

# The Word Sounded Forth

I Thess 1: 4-8

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- Last week as we started our study of I Thess
  - We discovered three foundational stones (Vs 3)
    - First....work of faith
    - Second....the labor of love
    - Third....the steadfastness of hope (patience)
- In these three we find the essence of the Christian life
  - First....James 2: 14-26
    - I will show you my faith by my works (Vs 18)

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- Secondly.....the labor of love
  - Note the word....."labor"
  - In the context of that word there is much meaning
    - There is toil and fatigue
    - There is difficulty and persistence
    - There is antagonistic features
  - What the Holy Spirit is saying is.....
    - The work of faith will never be accomplished apart from a labor of love.

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- Finally, there is the steadfastness of hope
  - Phil 3: 12-16; Hebrews 12: 1-3
- I Thess 1: 4-8
  - I think we do ourselves a disservice by not meditating on this passage
  - We should really think hard on this question....
  - Would I still follow if the circumstances today were like those in Thessalonica? (Vs 6)

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- Vs 6....having received the word in much tribulation with joy of the Holy Spirit.
  - How did the Gospel come to them?
- Note the following (Vs 5)
  - In power.....
  - In the Holy Spirit.....
  - With full conviction.....
- What do these terms mean?

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- “In power” .....
- Some say this is with a miraculous display???
- Yet in Acts 17, we do not read of any miracles??
- If not in miraculous power what is meant here for you and me today?
  - First....Romans 1: 16-17
    - “For it is the power of God”
    - The Gospel brings us to a realization
      - That we have sinned against a Thrice Holy God

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- That sin, has produced in us a death like existence.
  - Eternal separation from God
  - With no hope of ever saving yourself
    - Bringing us to the footstool of His mercy
    - And producing in us the fruit of repentance
- “In the Holy Spirit” .....
- Bearing in us an outward testimony of His ability to save to the uttermost.
- Inspiring us with a living faith in Christ alone
- And revealing in us the hope of glory

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- Note these follow-up verses
  - Gal 1: 15-16.....
    - To reveal His Son in me
  - Col 1: 25-27.....
    - Which is Christ in you the hope of glory
  - Ephesians 3: 14-19.....
    - “So that Christ may dwelt in your hearts.
    - “So that you may be filled to all the fulness of God”
- “With full conviction” .....
  - Conviction of what?



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- Eph 1: 3-12.....
  - The rights of an adopted child
  - Rom 8: 14-18
  - In Christ.....I know.....
    - The privileges of being a child of God
    - The comfort of being a child of God
      - Rom 8: 38-39
  - That I am fully accepted by the Father based on His Son's sacrificial death for me

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- Vs 8....”for the word of the Lord sounded forth from you”
  - This is the only time in the New Testament that this phrase “sounded forth” is used.
  - It is used in the context of a trumpet call
    - Numbers 10: 1-10
    - Interestingly, trumpets are never used to put babies to sleep
    - During battles, trumpets are sounded to give direction

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- These Christian, these new believers were the clarion call to their society
  - Not by what they said but by what they did
  - Vs 9....they turned from idols.....
  - To serve the living and true God
- Question....how does I Cor 14: 8 apply today?
  - Is the church sounding an “indistinct sound?”
  - Is this church sounding an indistinct sound?
  - Is my life sounding an indistinct sound?

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- I Cor 15: 52
  - For the trumpet shall sound
  - Dead shall be raised....
    - Eph 2: 1-3
  - Incorruptible????
  - Question.....
    - Does that describe my life?
    - Or is my life corrupted by sin and lukewarmness?
- The verse goes on to say.....
  - We shall be changed.....
  - The Thessalonians.....lived changed lives
    - Am I?

Wonderful Merciful Savior

# Wonderful Merciful Savior

- Wonderful, merciful Savior  
Precious Redeemer and Friend  
Who would have thought that a Lamb  
could..
- Rescue the souls of men  
Oh, You rescue the souls of men

Wonderful Merciful Savior

- Counselor, Comforter, Keeper  
Spirit we long to embrace  
You offer hope when our hearts have  
Hopelessly lost our way  
Oh, we've hopelessly lost the way

# Wonderful Merciful Savior

- You are the One that we praise  
You are the One we adore  
You give the healing and grace  
Our hearts always hunger for  
Oh, our hearts always hunger for



# Wonderful Merciful Savior

- Almighty, infinite Father  
Faithfully loving Your own  
Here in our weakness, You find us  
Falling before Your throne  
Oh, we're falling before Your throne

# Wonderful Merciful Savior

- You are the One that we praise  
You are the One we adore  
You give the healing and grace  
Our hearts always hunger for  
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