

# 1 THESSALONIANS

## “RELATIONSHIP, REVIEW, AND RAPTURE”

Key Verse: "For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. {17} Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord." 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

Prepared by James T. Bartsch  
March, 2008

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A1 THE RELATION OF PAUL TO THE CHURCH OF THESSALONICA  
1 - 3

A2 THE COMMANDS AND TEACHING OF PAUL TO THE CHURCH OF  
THESSALONICA 4-5

Major Divisions of 1 Thessalonians  
Based on the ANALYSIS OF 1 THESSALONIANS  
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### **A1 THE RELATION OF PAUL TO THE CHURCH OF THESSALONICA 1 - 3**

- B1 His Greeting 1:1
- B2 His Prayer of Thanks 1:2-3
- B3 His Assurance of God's Choice of Them 1:4-10
- B4 His Approval of His Ministry toward Them 2:1-12
- B5 His Thanks for Their Acceptance of God's Word 2:13-16
- B6 His Eagerness to See Them 2:17 - 3:13

### **A2 THE COMMANDS AND TEACHING OF PAUL TO THE CHURCH OF THESSALONICA 4-5**

- B1 Refresher Commands 4:1-12
- B2 Teaching Concerning Those Dead in Christ 4:13-18
- B3 Teaching Concerning Times, Seasons and the Day of the Lord 5:1-11
- B4 Instructions Relating to the Assembly 5:12-13
- B5 Concluding Exhortations 5:14-22
- B6 Concluding Prayer 5:23-25
- B7 Farewell 5:26-28

Condensed Outline of 1 Thessalonians  
Based on the ANALYSIS OF 1 THESSALONIANS  
Prepared by James T. Bartsch  
March, 2008

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### **A1 THE RELATION OF PAUL TO THE CHURCH OF THESSALONICA 1 - 3**

#### **B1 His Greeting 1:1**

- C1 The writers: Paul, Silas and Timothy
- C2 The recipients: the church of the Thessalonians
- C3 The blessing: Grace and peace

#### **B2 His Prayer of Thanks 1:2-3**

- C1 The recipient: God 1:2
- C2 The time: always
- C3 The subjects: all of you
- C4 The vehicle: prayers
- C5 The content: remembering their faith, love and hope 1:3

#### **B3 His Assurance of God's Choice of Them 1:4-10**

- C1 The statement of his knowledge 1:4
- C2 The evidences of his knowledge 1:5-10

#### **B4 His Approval of His Initial Ministry toward Them 2:1-12**

- C1 His successful beginning (his entrance not in vain) 2:1
- C2 His boldness despite persecution 2:2
- C3 His straightforward exhortation 2:3
- C4 His desire to please God, not men 2:4
- C5 The absence of improper motives 2:5-7
- C6 His gentleness among them as a nursing mother 2:7

C7 His sacrifice 2:8-9

C8 His ethical conduct 2:10

C9 His speaking as a father 2:11-12

**B5 His Thanks for Their Acceptance of God's Word 2:13-16**

C1 Paul's ceaseless thanks to God 2:13

C2 Their welcoming of the apostolic word

C3 Their imitation of the churches of Judea 2:14-16

**B6 His Eagerness to See Them 2:17 - 3:13**

C1 His thwarted desire 2:17-20

C2 The ministry of Timothy 3:1-10

C3 The Prayer of Paul 3:11-13

**A2 THE COMMANDS AND TEACHING OF PAUL TO THE CHURCH OF THESSALONICA 4-5**

**B1 Refresher Commands: They must be... 4:1-12**

C1 Improving in their walk 4:1-2

C2 Sanctified in their moral behavior 4:3-8

C3 Increasing in their brotherly love 4:9-10

C4 Diligent in their work 4:11-12

**B2 Teaching Concerning Those Dead in Christ 4:13-18**

C1 His desire for them 4:13

C2 His assurance concerning the future 4:14-17

D1 The certainty of Christ's death and resurrection 4:14

D2 The priority of the dead in Christ 4:15

D3 The descent of Christ 4:16a

D4 The resurrection of the dead in Christ 4:16b

D5 The rapture of the living in Christ 4:17a

D6 The meeting in the air 4:17b

C3 His instruction that they comfort one another 4:18

**B3 Teaching Concerning Times, Seasons and the Day of the Lord 5:1-11**

- C1 Their awareness of future events 5:1-2
- C2 The illusory nature of the Day of the Lord 5:3
- C3 The believers' non-participation in the Day of the Lord 5:4-10
- C4 Their corporate need 5:11

**B4 Instructions Relating to the Assembly 5:12-13**

- C1 Regarding leaders 5:12-13
- C2 Regarding one another: "Be at peace among yourselves" 5:13

**B5 Concluding Exhortations 5:14-22**

- C1 The responsibility of the assembly toward types of people among them 5:14-15
- C2 The responsibility of individuals regarding their own spiritual lives 5:16-18

**B6 Concluding Prayer 5:23-24**

- C1 For the activity of God: "May the God of peace sanctify you completely 5:23
- C2 For the effect in the Thessalonians: their preservation 5:23
- C3 For the achievement: "Faithful is the one calling you, who indeed will do it" 5:24

**B7 Farewell 5:25-28**

- C1 The request for prayer 5:25
- C2 The exhortation to greet one another with a set-apart kiss 5:26
- C3 The charge to read the letter to all the brothers 5:27
- C4 The benediction of Christ's grace upon them 5:28

Outline of 1 Thessalonians

Based on the ANALYSIS OF 1 THESSALONIANS

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