

1 Thessalonians 5:23-28

SANTIFICATION

- God Himself is the one who give peace and sanctification
- Sanctify means to make holy, separate from the profane and dedicate to God
- Wholly or entirely, used once in scripture - no doubt to meaning - completion
- Spirit, soul and body here points to the entire believer in every way
- No part of the Christian should be left out of the consecration, no lacking parts
- Spirit here is consciousness that perceives the divine, conduit for nearness to God
- Soul here is intellect, will, feelings - things to be directed by the Spirit
- Body here is simply reference to bodily self control, the physical living and breathing
- Any hope at future completion or guarantee is God's faithfulness towards us
- He will accomplish all His good pleasure of His goodness towards the church
- Parousia comes back into picture as in earlier chapters for the coming of the Lord
- As sure as the return is, is as sure is the faithfulness of God to present us blameless
- Perfect in every respect (1 Cor. 15:47; 2 Tim 4:18; 2 Peter 3:14) lacking in nothing

DEPENDENCE ON THE CHURCH

- Paul needs the church to pray for him
- Dependence on the Brethren is throughout his letters (Rom 15:30; Eph 6:19)
- This is a different prayer of surety, surrender, blessing & thankfulness
- Pray of our brothers & sisters, those who are also over us
- Greet & depart with love and affection
- Even those who are hard to love and enjoy
- Paul desire that all (as in everyone) will hear this letter
- Adjure, to cause someone to swear by, oath to hear this letter
- This letter brings peace by bringing a letter of truth and dependence on God
- The everflowing and overflowing fountain is to supply all our needs
- Paul ends with grace along with the peace as in many of his letters
- Paul speaks to everyone or every part of the church in this letter