

God wants us to live in Christ, ready for His return.

1. Live in Faith, Love and Hope in Christ Jesus.

1 Thess. 1-3

- a. Paul commended the Thessalonian Christians for their growth in their faith (1).
- b. Paul founded this church, and Timothy helped its growth in Christ (2).
- c. Paul could not visit, but sent Timothy, who reported encouragement about them (3).

“and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints,” 1 Thess. 3:12-13

2. Be Prepared for the Day of the Lord.

1 Thess. 4-5

- a. Paul gave them advice on growth and revelation about believers who had died (4).
- b. He described the Day of the Lord, and urged them to await it in sober faith and hope (5).
- c. He instructed them to respect their leaders, live in peace, and pray in the Spirit (5).

*“For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words,”
1 Thess. 4:16-18*

3. Be Thankful for, Aware of, and Ready for the Day of the Lord.

2 Thess.

- a. Paul encouraged them during persecution, and prayed for their blessings (1).
- b. He again explained the Day of the Lord, with the events for the dead and those alive (2).
- c. We must all work and wait patiently for Christ, keeping pure in our fellowship (3).

“But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter. Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word,” 2 Thess. 2:13-17

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