



Introduction

Paul encourages the believers to continue despite persecution.



Questions

1. Why does Paul give thanks for the Thessalonian believers?
2. For what two attributes is Paul commending them, despite all the persecutions and afflictions they are suffering?
3. What does Paul say will happen to all those who do not obey the Good News taught by Jesus?



Summary Points

- **v 1 to 4** Paul and his companions give thanks for the Thessalonian believers. They hold them up as an example of how to live, to groups of believers elsewhere
- **v 5 to 10** Paul reassures the Thessalonians, that when Jesus comes, their persecutors will be destroyed. However, the believers will be considered worthy of the Kingdom of God (see theme)
- **v 11 and 12** Paul prays for salvation for the Thessalonians in the future, and for God's grace to be with them now

Timeline 60 AD (see below)



Theme

The Kingdom of God in the New Testament (1)

The Jews in Jesus' time know what the Old Testament prophets have said about the Kingdom of God. Assuming that knowledge, Jesus Christ makes many comments and gives parables showing different aspects of the Kingdom of God.

Only those who respect God and do what he says will be in the Kingdom of God:

Matthew 21 verses 28 to 31

It is difficult for those who trust in riches to be part of the Kingdom of God:

Mark 10 verse 24

God's purpose to establish his Kingdom on earth starts insignificantly, and we don't know how God is working, but it eventually becomes very obvious:

Mark 4 verses 26 to 29

Jesus gives a parable illustrating that the message of God's coming Kingdom is of more value than anything else:

Matthew 13 verse 44

The parable of the dragnet teaches that not all who hear the message of the Kingdom of God will have a place in it:

Matthew 13 verses 47 to 49



Jesus says that just as young children trust their parents, so we must trust God's message about the coming Kingdom:

Mark 10 verse 15

Jesus tells his disciples that those who reject the message have had the Kingdom near to them:

Luke 10 verses 10 and 11

After his resurrection, Jesus continues to talk about the coming Kingdom to his disciples:

Acts 1 verse 3

The Acts record tells us that the apostle Paul uses the Old Testament to tell his hearers about the Kingdom of God:

Acts 28 verse 23

? Answers to questions

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 3, Q 2: v 4, Q 3: v 9



Bible timeline

