

I THESSALONIANS – LESSON 2

I. PAUL EMPHASIZES THE CHARACTER OF HIS WORK IN THESSALONICA (2:1-12)

- A. Paul's work was not in vain (2:1-2).
 - 1. He spoke the gospel with boldness despite being shamefully treated in Philippi just before arriving in Thessalonica – Thessalonians knew it.
 - 2. He spoke the gospel with outward conflict and inward anxiety.

- B. Paul's exhorting work was pure (2:3-4)
 - 1. Void of error
 - 2. Void of sexual impurities as often seen in pagan religions
 - 3. Void of deceit
 - 4. Approved by the continual testing of God – not by pleasing men

- C. Paul's work was not for selfish gain (2:5-6)
 - 1. He did not use words of flattery – Thessalonians knew it.
 - 2. He did not have a covetous heart to disguise – God knew it.
 - 3. Along with Silas and Timothy, Paul did not seek the glory of anyone in Thessalonica by demanding support as apostles of Christ.

- D. Paul's work was goal-oriented (2:7-12)
 - 1. Paul and company were gentle with them – as a nurse with her own children.
 - 2. Paul and company were truly affectionate of brethren.
 - 3. Paul and company were careful not to create a barrier to the Gospel.
 - a. Worked with hands night and day as to not burden hearers – brethren could remember.
 - b. Lived holy, righteous and unblameable lives before hearers – brethren and God knew it.
 - 4. Paul and company were exhorting and encouraging as a loving father – each one knew it.
 - 5. The goal: Thessalonians live lives worthily of God.
 - a. Because it is God who has called them into his own kingdom and glory.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Paul's work in Thessalonica was not found to be _____.
- 2. Paul was treated _____ in Philippi.
 - a. Point out details from Acts 16 that describe the above treatment:

3. Paul preached to the Thessalonians with _____ and _____.
 - a. Show how his treatment could affect both of the above answers:
4. Paul's speaking of the gospel of God contained _____, but was void of _____, _____ and _____.
5. What was Paul's standard for approved preaching?
6. Why would a teacher use words of flattery?
7. Besides Paul, who else in Thessalonica refused to demand support as apostles of Christ?
8. Paul and his companions were _____ among the Thessalonians as a nurse giving warmth to her _____ children.
9. What else did Paul impart to the Thessalonians besides the gospel of God?
10. What *two things* did Paul and his friends do among the Thessalonians?
11. Why were these two characteristics important in spreading the gospel of God?
12. Paul dealt with each _____ of the Thessalonians as a _____ with his _____.
13. What *three areas* of Paul's apostolic work did he do among the Thessalonians?
14. What was the goal of Paul's work in the gospel of God?