

# THE CONTEMPORARY HISTORY OF DR. PAUL TO THE CONGREGATION OF JESUS' KINGDOM IN THESSALONICA

## THE (1<sup>ST</sup>) LETTER {KNOWN AS 2nd THESSALONIANS}:

### QUESTIONS

Introduction:

1. Dr. Paul traveled to Thessalonica after leaving Philippi. He left Dr. Luke there to continue

to evangelize, train, and organize; he, Timothy and prof. Silas moved on from metro to

metro until they arrived at Thessalonica? Y/N \_\_\_

2. In Dr. Luke's contemporary history of the Acts of the early workers with the Holy Spirit, he

discusses Dr. Paul's work in Thessalonica and its success and problems? Y/N \_\_\_

3. Dr. Paul's usual habit of three weeks of visiting with the local Jewish synagogue had good

results. He had, also, success with the Gentiles there. But those Jews that opposed him

and his Message of Good News, had him run out of town? Y/N \_\_\_

4. His Message of Good News included three major points from the Scriptures: 1) He

demonstrated and explained that it was necessary for the Messiah to 'suffer', 2) To then,

be raised from the dead on the third day, and 3) That Jesus is that living and ruling

Messiah from David's family and from the right side of Yahweh (name of the living God in

Hebrew)? T/F \_\_\_

5. He had a good response among them and in the city. A congregation of Jesus' Kingdom

(like in Philippi, throughout Galatia, Antioch of Syria, and throughout Syria and Cilicia,

where Dr. Paul had planted, trained, and organized many like congregations of Jesus'

Kingdom) was began? Y/N \_\_\_

6. They were using, it appears, Jason's house for there meeting place. It was set upon by the

vicious Jews and the city court issued a 'bond' against them, as they were accused of

teaching another King (Jesus), than Caesar, which was perceived to be against the issued

Edit from Caesar concerning Treason against He and Rome and how to handle it or He

would? Y/N \_\_\_

7. Dr. Paul and prof. Silas (and the team, which included Timothy), all seem to have been

forced to leave. They went down the Egnatian Way (Rome built) about 30 miles to Berea

and began again to plant the Kingdom? Y/N \_\_\_

8. The Thessalonian Jews followed them and forced Dr. Paul to leave, but prof. Silas and

Timothy stayed behind. They meet Dr. Paul in Athens a few months later and report what

was going on in Berea and Thessalonica. He sends them back to Thessalonica from Athens

with this Letter to exhort them in their love and service to Jesus? T/F \_\_\_

9. Since there are two Letters to Thessalonica and this one was sent from Athens, it is likely

the first (1<sup>st</sup>) of the two. Also, in the other Letter, Dr. Paul discusses having gone beyond

Corinth into untaught areas, which was his practice with some of the local converts for

their training (he did this several times in the past). He says he ran into folks in various

cities that told him they had already been taught by Christians from Thessalonica! This had

to be many months after Dr. Paul arrived in Corinth and after Prof. Silas and Timothy had

arrived from Thessalonica after their second trip which was from Athens? Y/N \_\_\_

10. This is a leading city in the Roman Empire and government seat for the Province. It is a

great city for economical reasons, also. This congregation of Jesus' Kingdom for many

years after Dr. Paul's death was a leader in Jesus' Good News and its evangelizing and

defense? Y/N \_\_\_

11. As you study this and the other Letter to Thessalonica, you will notice the specialness of

this leading, zealous, undefeatable group of Jesus' Kingdom. They practiced 'the Faith'

correctly and under great distress and suffering. Dr. Paul mentions this several times in

these short Letters; these were a special group, but they had some among them that were

slow to make the necessary reforms from their old ways? Y/N \_\_\_

Dr. Paul's first Thought (1<sup>st</sup>)

1. How many are named as the Evangelists (evangelized them, trained them, and organized

them) that the congregation of Jesus' Kingdom in Thessalonica would easily recognize?

\_\_\_ 3, \_\_\_ 2, \_\_\_ 1

2. How many congregations were there in Thessalonica? \_\_\_ 1, \_\_\_ more than one

3. Dr. Paul's use of the article "the" is a proof that there was only one congregation and that

all the christians (made up of Jews and Gentiles, just as Philippi, Galatia, and Antioch of

Syria) were in loving accord, just as Jesus had planned all to be. Unity was correct, in

Christ and in accord with all other congregations of Jesus' Kingdom? T/F \_\_\_

4. He best expresses their specialness and unity in Christ with his recognition of them, that

they are "in" '...God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.'? Y/N \_\_\_

5. He extends a prayer of 'Grace' and 'peace' from the Ones they all worship and serve, in this

Opening of this short Letter. Grace follows and leads every Christian and congregation of

Jesus' Kingdom, and only His peace matters. His is unlike man's idea of peace: Jesus' has a

feature man's cannot; His includes motive-man's souls and eternity- at any cost? Y/N \_\_\_

6. As you read this unusual opening and the rest of the Letter, you cannot miss the genuine

deep felt admiration for these in Thessalonica. He is deeply moved by the reports of prof.

Silas and Timothy and has a genuine warmth from their right service to Jesus? Y/N \_\_\_

De. Paul's second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Thought

1. Dr. Paul begins this Letter with a salute to the report of prof. Silas and Timothy about the

incredible dedication of those in the Thessalonica congregation? Y/N

\_\_\_

2. He notes how the reforms, as they were being taught by the Holy Spirit and the team, were

very seeable among them? Y/N \_\_\_

3. He mentions two vital areas of abundant and increased understanding and practice. They

were: 1) reform and adherence to 'the Faith', and 2) Jesus' kind of 'love' being seen and

felt among the congregation? T/F \_\_\_

4. He continues to recognize their specialness, indicating that he is using them in his

correspondence to other congregations, as a wonderful example of how quickly and

correctly folks can reform to the new Way of Jesus' Kingdom? Y/N \_\_\_

5. The fact that they have displayed great endurance and correct representation of Jesus in

'the Faith' under persecution and troubles from their community, is a testimony of their

enduring love of God and men's souls? T/F \_\_\_

6. He says that these are evidence of God's righteous judgement, that they all are to be

counted worthy of being representatives of God's Kingdom? Y/N \_\_\_

7. Their endurance of suffering severe treatment by their community and enduring them

correctly, were what God expects and rewards? Y/N \_\_\_

8. The confidence of you all is just as is ours, that all the suffering we are enduring will be

relieved when He returns for us with His angels and His power will be indicated in flaming

fire on those deserving His wrath? T/F \_\_\_

9. As the congregation in Thessalonica of Jesus' Kingdom had been taught and accepted as

Truth, our God will punish eternally all those that: 1) have not known the living God (They

deny Him, even though He has displayed His existence since the first man), and 2) they

disobey His commands, that they all are to reform their lives and minds in accord with His

revealed and clear Good News from Jesus, our Lord? T/F \_\_\_

10. He list three things that these most pitiful souls will receive from God one day: 1) sadly,

they receive eternal ruin for their sad decisions against God, 2) eternal exclusion from Him

and His attention, and 3) all the marvelous things only His level of power can achieve and

maintain forever, will be removed from them? T/F \_\_\_

11. This will begin on the 'day' of His return? Y/N \_\_\_

12. That expected return will have two wonderful reasons, other than just eternal ruin for the

evil folk: 1) His expecting saints (those having practiced 'the Faith' in Jesus' Kingdom while

alive on Earth) will greatly honor His return, and 2) He will be received in awe, being

admired for His power and His Plan for many sons and daughters? Y/N \_\_\_

13. Those that do these two things, on that 'day' will be the only ones that have come to

believe, trust, and obey the Testimony of Jesus through men like Dr. Paul (revealed It by

the Holy Spirit-the New Covenant) in the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. He is saluting these in

Thessalonica, who have and are living out their time on Earth by this Standard? T/F \_\_\_

14. Dr. Paul is now going to complete this admiring section about these Thessalonian brethren.

He declares that he, being aware that all he has written is genuine about them, prays

continually, concerning three things for them: 1) That He may always consider you as

worthy of the calling through His Son, Jesus, and fulfill every desire they have, due to their

efforts of goodness and their works of faith, with His power, 2) That the Name of Jesus will

always be honored by them and they be honored by Him, and 3) That the Grace of our

God and the Lord Jesus Christ, be among and with them, motivating all they do? Y/N \_\_\_

Dr. Paul's third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Thought

1. Here, after speaking and exhorting about the reward of being 'in Christ' and understanding

He will one day return for all His Kingdom, he speaks about that coming event? Y/N \_\_\_

2. He again emphasizes that Jesus is Lord and Christ (Messiah in Hebrew), which these

Thessalonian Christians have proven they understand? Y/N \_\_\_

3. He declares, so no mistake is made, that 'they' will be gathered together (many others will

be included, and by His power, all will be gathered 'to' Him) and be gathered by Him?

Y/N \_\_\_

4. He, then, exhorts them to stay strong even when things seem to be extremely ugly: 1)

don't let those things shake your faith, 2) don't allow any thing or anyone to create alarm,

because God does not change, nor does His only "Plan"? T/F \_\_\_

5. Evil or bogus information was attempting to disturb them! He mentions three ways they

could be subjected to error: 1) people claiming their message is from a spirit, 2) a message

said to be from God, or, even by, 3) a letter claiming to come from him? Y/N \_\_\_

6. In these false messages, they claim that He and His 'return' have already come! There is

no way that such errors can affect you, because the coming 'apostasy' has not yet taken

shape? Y/N \_\_\_

7. He reminds them that it will be led by a person of great 'lawlessness' (against God and His

new Way). He will both come and be established and then disclosed as the son of

destruction. All this will happen in their area before Jesus returns, so the error is clear, He

has not returned? Y/N \_\_\_

8. He will oppose all things that are accurate about God? Y/N \_\_\_

9. He will exalt himself above all things that are God or divine, and redefine what is to be

worshiped? Y/N \_\_\_

10. These he does that he and only he can be the declared god and sit in his temple? Y/N \_\_\_

11. Dr. Paul draws to their memory the fact that during his short time with them, he taught

them about this very apostasy, that was yet to come about? Y/N \_\_\_

12. He says that he is still being delayed by some other person, who also is evil and

contributing to the platform of the coming 'lawless' one. He is still being hindered by the



existing power that holds him back, for a while, yet? Y/N \_\_\_

13. He says more about this coming lawless one: When he does come, Jesus will slay him with

“the breathe of His mouth”, which is either speaking of the coming judgement Day, or

through the continuing accurate proclamation of His Word by these saints opposing this

evil way. Can both be correct? Y/N \_\_\_

14. Since it is not likely, let us continue to follow this context. It will clear the two possible

answers up? Y/N \_\_\_

15. And He (Jesus) will destroy by the brightness of His coming, which still could refer to either

or both the above possible answers. May be that the Light and His coming, dying and

resurrecting defeats him, or the light of His 2<sup>nd</sup> coming? Y/N \_\_\_

16. This one coming is an agent of Satan, with all the evil, lying wonders that they possess?

Y/N \_\_\_

17. He is not only capable of much powerful actions, he is full of the skills of deceit. He has

access to every kind of deceit Satan knows? Y/N \_\_\_

18. Fret not, because all this is wrongdoings before God, and they will perish in eternal

punishment from God at the last Day? Y/N \_\_\_

19. The ones that are going to perish are all alike. They cannot receive salvation from God and

His new Way, because they are not able to establish in themselves a love of His Truth?

Y/N \_\_\_

20. Because of their inability to have and maintain a love of His Truth, He allows a seemingly

probable other solution to life, which is built upon the lie, that, due to their stand against

the Truth, enhances their pleasure in living by the wrong answers for life? T/F \_\_\_

21. Completely in contrast to these, sad folk, are you all. We gladly salute you, dear brethren

that are dear to God. This means that God is very pleased with their life in Jesus' likeness?

Y/N \_\_\_

22. He is using your faith and obedience as chosen firstfruits: 1) unto the coming salvation, 2)

by the perfect consecration from the Spirit, and 3) in their living daily in the Truth? Y/N \_\_\_

23. You have been called by God for this! The Good News that we (Dr. Paul, prof. Silas,

Timothy and the Holy Spirit) taught each of you, has produced in you all the likeness of His

splendor, our Lord Jesus Christ? T/F \_\_\_

24. Because they have gained what is necessary to emulate Jesus correctly, it is imperative

that they all stand firm in what they hold as Truth (Jesus' traditions), which has been

taught to them. They have to hold firmly (correctly and with determination to please our

Father and the Lord Jesus Christ) to 'the Faith', no matter the opposition to Truth? Y/N \_\_\_

25. Dr. Paul says that whether it was by the lessons the team and the Holy Spirit taught them,

or by his Letter, they received the correct new Way and were standing fast in Truth?

Y/N \_\_\_

26. He encourages them one last time (with their steadfastness in mind) to realize that Jesus,

Himself, and the Father of us all: 1) Who loved them, 2) Who has given all His eternal

encouragement (His Plan revealing the Messiah-Jesus), and 3) a wonderful hope (Jesus'

death, burial, resurrection, and ascension to His Throne) through Grace (the undeserved,

unwanted new Way of reconciliation to God, that He Planned and put in place), as a sound

motivation and sure Truth, is still encouraging them in their emotional controls, to allow

Him to be the base for all their good works and their good Word (among the congregation

and the community)? T/F \_\_\_

Dr. Paul's fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Thought

1.

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