

# FIRST THESSALONIANS<sup>5</sup>

**Author:** Paul, the Apostle

**Date:** A.D. 52

**Recipients:** Church at Thessalonica

**Theme:** The LORD Coming *For* His People

**Key Verse:** 1:10,

*...and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who delivers us from the wrath to come.*

## **I. THE LORD IS COMING: *Inspiring Hope For Young Converts (1:1-10).***

1. The Writers and Recipients Are Identified (1:1).
2. Paul Expresses Thanksgiving Through Prayer (1:2-3).
3. Paul Is Thankful For Their Election and Acceptance Of The Gospel (1:4-5).
4. Paul Is Thankful For Their Exemplary Conduct (1:6).
5. Paul Is Thankful For Their Witness (1:7-10).

## **II. THE LORD IS COMING: *Encouraging Hope For The Faithful Servant (2:1-20).***

1. Paul Is Encouraged, Knowing That His Work Was Not In Vain (2:1-12).
2. Paul Is Encouraged, Knowing That They Accepted The Gospel As The Word Of God (2:13-16).
3. Paul Is Encouraged, Calling Them His "Crown of Exultation" (2:17-20).

## **III. THE LORD IS COMING: *Purifying Hope For The Believer (3:1-4:12).***

1. This Hope Purifies Despite Paul's Personal Afflictions (3:1-10).
2. This Hope Purifies Through The Person Of The Lord Jesus (3:11-13).
3. This Hope Purifies Unto Complete Sanctification (4:1-12).

## **IV. THE LORD IS COMING: *Comforting Hope For The Bereaved (4:13-18).***

1. There Is Comfort In Information (4:13).
  - (1) The subject is those in Christ.
  - (2) The object is that they not grieve.
2. There Is Comfort In Affirmation (4:14).
  - (1) Paul affirms that Christ both died and rose again!
  - (2) Paul affirms also that believers will live again.
3. There Is Comfort In Expectation (4:15).
  - (1) The LORD Jesus is coming again!
  - (2) The living believers will not precede the dead.

- (3) The Word of God supports this expectation.
- 4. There is Comfort In Delineation (4:16-17).
  - (1) The LORD Himself will come from Heaven (4:16a).
  - (2) The LORD Himself will come with a shout (4:16b).
  - (3) The LORD Himself will come with the voice of the archangel (4:16c).
  - (4) The LORD Himself will come with the trumpet of God (4:16d).
  - (5) The LORD Himself will come bringing resurrection (4:16e-17).
    - A. First, the “dead in Christ” will rise (4:16e).
    - B. Then, the living “in Christ” will rise to meet Him (4:17).
- 5. There Is Comfort In Application (4:18).

## **V. THE LORD IS COMING: *A Rousing Hope For The Negligent Believer* (5:1-28).**

- 1. Some Now Live In Darkness (5:1-3).
- 2. Some Now Live In Light (5:4-22).
  - (1) Those in the Light experience no surprises (5:4).
  - (2) Those in the Light must not sleep (5:5-7).
  - (3) Those in the Light must not express slovenliness (5:8-11).
  - (4) Those in the Light should express appreciation (5:12-13).
  - (5) Those in the Light are further admonished to righteous living (5:16-22).
    - A. Be conscious of God’s love (5:16).
    - B. Be dependent on God (5:17).
    - C. Be open to God’s working in and through you (5:19).
    - D. Be ever submissive to the authority of God’s Word (5:20).
    - E. Scrutinize everything (5:21a).
    - F. Be courageously consistent (5:21b).
    - G. Be super-cautious (5:22).
- 3. The Apostle Pronounces His Benediction (5:23-24).
- 4. The Apostle Concludes His Epistle (5:25-28).
  - (1) There is a call to prayer (5:25).
  - (2) There is a greeting to fellow-believers (5:26).
  - (3) There is the command to circulate this epistle (5:26).
  - (4) There is the proclamation of God’s grace(5:28).