

1 Thessalonians 4:1- 8

The will of God is Sanctification

WHAT PAUL PREACHED WHILE IN THESSALNIKA

- Paul request & exhorts is to lay the stress of the people not the request itself
- Brothers (Philadelphia) portrays community as a family, connected the disconnected
- The connecting fiber is the Lord Jesus Christ himself
- To walk and please God must go together, can't please God & walk your own way
- Walk in a continual or habitual way that there is an overflowing or abounding
- He asks them to live in the instructions that he preached
- He preached those short months on the commandments of Christ
- Remember there was no Church history or tradition to help guide them
- No theological writings, podcast, old sermons nor any commentaries
- Commandment here is the world for instruction from a superior officer passed down
- Essentially, Paul preached the words of Christ, the actions of Christ and call of Christ
- Ultimately with the idea to reflect Christ so much that the world can't tell the difference
- Closer and closer resembling those words, actions and repeating the call of Christ
- Looking more like Christ day and day is the meaning of Sanctification

SPELLING OUT SOME OF SANTIFICATION

- The will of God simply the desires & purposes of God, what He wants & plans
- The desire of God is for you is to be saved and love Him more (Faith & Love)
- This is not a conclusive list but it is practical and pertinent to that church
- *1. Abstain from sexual immorality*, means to hold oneself from illicit sin in nature
- This applies to the turning away from pagan ceremony and Greek-Roman norms
- The had just as loose morals in that day as in ours
- How do you abstain, you possess your mind, body and soul to accomplish goals
- Vessel is for general reference but early church fathers translated 'wife'
- Passions are the desires of the world, compared to the the desire or will of God
- Gentiles were not known for practicing self-mastery or self-control
- *2. Do not defraud or transgress your brother*, means do not go beyond/exceed proper
- It is the idea that some claim more than their due, to selfishly attempt gain by all means
- To disregard the rights of others or place your passions over others rights
- The Lord carries out justice on all fronts perfectly, He needs no help from us
- It is a justice that carries the view of the completed act of righteous decision
- The calling of holiness is not changed by circumstances but holiness resulting from it
- Whoever rejects this, is setting aside, laying down, to spurn in repeated action
- They are not rejecting you but they are rejecting the one who you resemble
- This is part of what it takes to present a spotless bride one day