

1 THESSALONIANS 2 vs 1

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This little letter to this Greek community, written around 50AD... is the first letter Paul wrote to the church Jesus said He was building.

¹ For you yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain:

² but having suffered, and being mistreated at Philippi, as you know we were bold by our God to speak **the good news of God to you in spite of much hostility.**

³ For our strong urging was not from error or filth or intent to deceive:

⁴ but as we were approved by God to be entrusted with the good news, even so we speak; not to please people, but rather the One God who examines our hearts.

⁵ For never at any time did we use greasy speech to flatter, as you know, nor had greedy motives - God is witness: / they didn't say what they said, looking for \$\$\$ from anyone.

⁶ nor did we seek the boasts from people, not from you nor from others, even with our weighty power, as ambassadors sent by Christ.

⁷ Instead, we were gentle among you, as a nursing mother warmly cares for her children:

⁸ so fond of you, we were pleased to share with you, not only the good news of God, but also our own lives, because you became very dear to us.

⁹ For you remember our labor and hardship brothers and sisters, night and day, working so not to burden any of you; we proclaimed to you the good news of God.

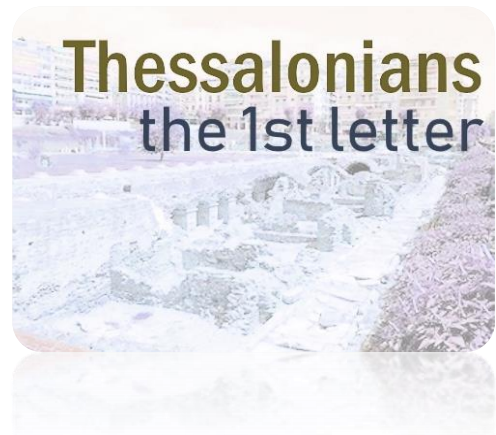
¹⁰ You are witnesses, and God also, how devotedly, rightly and without blame we worked among you believers:

¹¹ as each of you know, like a father with his own children,

¹² to encourage, and strengthen, and urge you, **that you walk worthily of God, who calls you to His kingdom and glory.**

¹³ this is why we also give thanks continually to God, because **having received the word of God that you heard from us, you received it not as the word of men,**

but what it truly is: the word of God, which also works effectively in you who believe.



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14 For you brothers and sisters, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judaea: since you also have suffered the same from your own citizens, just as they did from the Jewish leaders: / isn't it interesting Paul writes this criticism of his own people, he was Jewish

15 who killed the Lord Jesus, and their own prophets, and expelling us; they displease God, and are hostile to all men:

16 hindering us to speak to the Gentiles that they might be saved; thereby always filling up their sins: for wrath has come upon them to the utmost.

17 But after we brothers, being separated from you for a short time -- in person, not in heart, with great desire, we were all the more eager to see your face.

18 For we wanted to come to you -- even I Paul, more than once; yet Satan hindered us.

19 For who is our hope or joy, or crown of rejoicing?

in the presence of our **Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?** Is it not you?

20 Indeed you are our glory and joy.

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