



A Scenic Overlook

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1 & 2 Thessalonians

Background

Acts 17:1-9

1. Paul visited Thessalonica on his second
missionary journey.
2. Thessalonica was a vibrant and vital seaport
city in the largest Roman province,
Macedon. It was a sure point of passage for all
sailing the seas in the ancient world because the
Via Egnatia connected major
regions, travel, commerce, and more—the “I-20”
of the world.
3. Paul’s time in Thessalonica was limited—three
Sabbaths. It was a short visit, but great impact.
4. The letter written to the Thessalonians was the
first of all his writings—51-52 A.D.
5. Everywhere Paul went, there was riot
or revival.
6. Paul’s message was simple,
straightforward and
persuasive.
7. The book of 1 Thessalonians challenges believers
to walk faithfully
and live expectantly.

The book of 2 Thessalonians corrects false
teaching and calls for
responsible living.

Key Verse: 1 Thessalonians 5:23

Overview

1 Thessalonians

- A Powerful Ministry (1:1-10)
A Personal Ministry (2:1-16)
A Partnership Ministry (3:1-13)
A Purifying Ministry (4:1-12)
A Prophetic Ministry (4:13-5:28)

2 Thessalonians

- Strengthen the Stressful (1:1-12)
Comfort the Confused (2:1-17)
Discipline the Disorderly (3:1-18)

Instruction

1. The church at Thessalonica serves as a model
church in action and response.
2. The Holy Spirit is the unseen
reality and invisible
authority of our work and ministry.

3. Salvation is a 3-fold experience.

4. Discover the heart's desire of your pastor.

That my ministry would...

- not be in vain. (2:1)
- please God. (2:4)
- be marked by love,
affection and devotion. (2:7)
- result in a worthy walk
and a surrendered life. (2:12-13)

5. Prayer is the partnership ministry that binds our hearts to one another and grows our faith in God.

6. God is emphatic about the importance of purity in the life of every believer.

7. Paul offers comfort and hope in the face of death.

8. The reality of the rapture of the church is found in 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 1 Cor. 15:51 "a mystery".

Rapture

Sound of Trumpet
Meet the Lord in the Air
He Comes for His Saints
Emphasis on Rejoicing
Focused on Church
A "Mystery" is Revealed
The "Day of Christ"

Revelation

Sudden Appearance
Return to the Earth
Saints Come Also
Emphasis on Judgment
Focus is Israel/Nations
An OT Prophecy
The "Day of the Lord"

9. There is a coming tribulation and judgment for this planet.

5:9-11

Revelation 19:11-21

Zechariah 14:1-4

10. Paul closed every chapter with a reference to the coming of the Lord.
1:10, 2:19, 3:13, 4:17, 5:23

2 Thessalonians—To correct error in teaching and to reassure responsible living among those in Thessalonica.

Chapter 1 = Strengthening for the Stressful (1:7)

Chapter 2 = Confirming the Confused (2:3)

Chapter 3 = Disciplining the Disorderly (3:6, 10-15)

11. Paul provides us with a check list for positive living—what to do until Jesus comes.

1 Thessalonians 5:12-28