

The Church That Was Waiting and Willing

1 Thessalonians 1:1–10 (ESV) — (1) Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. (2) We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, (3) remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. (4) For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, (5) because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. (6) And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, (7) so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. (8) For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. (9) For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, (10) and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

The Church of Thessalonica was a successful Church. It doesn't take long to figure out why they were so effective in the work of God. Here is a Church that was waiting for the Lord's return. However, they were sitting around doing nothing; they were knee deep into God's work while they waited.

I) Three Ministers Of The Church Of Thessalonica

Ephesians 6:4 (ESV) — (4) Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Deuteronomy 11:13–21 (NLT) — (13) “If you carefully obey the commands I am giving you today, and if you love the LORD your God and serve him with all your heart and soul, (14) then he will send the rains in their proper seasons—the early and late rains—so you can bring in your harvests of grain, new wine, and olive oil. (15) He will give you lush pastureland for your livestock, and you yourselves will have all you want to eat. (16) “But be careful. Don’t let your heart be deceived so that you turn away from the LORD and serve and worship other gods. (17) If you do, the LORD’s anger will burn against you. He will shut up the sky and hold back the rain, and the ground will fail to produce its harvests. Then you will quickly die in that good land the LORD is giving you. (18) “So commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these words of mine. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. (19) Teach them to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. (20) Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, (21) so that as long as the sky remains above the earth, you and your children may flourish in the land the LORD swore to give your ancestors.

II) The Foundation Of The Church Of Thessalonica

III) The Ministry Of The Church Of Thessalonica

IV) There Was Power In The Church Of Thessalonica

John 16:7-11 (NIV) — (7) But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. **(8)** When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: **(9)** in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; **(10)** in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; **(11)** and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

V) The Church Of Thessalonica Was Receptive Of The Scriptures

VI) The Church Of Thessalonica Was Dedicated To Reaching The Lost