

Outline for First Thessalonians

- I. Introduction – 1:1
 - A. Senders
 - B. Receivers
 - C. Blessing
- II. Personal reflections – 1:2–3:13
 - A. Praising the Thessalonians – 1:2–10
 - 1. Thanksgiving – 1:2–3
 - 2. Specific reasons – 1:4–10
 - a) Because of the way they received the gospel – 1:4–5
 - b) Because of their testimony to the world – 1:6–10
 - B. Reminders to the Thessalonians – 2:1–16
 - 1. How the gospel was given to them – 2:1–12
 - a) The purity of the apostle’s motives – 2:1–6
 - b) The amount of the apostle’s sacrifice – 2:7–8
 - c) The integrity of the apostle’s conduct – 2:9–12
 - 2. How they received the gospel – 2:13–16
 - a) The veracity of the apostle’s message – 2:13
 - b) The result of the apostle’s message – 2:14–16
 - C. Worries about the Thessalonians – 2:17–3:13
 - 1. Paul’s worries and plans – 2:17–20
 - 2. Timothy’s visit – 3:1–5
 - 3. Timothy’s report – 3:6–10
 - 4. Paul’s prayer – 3:11–13
- III. Practical instructions and exhortations – 4:1–5:24
 - A. Christian life – 4:1–5:11
 - 1. General conduct – 4:1–2
 - 2. Moral purity – 4:3–8
 - 3. Brotherly love – 4:9–10
 - 4. Occupy yourself in your own matters – 4:11–12
 - 5. Be comforted with the hope of the second coming – 4:13–18
 - 6. Personal expectation: Live as sons of light – 5:1–11
 - a) The Day of the LORD – 5:1–3
 - b) Consequent preparation – 5:4–11
 - B. Life of the Church – 5:12–15
 - 1. Attitude toward the leaders – 5:12–13a
 - 2. Relationship amongst themselves – 5:13b–15
 - C. Holy Life – 5:16–24
 - 1. Personal life – 5:16–18
 - 2. Bodily life – 5:19–22
 - 3. Divine Enablement – 5:23–24
- IV. Conclusion – 5:25–28
 - A. Personal Requests – 5:25–27
 - B. Blessing – 5:28

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- I. Introduction – 1:1
 - A. Senders
 - B. Receivers
 - C. Blessing
- II. Encouragement in persecution – 1:3-12
 - A. Praise for perseverance – 1:3-4
 - B. Explanation of the purpose of persecution – 1:5-10
 - C. Request for the constant spiritual growth – 1:11-12
- III. Instruction about the Day of the Lord – 2:1-12
 - A. It will happen in the future – 2:1-2
 - B. Concrete signs will precede it – 2:3-12
- IV. Thanksgiving and exhortation – 2:13-17
 - A. Praise for their calling – 2:13-15
 - B. Prayer for their comfort and perseverance – 2:16-17
- V. Confession of trust – 3:1-5
 - A. Plea that they pray – 3:1-2
 - B. Reminder of God's faithfulness – 3:3-5
- VI. Order to work – 3:6-15
 - A. Depart from the lazy man – 3:6
 - B. Imitate him – 3:7-9
 - C. Work or do not eat – 3:10
 - D. Exhort the lazy man – 3:11-13
 - E. Admonition and discipline for the disobedient – 3:14-15
- VII. Conclusion – 3:16-18
 - A. Invocation – 3:16
 - B. Paul's signature – 3:17
 - C. Blessing – 3:18