

THE FIRST BOOK OF THESSALONIANS

OT/NT: New Testament

SECTION: Letters of Paul (& Hebrews)

TRADITIONAL AUTHOR: The Apostle Paul

KEY PEOPLE: Paul, Silas, Timothy.

SUMMARY: Canonically, the First Book of Thessalonians is the fifty-second book of the [Holy Bible](#) (1), the eighth of fourteen [Letters of Paul](#) (2) and the thirteenth book of the [New Testament](#) (3). Paul wrote this letter to strengthen and [encourage](#) (4) the church in Thessalonica. To encourage and hearten the believers, Paul chose to emphasize the second coming of [Jesus Christ](#) (5). Throughout this letter, Paul focused on the principles of Faith ([Romans 10:17](#)), [Hope](#) (6), and [Love](#) (7) ([1 Corinthians 13:13](#)) (a).

Paul's letter to the Thessalonians celebrates a flourishing Church. Despite [persecution](#) (8) and suffering, believers stand strong in their commitment to Jesus. From the very beginning, following Jesus as King has produced a truly counter-cultural holy way of life that will sometimes generate suspicion and conflict among our neighbors.

The way Jesus' followers respond to such hostility should always be with love, and they should meet opposition with grace and generosity. This way of life is motivated by hope in the coming Kingdom of Jesus that has already begun in His [Resurrection](#) (9) from the dead. Throughout 1 Thessalonians, we see how the Thessalonian Church embodies [Holiness](#) (10), love and a future hope as they remain firm in their faith and commitment to Jesus their King (b).

COMING UP: Next up is the Second Book of Thessalonians (11). Click [HERE](#) to explore!

FOOTNOTES:

- (1) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/the-word-of-god>
- (2) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/letters-of-paul>
- (3) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/new-testament>
- (4) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/encouragement>
- (5) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/jesus-christ>
- (6) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/advent-hope>
- (7) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/advent-love>
- (8) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/trials-tribulations>
- (9) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/resurrection-of-jesus>
- (10) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/holiness>
- (11) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/2-thessalonians>

PAGE SOURCES:

- (a) http://biblehub.com/summary/1_thessalonians/1.htm
- (b) <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/1-thessalonians/>

ALSO EXPLORE:

- (c) <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/ambassador-in-chains>