

I Thessalonians

# Hope and Comfort

# I Thessalonians : Introduction

- Time of Writing: Early 50s AD
- Written from Corinth
  - Paul was there about a year and 6 months
- Delivered by Timothy
- One of the first epistles written by Paul

# I Thessalonians : Introduction

- Major divisions of the book:
  - 1:1-3:13 : Paul's gratitude, concern, and relief concerning the Thessalonians
  - 4:1-5:28 : Instructions concerning their behavior and topics of concern, and concluding remarks

# I Thessalonians : Introduction

- Outline:
  - Memory and Comfort:
    - 1:1-10 : Salutation and thanksgiving
    - 2:1-16 : Teaching and tribulation in Macedonia
    - 2:17-3:13 : Concern for the brethren at Thessalonica

# I Thessalonians : Introduction

- Outline (continued):

- Instructions and Conclusion:

- 4:1-12 : Instruction concerning holiness
    - 4:13-18 : Instruction concerning the dead in Christ
    - 5:1-11 : Instruction concerning the day of the Lord
    - 5:12-28 : Instruction concerning various topics and conclusion

# I Thessalonians : Introduction

- Alternative Outline (4 I's in the 7 C's):
  - 1:1-10 : Conversion: of the Thessalonians and Paul's thanksgiving concerning it
  - 2:1-16 : Coming: of Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy to them was not in vain

# I Thessalonians : Introduction

- Alternative Outline (4 I's in the 7 C's):
  - 2:17-3:13 :
    - Conflict: persecution of (Paul and) the Thessalonians
    - Concern: that they might break under the pressure
    - Comfort: via Timothy's report that the brethren were faithful



# I Thessalonians : Introduction

- Alternative Outline (4 I's in the 7 C's):
  - 4:1-5:28 : Conduct and Conclusion:
    - 4:1-12 : Instruction concerning holiness
    - 4:13-18 : Instruction concerning the dead in Christ
    - 5:1-11 : Instruction concerning the day of the Lord
    - 5:12-28 : Instruction concerning various topics and conclusion



# I Thessalonians : Introduction

- 1:1-10 : Conversion
- 2:1-16 : Coming
- 2:17-3:13 : Conflict, Concern, and Comfort
- 4:1-5:28 : Conduct and Conclusion
- Instruction x4: holiness, dead in Christ, day of the Lord, various topics

# I Thessalonians 2

- **Question #1:** How would Paul's preaching to the Thessalonians have been "in vain"?
- **Question #2:** Why did Paul recount their suffering at Philippi and conflict at Thessalonica?

# I Thessalonians 2

- **Question #3:** How did Paul and his companions treat the Thessalonians?
- **Question #4:** Can one's behavior affect (the outcome of) one's teaching?

# I Thessalonians 2

- **Question #5:** How were they to walk?
- **Question #6:** How does the word of God effectively work in people?

# I Thessalonians 2

- **Question #7:** How were these Christians like those in Judea?
- **Question #8:** What was Paul's desire? What kept him from doing this?

# I Thessalonians 2

- **Question #9:** What did Paul consider the Thessalonians?

# I Thessalonians 3

- **Question #1:** Why was Timothy sent to them?
- **Question #2:** Why might they be shaken, and how could they avoid being shaken?



# I Thessalonians 3

- **Question #3:** What was Paul's response to Timothy's report?
- **Question #4:** What did Paul pray concerning them?