

# FIRST THESSALONIANS

Turning the World Upside Down

**1 Thessalonians 2:1-10 (NIV)** <sup>1</sup> You know, brothers, that our visit to you was not a failure. <sup>2</sup> We had previously suffered and been insulted in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in spite of strong opposition. <sup>3</sup> For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. <sup>4</sup> On the contrary, we speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts. <sup>5</sup> You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed--God is our witness.

<sup>6</sup> We were not looking for praise from men, not from you or anyone else. As apostles of Christ we could have been a burden to you, <sup>7</sup> but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children. <sup>8</sup> We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us. <sup>9</sup> Surely you remember, brothers, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you. <sup>10</sup> You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed.





Philippi

Neapolis

Thessaloniki

Berea

Alexandria Troas

Corinth

Athens

## **Acts 17:6 (NIV)**

<sup>6</sup> But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some other brothers before the city officials, shouting: "These men who have caused trouble all over the world have now come here,



## **Acts 17:6 (KJV)**

<sup>6</sup> And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;

## **Acts 17:6 (YLT)**

<sup>6</sup> and not having found them, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the city rulers, calling aloud--`These, having put the world in commotion, are also here present,

“These upsetters of the whole world.”

“these fellows, who have turned the world topsy-turvy.”



## **1. A Bold Proclamation vs. 1-2**

<sup>1</sup> You know, brothers, that our visit to you was not a failure. <sup>2</sup> We had previously suffered and been insulted in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in spite of strong opposition.

# 1. A Bold Proclamation vs. 1-2

In spite of- “suffering”

**Acts 16:19 (NIV)** <sup>19</sup> When the owners of the slave girl realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities.

# 1. A Bold Proclamation vs. 1-2

## In spite of - “insults”

**Acts 16:37 (NIV)** <sup>37</sup> But Paul said to the officers: "They beat us publicly without a trial, even though we are Roman citizens, and threw us into prison. And now do they want to get rid of us quietly? No! Let them come themselves and escort us out."



# 1. A Bold Proclamation vs. 1-2

## In spite of- “opposition”

**Acts 17:5 (NIV)** <sup>5</sup> But the Jews were jealous; so they rounded up some bad characters from the marketplace, formed a mob and started a riot in the city. They rushed to Jason's house in search of Paul and Silas in order to bring them out to the crowd.

# 1. A Bold Proclamation vs. 1-2

In spite of- “Satan”

**1 Thessalonians 2:18 (NIV)** <sup>18</sup> For we wanted to come to you--certainly I, Paul, did, again and again--but Satan stopped us.

## **2. A Trustworthy Message vs. 3-4**

<sup>3</sup> For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. <sup>4</sup> On the contrary, we speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts.



## **2. A Trustworthy Message vs. 3-4**

Our message is true— “not from error.”

Our message is pure— “not from impure motives.”

Our message is honest— “not trying to trick you.”

Our message is trustworthy— “entrusted with the gospel.”

### **3. A Clear Conscience vs. 5-6**

**1 Thessalonians 2:5-6 (NIV)** <sup>5</sup> You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed--God is our witness. <sup>6</sup> We were not looking for praise from men, not from you or anyone else. As apostles of Christ we could have been a burden to you,

## 4. A Gentle Spirit v. 7

<sup>7</sup> but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children.

**Acts 16:33-34 (NIV)** <sup>33</sup> At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized. <sup>34</sup> The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God--he and his whole family.



## 5. A Sacrificial Heart v. 8-9

<sup>8</sup> We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us. <sup>9</sup> Surely you remember, brothers, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you.

**1 Thessalonians 3:10 (NIV)** <sup>10</sup> Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

## 6. A Clean Life v. 10

<sup>10</sup> You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed.

**1 Thessalonians 4:3-7 (NIV)** <sup>3</sup> It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; <sup>4</sup> that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, <sup>5</sup> not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God;

## 6. A Clean Life v. 10

<sup>10</sup> You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed.

<sup>6</sup> and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. <sup>7</sup> For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.



## 6. A Clean Life v. 10

<sup>10</sup> You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed.

**1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 (NIV)** <sup>23</sup> May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup> The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.

## **7. An Urgent Appeal vs. 11-12**

<sup>11</sup> For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children,  
<sup>12</sup> encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

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