



1 Thessalonians: *Living in Light of Christ's Return*

Part 4: 1 Thessalonians 3:11-4:12

Introduction

Paul prays for their holiness (3:11-13)

In this prayer there are two things I want us to notice. The first thing is...

Who Paul prays to

- ❖ **1 Thessalonians 3:11**

What Paul prays for

1. That God would get them there

- ❖ **1 Thessalonians 3:11**

2. That God would cause them to abound in love

- ❖ **1 Thessalonians 3:12**

3. That God would make them holy and blameless

- ❖ **1 Thessalonians 3:13**

- ❖ 1 Thessalonians 4:7 — *For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness.*

- ❖ Ephesians 1:4 — *he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.*

- ❖ Ephesians 5:25—27 — *Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.*

Paul tells them walk in holiness (4:1-12)

What does this mean in general?

- ❖ **1 Thessalonians 4:1-2**

- ❖ Romans 12:1-2 — *I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*



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- ❖ Psalm 149:1-4—*Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the godly! Let Israel be glad in his Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King! Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre! For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with salvation.*
- ❖ Zephaniah 3:17—*The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing*

What does this mean in particular, practically?

1. Live free of sexual immorality

❖ **1 Thessalonians 4:3**

- ❖ Ephesians 5:3—*But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you*

❖ **1 Thessalonians 4:4-5**

❖ **1 Thessalonians 4:6**

❖ **1 Thessalonians 4:7-8**

2. Exercise brotherly love

❖ **1 Thessalonians 4:9-10**

- ❖ Jeremiah 31:33—*For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts.*

3. Live respectable lives

❖ **1 Thessalonians 4:11-12**

- ❖ Romans 12:18—*If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.*
- ❖ 2 Thessalonians 3:10—*we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies.*