

# FIVE STEPS INTO THE BIBLE

Who Wrote it?

Who Received it?

Why was it Written?

Any Compliments?

Any Warnings

## JOURNEY #4 – 2 Thessalonians

### WHO WROTE THIS LETTER?

- 1 Thessalonians 1:1 From Paul, Silas, and Timothy  
 2 Thessalonians 1:1 From Paul, Silas, and Timothy

1. Who is the letter from? \_\_\_\_\_

#### A Few Thoughts:

- The content of the letter is from the apostle Paul.
- It is believed that Silas actually wrote down the words.
- Timothy was traveling with the group at this time.

### WHO WAS THIS LETTER WRITTEN TO?

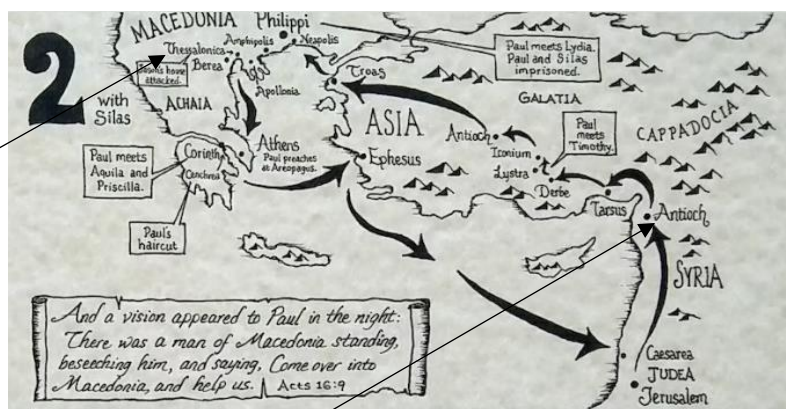
- 1 Thessalonians 1:1 To the church of the Thessalonians ...  
 2 Thessalonians 1:1 To the church of the Thessalonians ...

2. Who was this letter written to? \_\_\_\_\_

### WHY WAS THIS LETTER WRITTEN?

YEAR A.D.	MAJOR EVENTS	ACTS	PERIOD	LETTERS
34	Conversion, Damascus, Arabia	9	3 years - Arabia	
37	Jerusalem, Tarsus, Syria, Cilicia			
46-47	Antioch, Jerusalem	11	1 year - Antioch	
48-49	First Missionary Journey and Antioch	13-14		Galatians
50	Jerusalem Council and Antioch	15		
51-53	Second Missionary Journey	16-18	18 months - Corinth	1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians
53-54	Antioch			
54-57	Third Missionary Journey	19-21	3 years - Ephesus	1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians Romans
57	Jerusalem Arrest	22-23		
57-59	Caesarea Prisoner	24-26	2 years	
59-60	Journey to Rome	27-28		
60-67 circa	Rome House Arrest	28	5-7 years circa	Ephesians Colossians Philimon Philippians 1 Timothy Titus 2 Timothy

Our focus is here →



3. According to the timeline above, approximately what year did the "Missionary Journey #1" begin? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Where was the church headquarters? (Acts 13:1) \_\_\_\_\_
5. What two missionaries were sent out? (Acts 13:2) \_\_\_\_\_
6. Journey #1 ended in what city? (Acts 14:26) \_\_\_\_\_ (They gave their report.)

7. \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No Paul & Barnabas began planning "Missionary Journey #2" (Acts 15:36)
8. Paul & Barnabas had a disagreement with. What was it? (Acts 15:37-39)
- 
9. What two missionaries were sent out on "Journey #2"? (Acts 15:40)
- 
10. Who did not go with Paul this time? (Acts 15:39) \_\_\_\_\_

*Disagreements & friction do occur among Christians even while ministering. It appears that the problem was worked out.*

11. When the missionaries arrived in the "Lystra-Derbe" city limits, who did they meet? (Acts 16:1) \_\_\_\_\_
12. Tell me about this man: (Acts 16:1-3)
- \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No Was he a believer already? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Describe his mother. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Describe his father. \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No Did he have a good Christian testimony in the community? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What did Paul invite this man to do? \_\_\_\_\_

**A Few Thoughts:**

- When the persecution got worse in the Israel area, the believers headed for Asia.
- The following letters were written to churches & believers in ASIA:  
*Galatians, Ephesians, Colossians, 1,2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, James, 1,2 Peter, 1,2,3 John, Jude, Rev.*
- "Journey #1" focused in Asia.
- "Journey #2" started to focus on Asia.
- No missionaries had crossed into Europe yet.



Now the Push into Europe Begins

EUROPE

ASIA

13. Check if the travel plans are correct.
- \_\_\_ Paul met Timothy in Lystra. (Acts 16:1)
  - \_\_\_ They went to Galatia & Phrygia as planned to encourage the churches. (Acts 16:6)
  - \_\_\_ They wanted to go to "South Asia" (Mysia, Lydia, Caria, etc.) (Acts 16:6)
  - \_\_\_ They then tried going to Bithynia, but with no success (Acts 16:7)
  - \_\_\_ The Lord led them to the seaport of Troas (Acts 16:8). It was their dead end.



## LONG STORY SHORT

14.  Yes  No Paul had dream telling him to go to Macedonia. (Acts 16:9)
15.  Yes  No They finally arrived in Philippi, a main city in Macedonia. (Acts 16:12)
16.  Yes  No They were asked to leave Philippi after a while. (Acts 16:39)
17.  Yes  No They moved on to Thessalonica & planted a church there (Acts 17:4)
18.  Yes  No They went to Athens (Acts 17:15) and then to Corinth (Acts 18:1)

## OH, BY THE WAY - WHY WAS 1 & 2 THESSALONIANS WRITTEN?

### Verses outside of 1 & 2 Thessalonians

Acts 17:4 *And some of the people in Thessalonica accepted the Gospel (Jews & Greeks & leading women); they joined Paul & Silas' faith.*

19. What good thing happened in Thessalonica? \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 17:5 *But the Jews who did not believe became envious ..and instigated a mob in the town, and attacked the home of a Christian leader named Jason.*

Acts 17:7 *Jason had them in his home; Paul & Silas were accused of preaching that Caesar should be replaced with Jesus as the real king of Israel.*

Acts 17:13 *(Paul & Silas escaped to Berea) But when the Jews in Thessalonica learned that the word of God was preached by Paul in Berea, they came there also & instigated another riot.*

20. What bad things happened in Thessalonica?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_

### Verses inside of 1 & 2 Thessalonians

*There are lots of verses in 1 Thessalonians on this subject; that letter was written first. Feel free to study that letter on your own. We will focus on 2 Thessalonians for this lesson.*

12. ..for your patience and faith in all your \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ that you endure. (2 Thess. 1:4)
13. ..and to give you who are \_\_\_\_\_ rest with us .... (2 Thess. 1:7)
14.  Yes  No You are being taught that the Second Coming of Jesus Christ has already come (2 Thess. 2:1)
15.  Yes  No You are being taught to not believe in the truth. (2 Thess. 2:10)
16.  Yes  No You are being taught to believe a lie. (2 Thess. 2:11)
17.  Yes  No Your teachers are living by enjoying unrighteousness. (2 Thess. 2:12)
18. What should the Thessalonians do if the stuff they are being taught WAS NOT TAUGHT BY PAUL & SILAS? (2 Thess. 3:6) \_\_\_\_\_
19. In summary, what do you think the Thessalonians were going through? \_\_\_\_\_
21. In summary, why do you think Paul this letter to them? \_\_\_\_\_

*It must have been bad; Paul probably wrote to them while he was still on the road in Corinth.*

**WHAT COMPLIMENTS DID PAUL WRITE TO THE THESSALONIANS?**

20. Match the compliment with the verses.

- a. 2 Thess. 1:3      \_\_\_ You are extremely patient when persecuted.
- b. 2 Thess. 1:3      \_\_\_ Your faith is growing; congratulations.
- c. 2 Thess. 1:4      \_\_\_ You are faithful to obey God's word.
- d. 2 Thess. 2:13     \_\_\_ We have great confidence in you.
- e. 2 Thess. 3:4      \_\_\_ It is incredible; you love each other.
- f. 2 Thess. 3:4      \_\_\_ Back in the day, you chose salvation; good decision.

**WHAT WARNINGS OR INSTRUCTIONS DID HE GIVE THE THESSALONIANS?**

**OK, Thessalonians; I am not messing around here; pay attention to these:**

A. Match these commands to the verses in 2 Thessalonians:

- a. 1:11      \_\_\_ Pray for all of us ministers; we are getting jerked around.
- b. 1:12      \_\_\_ Don't even think about it; don't get tired of doing good.
- c. 2:2        \_\_\_ Don't live like the evil doers but love them anyway.
- d. 2:15      \_\_\_ Don't let your faith be shaken by the false teachers & liars.
- e. 3:1        \_\_\_ Don't be a fake; live your life the way a child of God would.
- f. 3:6        \_\_\_ Do not condone or overlook laziness & hurting others.
- g. 3:12      \_\_\_ Don't be wishy-washy; stand true to the values of your faith.
- h. 3:13      \_\_\_ Listen! Do not let evil & evil doers take over your church.
- i. 3:15      \_\_\_ Don't play games; decide to honor God with your behavior.

B. Pick out three of the warnings above & explain how you are failing in those areas, and what you are going to do about it.

- a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

C. What lesson have you learned from Paul, the author of this letter?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_