

# **P.T. BIBLE SURVEY**

## **The First Epistle of Paul to the Thessalonians**

# THE BOOK OF 1 THESSALONIANS

- ◉ In this first letter to the church in Thessalonica, Paul offers words of encouragement to a faithful but struggling church, focusing particularly on the return of Christ.

# THE BOOK OF 1 THESSALONIANS

- ◉ In this first letter to the church in Thessalonica, Paul offers words of encouragement to a faithful but struggling church, focusing particularly on the return of Christ.
- ◉ Who wrote it?
  - Paul is the writer of this epistle with some assistance from Silvanus (Silas) and Timothy (1:1).

# THE BOOK OF 1 THESSALONIANS

- ◉ Date of writing:
  - Around A.D. 50 to 52.

# THE BOOK OF 1 THESSALONIANS

- ◉ Date of writing:
  - Around A.D. 50 to 52.
- ◉ Surrounding Circumstances:
  - Paul wrote this first letter to the Thessalonians after receiving a report from Timothy about the church's wellbeing.
  - Not only is this Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians, it is his first letter period.

# THE BOOK OF 1 THESSALONIANS

## ◉ Key Term: **Coming**

- This book mentions the return of Christ in every chapter. The Greek noun *parousia*, here rendered “coming”, can also be translated “arrival” or “presence”.

# THE BOOK OF 1 THESSALONIANS

## ◎ Key Term: **Coming**

- This book mentions the return of Christ in every chapter. The Greek noun *parousia*, here rendered “coming”, can also be translated “arrival” or “presence”.

## ◎ Location of Events:

- Paul wrote 1 Thessalonians from Corinth. He established the church in Thessalonica during his second missionary journey and stayed there for about a month. (Acts 17:1-15)

# 1 THESSALONIANS

## Overview of the Acts of the Apostles



# OUTLINE OF 1 THESSALONIANS

## I. Paul's Personal Reflections on the Thessalonians (1:1-3:13)

- Paul's Commendation for Their Growth (1:1-10)
- Paul's Founding of the Church (2:1-16)
- Timothy's Strengthening of the Church (2:17-3:13)

# OUTLINE OF 1 THESSALONIANS

## I. Paul's Personal Reflections on the Thessalonians (1:1-3:13)

- Paul's Commendation for Their Growth (1:1-10)
- Paul's Founding of the Church (2:1-16)
- Timothy's Strengthening of the Church (2:17-3:13)

## II. Paul's Instructions to the Thessalonians (4:1-5:28)

- Directions for Growth (4:1-12)
- Revelation Concerning the Dead in Christ (4:13-18)
- Description of the Day of the Lord (5:1-11)
- Instruction for Holy Living (5:12-22)
- Conclusion (5:23-28)

# THE BOOK OF 1 THESSALONIANS

- ◎ Summary in one sentence:
  - Whatever difficulties and sufferings believers experience in this life, the coming of Christ is the true hope of the Christian.

# THE BOOK OF 1 THESSALONIANS

## ◎ Summary in one sentence:

- Whatever difficulties and sufferings believers experience in this life, the coming of Christ is the true hope of the Christian.

## ◎ Summary in 10 words or less:

- Jesus will return to gather His followers to Him.

# THE BOOK OF 1 THESSALONIANS

## ◎ Cast of Characters:

- **Paul:** working night and day not to be a burden to the Thessalonians
- **Silas:** sends greetings along with Paul and Timothy
- **Timothy:** sent to encourage and strengthen the Thessalonians in faith
- **The Thessalonians:** the gospel came to them not just with words but with power

# THE BOOK OF 1 THESSALONIANS

## Verse to Remember

“Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.”

(1 Thessalonians 4:17)

# THE BOOK OF 1 THESSALONIANS

## ◉ Interesting Facts:

- First Thessalonians contains two of the Bible's shortest verses: "Rejoice evermore" (5:16) and "pray without ceasing" (5:17).
- The city of Thessalonica is a prominent seaport city that is the capital of the Roman province of Macedonia.
- First Thessalonians is the only New Testament book to speak of Jesus' return in each chapter (1:10; 2:19; 3:13; 4:13-18; 5:1-11,23)

# THE BOOK OF 1 THESSALONIANS

- What is my take away?
  - First Thessalonians is a reminder to all believers that we have an assurance of eternal life with God when our time on earth is over.

# THE BOOK OF 1 THESSALONIANS

## ◉ Home Study

- Read a couple chapters daily in 2 Thessalonians this week.
- Review your One-Sentence Summaries.
- Recite your memory verses.