

Letters to the Thessalonians

Feb 26, 2020 to April 1, 2020

First Redeemer Church

Wednesday nights

Session 3 – March 11, 2020

Jim Lay

Schedule for Letters to the Thessalonians

Dates	Chapters covered	
✓ Feb 26, 2020	1 Thess Intro - Ch 1 & 2A	
✓ Mar 4, 2020	1 Thess Ch 2B -3	
✓ Mar 11, 2020	1 Thess Chapters 4-5A	
Mar 18, 2020	1 Thess Chapter 5	
Mar 25, 2020	2 Thess Ch 1-2A	
Apr 1, 2020	2 Thess Ch 2B-3	

Quick Reminder of Chapters 2 & 3

- *In Chapters 2 and 3, Paul is defending his personal actions and his team's actions against accusations from his enemies in Thessalonica*
- *He laid out his defenses in such a way that we can see characteristics of a Godly Minister or Leader.*
- *He also spoke of the actions they had done to support the new church and not be a burden to it.*
- *He closed Chapter 3 with a prayer for them*

Prayer in Chapter 3

1 Thess Ch 3:11-13

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you.

¹² May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you.

¹³ May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

Two Events – Rapture and Second Coming

RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH	SECOND COMING OF CHRIST
1. It occurs <i>before</i> the tribulation LUKE 21:36	1. It occurs <i>after</i> the tribulation MAT. 24:29-30
2. Christ comes for the saints I THESS. 4:13-17	2. Christ comes with the saints JUDE 14; REV. 19:11-21
3. Christ takes the saints to heaven JOHN 14:3	3. Christ brings the saints back to Earth ZECH. 14:4-5; REV. 19:14
4. Christ returns to the clouds I THESS. 4:17	4. Christ returns to the Earth ZECH. 14:4-5
5. Christ is not seen I COR. 15:52	5. Every eye shall see Christ REV. 1:7
6. It is the "blessed hope" of the church TITUS 2:13	6. It is the great day of His wrath REV. 19:15

1 Thessalonians Ch 4:1-2

Living to Please God

4 As for other matters, brothers and sisters, we instructed you how to live *in order to please God*, as in fact you are living.

Now **we ask you and urge you** in the Lord Jesus **to do this more and more.**

2 For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

³ It is God's will that you should be **sanctified**: that you should **avoid sexual immorality**;

⁴ that **each of you** should learn to **control your own body (wife)** in a way that is **holy and honorable**,

⁵ **not in passionate lust** like the pagans, who do not know God;

⁶ and that in this matter **no one should wrong or take advantage of a brother or sister**. The Lord will punish all those who commit such sins, as we told you and warned you before.

⁷ For God did not **call us** to be **impure, but to live a holy life**.

⁸ Therefore, **anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God**, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit and Salvation

John 3:5 ⁵ *Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.*

Romans 8:13 ¹³ *For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live*

2 Thess 2:13 ¹³ *But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters loved by the Lord, because God chose you as firstfruits^[a] to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth.*

1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

⁹ Now about your love for one another we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been **taught by God to love each other.**

¹⁰ And in fact, **you do love all of God's family throughout Macedonia.** Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, **to do so more and more,**

¹¹ and to make it your ambition to **lead a quiet life:** You should **mind your own business** and **work with your hands,** just as we told you,

¹² so that **your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.**

1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18 Believers who have died

¹³ Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be **uninformed** about those who **sleep in death**, so that you **do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope.**

¹⁴ For **we believe that Jesus died and rose again**, and so we believe **that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.**

¹⁵ According to the Lord's word, **we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep.**

¹⁶ For the Lord himself will come **down from heaven**, with a **loud command**, with the **voice of the archangel** and with the **trumpet call of God**, and the *dead in Christ will rise first.*

¹⁷ After that, **we who are still alive and are left** will be **caught up** together with them **in the clouds to meet the Lord** in the air. And so **we will be with the Lord forever.**

¹⁸ Therefore **encourage one another with these words.**

Next week

- We will look at Chapter 5 and finish 1 Thessalonians
 - Day of the Lord
 - Night people and Day people
 - Growing a healthy flock – responsibilities of all
 - Final Thoughts of Paul in this letter
 - Set the stage for 2 Thessalonians
 - Please read ahead, and either ask me Q's or send me Questions that you want answered
jmlay@windstream.net