

C. The Second Coming

1. Jesus will return. | 4:16-17

2. We will all witness his return. | 4:13-15

3. Christians should be encouraged. | 4:18

4. No one knows the hour. | 5:1-3

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Next Week: 2 Thessalonians

Core Seminars—New Testament **Class 24: 1 Thessalonians: Life with the Kingdom in View**



Jesus Christ . . . died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.
-1 Thessalonians 5:10-11

I. Introduction

“Your kingdom come, your will be done...” – Matt. 6:10

II. Purpose & Background

- Church established by Paul; Paul forced to leave quickly
- Some Thessalonians questioning Paul’s credentials. Others worried about dying before Jesus returns.

III. Outline

I. Opening (1:1)

- II. Thanksgiving and Defense of Paul’s Ministry (1:2 – 3:13)
- A. Thanksgiving for the Thessalonians’ salvation (1:2-10)
 - B. Paul’s defense of his ministry (2:1–2:16)
 - C. Paul’s longing and Timothy’s report (2:17–3:10)
 - D. A pastoral prayer for the Thessalonians (3:11–13)

III. Instruction and Exhortation (4:1 – 5:28)

- A. On pleasing God (4:1–12)
- B. On the second coming of Jesus (4:13–5:11)
- C. On community conduct (5:12–22)
- D. Prayer & assurance (5:23–24)

IV. Conclusion (5:25-28)

IV. Main Themes

A. 7 Signs of a Genuine Ministry

1. Prayer | *1:2-3, 3:9-13*
2. Self-sacrifice | *2:1-3*
3. Motherly Love | *2:7-8*
4. Fatherly integrity and encouragement | *2:10-12*
5. Desire for fellowship | *2:17, 3:6, 3:10*
6. Joy | *2:19-20, 3:9*
7. Hope | *1:4, 5:23-24*

B. 7 Signs of a Christian Life

1. Sexual purity | *4:3-8*
2. Brotherly love | *4:9-10*
3. Respectability | *4:11-12*
4. Being awake to God | *5:4-8*
5. Encouraging others | *5:11-15*
6. God-centeredness | *5:16-18*
7. Discernment | *5:19-22*