



**The heart of a missionary—  
Living in light of Christ's Imminent Return  
1 Thessalonians.  
Pastor Nick Lee  
Sept. 15, 2024**

**AS IT COMES TO THE END TIMES:  
IT IS ALL ABOUT JESUS!**

“Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.”

Acts 1:11 (NASB)

**According to Matthew 24:4-14; Mark 13:5-13; Luke 21:11  
Last days marked by escalating events of:**

**DECEPTION**

**SIGNS IN THE HEAVENS**

**ECONOMIC TURMOIL**

**SEISMIC ACTIVITY**

**PERSECUTION**

**POLITICAL CONFLICT**

**FAMINES**

**COMMOTIONS**

**ETHNIC CONFLICT**

**FALSE PROPHETS**

**WANING FAITH**


**FEARFUL SIGHTS**

**WARS AND RUMORS**

**OF WARS**

**PESTILENCE**

**DISEASES**



**“The eyes of faith see history inching closer and closer to a new era, a heavenly destiny. God tells us what to expect not to scare us, but to prepare us.”**

**-Max Lucado in: *What Happens Next***

## SCRIPTURE READING

(1) Then he came to Derbe and Lystra. And behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a certain Jewish woman who believed, but his father was Greek. (2) He was well spoken of by the brethren who were at Lystra and Iconium. (3) Paul wanted to have him go on with him. And he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in the region, for they all knew that his father was Greek. (4) And as they went through the cities, they delivered to them the decrees to keep which were determined by the apostles and elders at Jerusalem. (5) So, the churches were strengthened in the faith and increased in number daily.

Acts 16:1-5 (NKJV)

## SCRIPTURE READING CONTINUED

(6) Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. (7) After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them.. (8) So passing by Mysia they came down to Troas. (9) And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." (10) Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.

Acts 16:6-10 (NKJV).



## **DURING PAUL'S 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey**

(1) Now it happened at Iconium that they went together to the synagogue of the Jews, and so spoke that a great multitude both of the Jews and of the Greeks believed. (2) But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brethren. (3) Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands. (4) But the multitude of the city was divided; part sided with the Jews, and part with the apostles. (5) And when a violent attempt was made by both the Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to abuse and stone them, (6) they became aware of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding region. (7) And they were preaching the gospel there. ... (19) Then Jews from Antioch and Iconium came there; and having persuaded the multitudes, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead. (20) However, when the disciples gathered around him, he rose up and went into the city. And the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.

Act 14:1-7, 19-20 (NKJV)



<b>Location in Acts</b>	<b>Locations and Events</b>	<b>Approximate Date</b>
<b>Acts 13:1-14:28</b>	<b>First Missionary Journey</b>	<b>47-48 AD</b>
<b>Acts 15:1-35</b>	<b>Jerusalem Council*</b>	<b>49 AD</b>
<b>Acts 15:36-18:22</b>	<b>Second Missionary Journey 1Thessalonians was written between 49-51</b>	<b>49-52 AD</b>
<b>Acts 18:22-20:38</b>	<b>Third Missionary Journey</b>	<b>53-57 AD</b>

## WHEN/WHERE PAUL LIKELY WROTE 1 THESSALONIANS

(1) After these things Paul departed from Athens and went to Corinth. ... (4) And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath and persuaded both Jews and Greeks. (5) When Silas and Timothy had come from Macedonia, Paul was compelled by the Spirit and testified to the Jews that Jesus is the Christ. (6) But when they opposed him and blasphemed, he shook his garments and said to them, "Your blood be upon your own heads; I am clean. From now on I will go to the Gentiles. ... (9) Now the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, "Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent, (10) for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you, for I have many people in this city." (11) And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

Acts 18:1, 18:4-6, 18:9-11 (NKJV)

## THE UPROAR IN THESSALONICA

(1) Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of Jews. (2) Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, (3) explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying “This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ.” (4) and some of them were persuaded, and a great multitude of the devout Greeks, and not a few of the leading women, joined Paul and Silas. (5) But the Jews who were not persuaded, became envious, took some of the evil men from the marketplace, gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. (6) But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, crying out, “These who have turned the world upside down have here too.” / Acts 17:1-6 (NKJV)

## THE UPROAR IN THESSALONICA CONTINUED

(7) Jason has harbored them, and these are all acting contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another king—Jesus.” (8) And they troubled the crowd and the rulers of the city when they heard these things. (9) So when they had taken security from Jason and the rest, they let them go. (10) Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. (11) These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so. (12) Therefore many of them believed, and also not a few of the Greeks, prominent women as well as men. (13) But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was preached by Paul at Berea, they came there also and stirred up the crowds. (14) Then immediately **the brethren sent Paul away, to go to the sea** (Corinth- Acts 18); but both Silas and Timothy remained there.

Acts 17:7-14 (NKJV)

**(7) But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children. (8) So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.**

**1 Thessalonians 2:7-8  
(NKJV)**





**1:1-5 Thanksgiving**

**3:11-13 Endurance**

**5:23-25 Closing/Final**

**Chapters 1-3: Celebration!**



**Chapters 4-5: Challenges!**



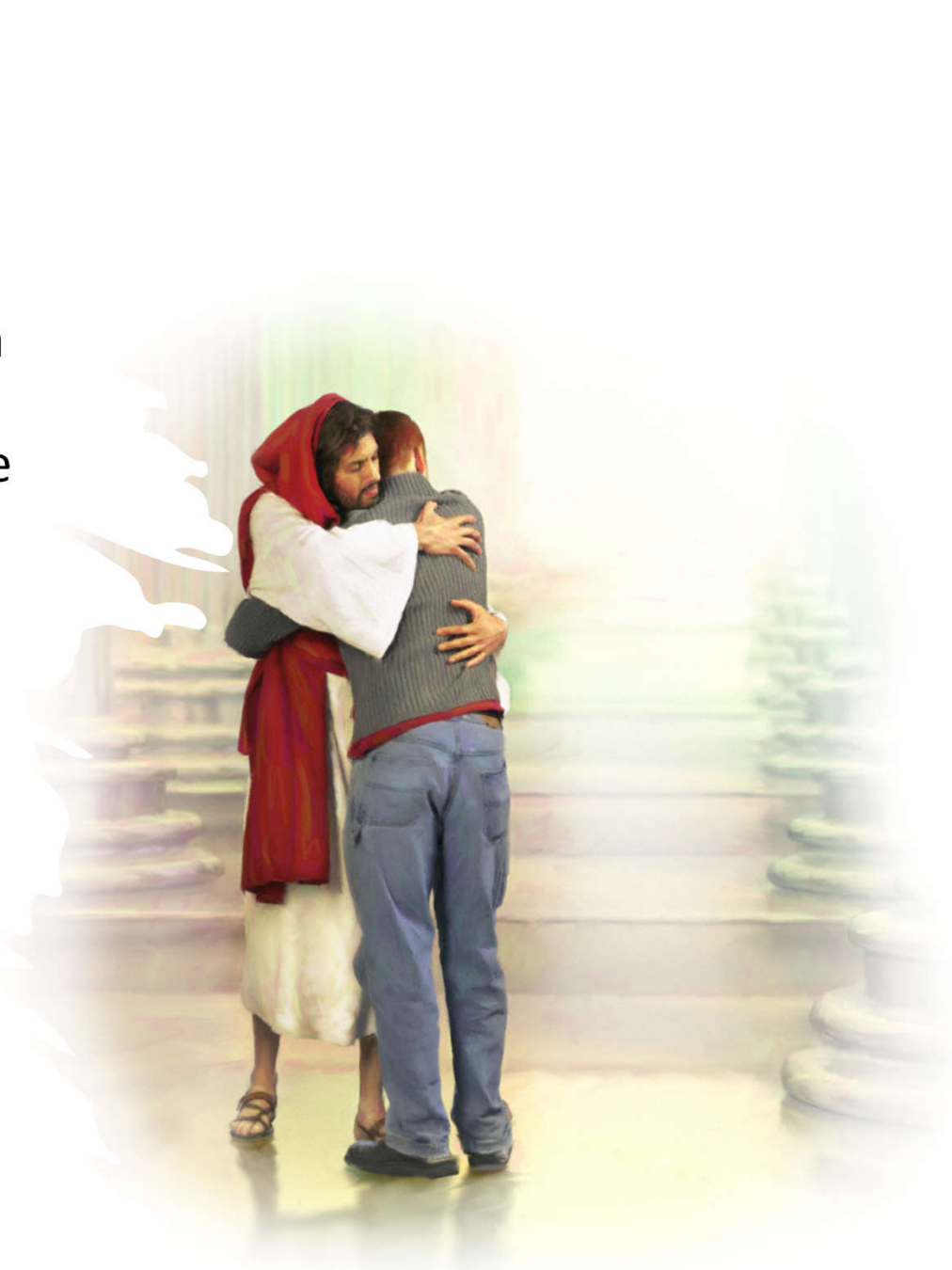
# Major Themes in 1 Thessalonians

- **HOLINESS**
- **LOVE**
- **FUTURE HOPE**



(17) But we brethren, having been taken away from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavored more eagerly to see your face with great desire. (18) Therefore we wanted to come to you- even I, Paul, time and again- but Satan hindered us. (19) For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? (20) For you are our glory and joy.

1 Thess. 2:17-20 (NKJV)





But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill **your ministry.**

-2 Timothy 4:5 (NKJV)