

**Welcome to the Worship Celebration of**



SIMPLY BIBLICAL | FAMILY INTEGRATED

*Paul's Letter to the  
Church at Thessalonica*



# I Thessalonians

**Church As She Should Be (part 8)**

**Proper Christian Living**

**1 Thessalonians 4:1-12**

**05/27/2018**

# 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the LORD Jesus, that as you received from us instruction as to how you ought to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you EXCEL still more. <sup>2</sup> For you know what commandments we gave you by the AUTHORITY of the LORD Jesus. <sup>3</sup> For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality; <sup>4</sup> that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, <sup>5</sup> not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God; <sup>6</sup> and that no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter because the LORD is the avenger in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned you. <sup>7</sup> For God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification. <sup>8</sup> So, he who rejects this is not rejecting man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you.



# 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 – Let's Unpack it ...

“Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the LORD Jesus, that as you received from us instruction as to how you OUGHT to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you EXCEL still more. <sup>2</sup> For you know what commandments we gave you by the AUTHORITY of the LORD Jesus.”

Living a Life of Faith to Please God – Following & Obeying Jesus

“But without Faith is it Impossible to Please God...” Hebrews 11:6

Instruction & Commandments – in Christ – in the New Covenant

1. Our personal Trusting Relationship with God in Christ Jesus is for the Purpose of Pleasing God – NOT ourselves
2. Our Response should be Loving, Trusting Obedience to God

## 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 – Let's Unpack it ...

<sup>3</sup> For this is the will of God, **your SANCTIFICATION**; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality; <sup>4</sup> that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, <sup>5</sup> **NOT** in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God; <sup>6</sup> and that no man transgress and **DEFRAUD** his brother in the matter because the **LORD** is the avenger in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned you. <sup>7</sup> For God has **NOT** called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification. <sup>8</sup> So, he who rejects this is not rejecting man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you.

**SANCTIFICATION:** Set Apart for the purpose of being Holy ...  
Surrendered to God, Wholly Devoted  
Dedicated as a Sacrifice on the Altar

Sanctification is the **PROCESS** of Becoming More Holy Like this  
Ref. Romans 12:1-2; Titus 2:11-13; 1 Cor. 6:12-20



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**Focus:**

The **Sanctification** of our **PHYSICAL Bodies** and **Human Relationships**

**Sin** has a tendency to **Corrupt** that which is **INNOCENT** and **Wholesome**

**Paul** is warned about how that which starts out innocent can lead to sin

There are consequences for sin, **especially Sexual Immorality**

## Romans 12:1-2

Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your **BODIES** a **LIVING** and **HOLY SACRIFICE**, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. <sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

**Sanctification → Abstaining from Immorality –**

**→ present your BODIES a LIVING and HOLY SACRIFICE**

**This is Part of our WORSHIP of God ... Staying Pure in Christ**





## Titus 2:11-13

For the grace of God has appeared with salvation for all people,<sup>12</sup> instructing us to deny godlessness and worldly lusts and to LIVE in a sensible, righteous, and godly way in the present age, <sup>13</sup> while we wait for the blessed hope and appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**We are to Live Properly – In Christ → deny godlessness and worldly lusts and to LIVE in a sensible, righteous, and godly way in the present age → DIGNITY in Christ**





## 1 Corinthians 6:13-20

Food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food, but God will do away with both of them. Yet the body is NOT for immorality, but for the LORD, and the LORD is for the body. <sup>14</sup> Now God has not only raised the LORD, but will also raise us up through His power. <sup>15</sup> Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take away the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be! <sup>16</sup> Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a prostitute is one body with her? For He says, "THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH." <sup>17</sup> But the one who joins himself to the LORD is one spirit with Him. <sup>18</sup> Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body. <sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? <sup>20</sup> For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

# 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 – Let's Unpack it ...

<sup>3</sup> For this is the will of God, your **SANCTIFICATION**; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality; <sup>4</sup> that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, <sup>5</sup> **NOT** in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God; <sup>6</sup> and that no man **TRANSGRESS** and **DEFRAUD** his brother in the matter because the **LORD** is the **AVENGER** in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned you. <sup>7</sup> For God has **NOT** called us for the purpose of impurity, but in **SANCTIFICATION**. <sup>8</sup> So, he who **REJECTS** this is not rejecting man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you.

**Apostolic Authority in Christ – Dire Warnings (verses 7 & 8):**

**The Word of God – The Apostolic Letters (Epistles – Romans thru Jude)**

**Not Holy Opinions and Suggestions – BUT → The Word of God**

**Instructions and Commands on How We OUGHT To Walk (Live) in**

**Obedience in Following and Obeying Jesus Christ – Reject this – You are**

**Rejecting God Himself. We are Called to Proper Christian Living**



# 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12 - Let's Un-Pack this section

<sup>9</sup> Now as to the love of the brethren, you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; <sup>10</sup> for indeed you do practice it toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, to excel still more, <sup>11</sup> and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you, <sup>12</sup> so that you will behave properly toward outsiders and not be in any need.

**They Already were obeying Christ and practicing “sanctification” and Proper Christian Relationships (being holy in their relationships) in Christ and with their Bodies – Paul Urged them to EXCEL even more - (verses 1-8 above) –**  
**Now, Paul is Urging them to EXCEL more, AGAIN – with the Focus**

# **1 Thessalonians 4:9-12 - Let's Un-Pack this section**

**9 Now as to the love of the brethren, you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; 10 for indeed you do practice it toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, to excel still more, 11 and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you, 12 so that you will behave properly toward outsiders and not be in any need.**

**Paul was Urging them to EXCEL more, AGAIN – with the Focus Of Loving One Another – and the other Christians in their Region in which they live. They were already doing this as An Example to Other Churches – instead of resting on the accomplishments ... Paul was Challenging them to increase the Temperature of Love**



# 1 Thessalonians 4:10-12 - Let's Un-Pack this section

<sup>10</sup> ... But we urge you, brethren, to excel still more, <sup>11</sup> AND to make it your **AMBITION** to lead a **QUIET LIFE** and attend to your **OWN BUSINESS** and **WORK** with **YOUR HANDS**, just as we **COMMANDED** you, <sup>12</sup> **SO THAT** you will **BEHAVE PROPERLY** toward outsiders and **NOT** be in any need.

**AMBITION?** → **Climbing up the Ladder of Success – Becoming Famous – making a ton of money – living a life of luxury – *Living Loudly*** ← these are all the New Maxims of Life, Today.

**Godly, Biblical, New Covenant (in Christ) AMBITION** →  
**Living a QUIET LIFE – Minding My Own Business (not being nosey)**  
– **The Dignity of WORKING** – not being lazy and living off the Dole  
– **The Goal** – is so I am **NOT** a burden to those around me and I can have **PROPER Evangelistic Behavior** toward those around me

# **1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 - Proper Christian Living - Summary**

**We are to LIVE Properly – In Christ – Obedient – Pleasing God**

- Live Holy Lives in regards to our Bodies – Sanctified for Christ  
Not living in Immorality – but Proper Christian Dignity  
Living Sacrifices (ref. Romans 12:1-2)**
- Live Holy Lives in regards to Relationships with the Church  
Don't Transgress and/or Defraud one another – stay Wholesome**
- Live Godly Loving Lives – Loving One Another – toward all of  
our Brethren – worldwide – but especially those our close to us.**
- Our Proper View of Ambition - Godly Living toward those  
outside the Body of Christ (i.e.: the lost). We are to live Quiet  
Lives, Hard-working lives, and mind our own business – not  
being dependent on others for “hand outs”, etc. → Evangelism**