what I was taught all those

years, or “wait a minute” now I get what is being said. It happens because some themes, as we have seen last week, are repeated in other letters from the apostles.

1. Such as the need for fruits and works in a believer.
2. The need of study and being rooted or being with Christ at His return.

These become, “wait a minute” moments that open our eyes and give us a bigger picture!

As we continue in our series in 1 Thessalonians. We left off with the Apostle Paul’s urgency to come to Thessalonica and provide for the people that which is lacking, so that they will stand faultless and blameless on the day of Lord.

Now I want to make sure we understand what is being said, when he says “that which is lacking.” It is not that the cross alone was not sufficient to save, but rather as Christians we are called to grow in our faith.

The cross saves us and is sufficient for our salvation alone, yet it is the responsibility of the believer to continue to act on what they believe.



How to, and when to, is usually what is lacking. This is where Pastors, Teachers, Apostles, and Prophets enter the scene.

The Apostle Paul indicates that he wants them to be faultless on The Day of the Lord. The day of the Lord, is His return. It will be glorious for those who love Him and wrath to those who reject and fall short.

Isa\_2:12 For the day of the LORD of hosts Shall come upon everything proud and lofty, Upon everything lifted up—And it shall be brought low—

Isa\_13:6 Wail, for the day of the LORD is at hand! It will come as destruction from the Almighty.

Isa\_13:9 Behold, the day of the LORD comes, Cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, To lay the land desolate; And He will destroy its sinners from it.

Eze\_30:3 For the day is near, Even the day of the LORD is near; It will be a day of clouds, the time of the Gentiles.

Joe\_1:15 Alas for the day! For the day of the LORD is at hand; It shall come as destruction from the Almighty.

Joe\_2:1 Blow the trumpet in Zion, And sound an alarm in My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; For the day of the LORD is coming, For it is at hand:

Joe\_2:11 The LORD gives voice before His army, For His camp is very great; For strong is the One who executes His word. For the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; Who can endure it?

Joe\_2:31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD.

Amo\_5:18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! For what good is the day of the LORD to you? It will be darkness, and not light.

Amo\_5:20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light? Is it not very dark, with no brightness in it?

Oba\_1:15 "For the day of the LORD upon all the nations is near; As you have done, it shall be done to you; Your reprisal shall return upon your own head.

Zep\_1:7 Be silent in the presence of the Lord GOD; For the day of the LORD is at hand, For the LORD has prepared a sacrifice; He has invited His guests.

Zep\_1:14 The great day of the LORD is near; It is near and hastens quickly. The noise of the day of the LORD is bitter; There the mighty men shall cry out.

Zec\_14:1 Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, And your spoil will be divided in your midst.

Mal\_4:5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.

Act\_2:20 THE SUN SHALL BE TURNED INTO DARKNESS, AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD, BEFORE THE COMING OF THE GREAT AND AWESOME DAY OF THE LORD.

1Co\_5:5 deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

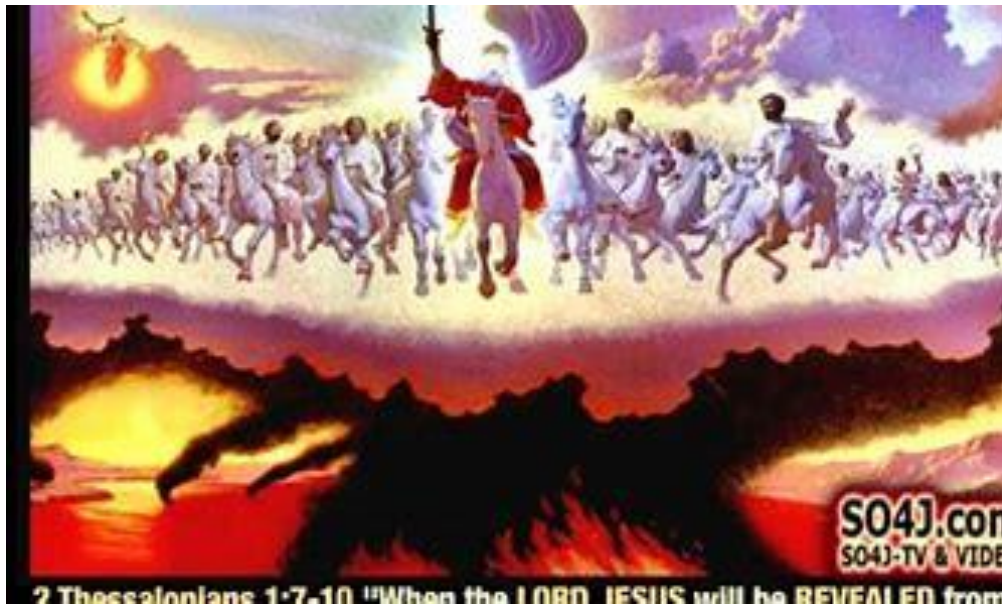
2Co\_1:14 (as also you have understood us in part), that we are your boast as you also are ours, in the day of the Lord Jesus.

2Pe\_3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-4 But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. (2) For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. (3) For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. (4)

But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.

It is very evident that the Day of the Lord will come and those who do not know Him will be judged and destroyed. Those who do know Christ will be saved.



This is the goal that Biblical Pastors and Teachers have for those under their care, that they will be saved.

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We continue in Chapter 4

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God; (2) for you know what

commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

A) As Christians our aim is to please God. This must first begin with Faith.

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Just like in everything...Unless you believe there is some form of reward or gain in doing what you are doing you will not be committed to doing it. Work, school, fitness, or anything else.

We know that following the Lord by fellowshiping, learning, reading, praying, and doing good works, there is reward. It is the catalyst that motivates us to work harder, do more, and become more committed to our Lord and Master who rewards us.

**2 Timothy 4:7-8** I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. (8) Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who love His appearing.



**James 1:12** Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.



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B) We please God by having faith, then setting our minds on the things of God.

**Romans 8:5-8** For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. (6) For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. (7) Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. (8) So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

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The verse indicates how we ought to walk and to please God and know the commandments given to follow. We have these today by the scriptures:

1 Timothy 4:13-16 Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. (14) Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.

(15) Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

(16) Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

Further,

2 Timothy 3:16-17 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, (17) that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.



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(3) For this is the will of God, your sanctification:

A) This has ALWAYS been the will of God for Christians. Sanctification. Being set apart from the world. These days unfortunately you cannot tell the difference. There are those who claim themselves to be Christian and look like the world.

**Sanctification means being set apart.**

John 15:18-20 "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. (19) If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

(20) Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also.

Also,

John 17:13-19 But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves. (14) I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. (15) I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. (16) They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

(17) Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

(18) As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. (19) And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.

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In conclusion,

- A) We are to aim to please God.
- B) We know how we should walk.
- C) We are called to following the teachings of Christ.
- D) We are called to be sanctified.