

1 Thessalonians 4
Don't Shoot the Messenger
April 26, 2026
Hymn # 295 (B) Wonderful Words of Life

Thesis verse for Chapter 4:

- vs 1 - "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;"

Theme for Chapter 4 - "This word, though preached by man, is still God's Word"

Chapter 4 explained, and applied to the Thessalonians and to RBC

1. The Authority of the message is from God, not the messenger 1-8
 - a. Compare vs 1 to vs 8 - what I received I gave (1 Cor. 11:23)
 - b. Explained
 - i. vs 2 - WE gave through JESUS
 - ii. vs 3 - This, what Paul commanded, is the will of God
 - iii. vss 3b-6 - Teachings on sexual purity used as an example
 - iv. vs 7 - Who called them to holiness and not uncleanness? _____,
not Paul
 - v. vs 8 - If you reject this teaching you reject GOD, not man
 - c. Conclusion = What Paul is saying is not Paul's law but God's.
2. The Thessalonians too have the Authoritative message and are authorized to share it. 9-12
 - a. Vs 9 - You too are taught by God
 - b. Vs 10 - You are teaching the Macedonians
 - c. Vs 11-12 - The Macedonians were given the message. Paul urges them to continue to live and "preach" more
3. Comfort others with the message that was given 13-18
 - a. Vs 18 - Comfort others with this fact
 - b. Vs 14 - Why do they "believe" this?
 - c. Vs 15 - "We say to you", "By the Word of the Lord".
 - d. Vss 15b-17 - The Words of comfort to share
 - e. Vs 18 - What I heard I share, what you hear you share

The Application for us from what Paul gave to the Thessalonians.

- You were told the Gospel by someone, that Gospel was not their words but God's Words. You then, per the example of 1 Thess. 4, should share with others knowing it is not your words but God's Word.