



Bethany Bible Study & Discussion

I Thessalonians (Part-7) (Chapter 5:12-22)



I Thessalonians 5

Day of the Lord (1-11) ✓

Exhortations for Believer's
conduct & faith (12- 22)

Closing greetings (23-28)

Comfort of the Return of Christ


5:11 Comfort others

(**Day of the Lord** is not for
believers)

(for God hath not appointed us
unto wrath 5:9)

4:18 Comfort others

(**Rapture** is for believers)

A hand is shown from the bottom left, holding a glowing, golden orb. The background is a soft, warm sunset or sunrise with a blurred horizon. The overall mood is serene and hopeful.

Exhortations for Believer's Conduct and Faith (12-22)

I Thessalonians 5:12-22

¹² And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; ¹³ And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves. ¹⁴ Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

¹⁵ See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.

¹⁶ Rejoice evermore. ¹⁷ Pray without ceasing.

¹⁸ In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

¹⁹ Quench not the Spirit. ²⁰ Despise not prophesyings.

²¹ Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

²² Abstain from all appearance of evil.



Respect & Peace

¹² And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; ¹³ And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

Those who labor among us. ... **Respect them**

Those who admonish us ... **Respect them**

Those who are over you ... **Respect them**

Hebrews 13:17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

With Everyone ... **Be at peace**

Have salt in yourself, and have peace one with another (**Mark 9:50**)

Warn. Comfort. Support.

Now we exhort you, brethren,
warn them that are unruly,
comfort the feebleminded,
support the weak, be patient
toward all men (14)

Warn ... admonish / discipline the
“unruly” (breaking the rules of the Bible
and local church)

Comfort ... the discouraged and
sorrowful (4:18, 5:11)

Support ... the weak (spiritual, physical,
emotional weakness)

Use scriptures to warn and comfort.
Support in practical ways (faith + works)

Patience

be patient toward
all men (14)

One of the fruit of the Spirit
(Galatians 5:22-23)

God is patient with us
(Exodus 34:6, II Peter 3:9).

Love (I Corinthians 13:4) & faith (Hebrews 6:12) are incomplete without patience. Be patient during trials (Romans 12:12)

God expects patience from us, but Patience is not easy ... How can we grow in patience?

Vengeance

See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men. (15)

Vengeance for injustice

Seems justified

Gives satisfaction

but bible says, **DON'T** retaliate

Injustice to believers: Persecution

Pray & Wait for God's justice (Romans 12:17-21)

Romans 12:17-
21
(on
Vengeance)

¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. ¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. ²⁰ On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Rejoice

Rejoice evermore (15)

Rejoicing begins with Salvation experience

I will **greatly rejoice in the LORD**, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels (**Isaiah 61:10**)

Rejoicing can continue only if we continue in the Lord

In thy presence *is* fullness of joy (**Psalms 16:11**)
Rejoice “in the Lord” always (**Philippians 4:4**)

Rejoicing does not depend on circumstances

(Habakuk 3:17-18, Acts 16:25, Romans 5:2-5)

Pray

Pray without ceasing (17)

Without Ceasing

To be in continuous communion with the Lord

Men ought always to pray, and not faint
(Luke 18:1)

Strengthen personal prayer time

+ Participate in church prayers

Prayer includes:

Worship | Confession | Thanksgiving | Intercession | Petitions

Daniel's prayer life (Daniel 6:10,11)

Prayed in his house, his chamber (private place, personal prayer)

Prayed on his knees (reverence, dependence, humility)

Prayer was a discipline and a priority (3-times a day)

Prayed with thanksgiving

Prayed as before openly (prayer life not impacted by danger/circumstances)

Prayer included supplication

Be Thankful

In every thing give thanks: for
this is the will of God in Christ
Jesus concerning you (18)

In Everything

At all times (good times, bad times, uncertain times)

It is easy to be thankful for good times

How can we be thankful during bad times?

Being Thankful during bad times

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you (18)

Not easy, but possible

Possible if we believe

in God's love for us (John 3:16, Romans 8:32),
in God's wisdom (Isaiah 55:9), and
in God's perfect plans for us (Romans 8:28,
Jeremiah 29:11, Romans 5:3-4)

Possible if our focus is on spiritual maturity, not material prosperity

Possible if we are content (and not greedy)

ALWAYS

Rejoice. Pray. Thankful.

Quench not

Quench not the Spirit (19)

Quench implies:

Hindering / extinguishing the free flow of the ministry of Holy Spirit

If spirit is quenched, only the flesh is left
==> our spiritual power is gone.

It is the spirit that quickeneth (or gives life);
the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I
speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are
life (John 6:63)

What quenches the spirit?

Quench not

Quench not the Spirit (19)

What quenches the spirit?

Disobedience to the prompting / teaching of the Spirit (Spirit says Go, but we say No)

Disbelief or **despising** the work of the spirit (as shown by many examples in Acts)

Disrespecting the Spirit as a person in trinity

Disregarding the Spirit of God within us

Doing the deeds of the flesh

Are we quenching the spirit?

Prophecies

Despise not prophesyings.
Prove all things; hold fast that
which is good (20, 21)

Despise Not

Prophecy is one of the gifts, so we must not dismiss it as nonexistent or irrelevant or false (Acts 2:17, 1 Corinthians 12:10)

True Prophets

Edify, Exhort, Comfort (I Corinthians 14:3)
Hear from God, Reveal new insights

False Prophet Test

- They have false testimony and no fruits (I John 4:1-3; Mathew 7:15-16)
- They add/delete ... Bible is complete so we do not need new revelation (Revelation 22:18,19)
- Their teachings are inconsistent with Bible ... so verify (Acts 17:11, Bereans)

False prophets

I John 4:1-3

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. ² Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: ³ And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

Mathew 7:15-16

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. ¹⁶ Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

Abstain

Abstain from all appearance of evil (22)

- Do not partake in evil/sinful activities (Psalms 1)
- Do not play with temptations (just like we tell kids 'don't play with fire') ... Run like Joseph did
- Avoid anything that can be a stumbling block to believers or raises questions about our character (I Corinthians 10:23)



Is anything missing
in our life / Bethany?