



ANNOUNCEMENT:

Third Quarter/ Ninth of Thirteen Sundays

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

New Testament #13

I THESSALONIANS

Key Themes

1. *Encouragement to Persevere.* The church at Thessalonica was suffering serious persecution. Throughout the letter Paul praises the church for its patient endurance and urges them to continue in faith, hope, and love (1:2-3).
2. *Hope for the Return of Christ.* In times of crisis, the believer's ultimate hope is the return of Christ, who will deliver God's people and will judge the wicked. Over and over again Paul returns to this theme (1:3, 10; 2:19; 3:13; 4: 13-18; 5: 1-11).

Author

The apostle Paul, written about AD 51, from Corinth.

Recipients

The church at Thessalonica, established by Paul on his second missionary journey

Interesting Facts about I Thessalonians

1. First Thessalonians contains the most famous biblical passage on the rapture of the church (4:13-18).
2. The important theme of the return of Christ occurs in each of the letter's five chapters.
3. It was the first or second letter written by Paul. (Galatians might have been earlier.)

The City of Thessalonica

It was located on the main road from Rome. The city had a large Jewish population and had attracted many God-fearers—Gentiles who worshiped the true God of Israel.

SPOTLIGHT

- J— JOYOUS,
ALWAYS
SMILING
- A— ADVENTURE
OUS,
READY TO GO
- N— NOSTALGIC,
LIKES THE
ANTIQUE
SIDE OF
LIFE
- I— IRRESTIBLE,
DRAWING
OTHERS TO
HER SIDE
- E—ENERGETIC,
ALWAYS
WORKING
FOR THE
LORD.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1—Michael Vance
- 5—Harlan Hill
- 9—Jennifer Farmer
- 16—Sydney Wilson
- 19—Sandra Tolley
- 27—Peggy Pierce

