



~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



Vol. 11 Issue 202

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Prayer

God Father; in Jesus' name I ask it, Lord led us and guide as we go through this day. Refresh Your Holy fire in us, the passion of You. Give us the will to study Your Word and meditate on it. Give us peace, with every thing that is going on around us today. May we spend alone time with You and just listen to Your utterances. Bless us, keep us and protect us. Give us a day of ease and a stress free day. In Jesus' name I pray.

Amen.

Worship Music

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Scripture

I Thessalonians 4 (AMP; 2005)

¹ FURTHERMORE, BRETHREN, we beg and admonish you in [virtue of our union with] the Lord Jesus, that [you follow the instructions which] you learned from us about how you ought to walk so as to please *and* gratify God, as indeed you are doing, [and] that you do so even more and more abundantly [attaining yet greater perfection in living this life]. ² For you know what charges *and* precepts we gave you [on the authority and by the inspiration of] the Lord Jesus. ³ For this is the will of God, that you should be consecrated (separated and set apart for pure and holy living): that you should abstain *and* shrink from all sexual vice, ⁴ That each one of you should know how to possess (control, manage) his own body in consecration (purity, separated from things profane) and honor, ⁵ Not [to be used] in the passion of lust like the heathen, who are ignorant of the true God *and* have no knowledge of His will, ⁶ That no man transgress and overreach his brother *and* defraud him in this matter *or* defraud his brother in business. For the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we have already warned you solemnly *and* told you plainly. ⁷ For God has not called us to impurity but to consecration [to dedicate ourselves to the most thorough purity]. ⁸ Therefore whoever disregards (sets aside and rejects this) disregards not man but God, Whose [very] Spirit [Whom] He gives to you is holy (chaste, pure). ⁹ But concerning brotherly love [for all other Christians], you have no need to have anyone write you, for you yourselves have been [personally] taught by God to love one another. ¹⁰ And indeed you already are [extending and displaying your love] to all the brethren throughout Macedonia. But we beseech *and* earnestly exhort you, brethren, that you excel [in this matter] more and more, ¹¹ To make it your ambition *and* definitely endeavor to live quietly *and* peacefully, to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we charged you, ¹² So that you may bear yourselves becomingly *and* be correct *and* honorable *and* command the respect of the outside world, being dependent on nobody [self-supporting] *and* having need of nothing. ¹³ Now also we would not have you ignorant, brethren, about those who fall asleep [in death], that you may not grieve [for them] as the rest do who have no hope [beyond the grave]. ¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will also bring with Him through Jesus those who have fallen asleep [in death]. ¹⁵ For this we declare to you by the Lord's [own] word, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord shall in no way precede [into His presence] *or* have any advantage at all over those who have previously fallen asleep [in Him in death]. ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a loud cry of summons, with the shout of an archangel, and with the blast of the trumpet of God. And those who have departed this life in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we, the living ones who remain [on the earth], shall simultaneously be caught up along with [the resurrected dead] in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and so always (through the eternity of the eternities) we shall be with the Lord! ¹⁸ Therefore comfort *and* encourage one another with these words.

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We are to live a godly life, in preparation for the second coming of Christ. Sexual immorality (vv. 1-8) was common among heathen peoples. It may be that Timothy had mentioned some cases of moral laxness in his otherwise glowing report of the general steadfastness of the Thessalonian Christians, which then was the reason for this exhortation. Sanctification (v. 3), as here used, means sexual purity. Body (v. 4) the word literally means "vessel". It seems to mean body here, although some people think that it means "wife" in which case Paul refers to fidelity to the marriage vow or to the fact that in order to avoid immorality each should have his own wife. Wrong his brother (v. 6). Sexual immorality harms more than those directly engaged. Spouses are always wronged. Children are tragically affected. This also refers to premarital sex, which robs the future spouse of the virginity that should be brought to the marriage. Brotherly love (vv. 9-12). It seems that those who were well off, of whom there were many (Acts 17:4) took the doctrine of Christian charity seriously and were distributing their assets to the poorer brothers and sisters in all the Macedonian churches. Unfortunately, this was an opportunity for those who were inclined to be lazy, and they were making the most of it. Perhaps it was because they expected the imminent return of Christ. Whatever the motivation, Paul commends the charitable, but he rebukes the idle; their willingness to live off their neighbors' charity runs contrary to every principle of brotherly love. Paul exhorts them to earn their own wages. Living a good and respectable life, so that they may win the respect of unbelievers and not be dependent on anyone. The Lord's second coming (vv. 13-18). Here we come to the main topic of the letter. Paul must have given it particular emphasis in his preaching at Thessalonica, since it is mentioned in every chapter. Though it is commonly spoken of as the Lord's coming or appearing, it is specifically called the Second Coming in Hebrews 9:28. And Jesus' word "again" in John 14:3 means "a second time." So it is perfectly proper and scriptural to speak of the Lord's coming as the Second Coming. It is mentioned or referred to in almost every New Testament book. The chapters in which it is explained most fully are Matthew 24-25; Luke 21; 1 Thessalonians 4-5; and 2 Peter 3. Christ's return is the great event that Christians hope for, as mentioned in 5:10; 2 Corinthians 5:8; Philippians 1:23; Colossians 3:4; and John 14:3. The second coming of Christ is viewed as the climax and culmination of His redemptive work. It is considered by most to be a literal, bodily return of Christ as He gathers His church. "Fallen asleep" (v. 14) is a scriptural expression for the Christians' death (Matthew 27:52; John 11:11; Acts 7:60; 13:36; 1 Corinthians 15:6, 18, 20, 51; 2 Peter 3:4). It is found often on Christian epitaphs in the catacombs of Rome. Jesus taught it, it must be true. Only asleep, and one day we shall awake. Glorious morning! This does not mean that we lapse into a state of unconsciousness until the day of the resurrection, rather, we will experience the presence of Christ immediately (Philippians 1:23). With a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God (v. 16). This is similar to Jesus' words in Matthew 24: 30-31 > It is at this point that the dead in Christ shall rise (v. 17). This may be a literal resurrection of the body, in an imperishable, glorious, state as described at 1 Corinthians 15:42-43 > We who are still alive will be caught up together with them (v. 17). This may be the only place in the New Testament where a "rapture" is clearly referred to, (For "we will be caught up," the Latin Vulgate uses rapiemur, a form of the verb from which "rapture" is derived.) The angels will be with Him, in all the glory of heaven (Matthew 25:31). The saints of past ages will be raised (v. 16), believers still in the flesh will also be changed, and, as Enoch and Elijah were taken up to heaven instead of dying (2 Kings 2:11; Hebrews 11:5), the whole church will rise in a joyful reunion with the returning Savior, to be with Him forevermore. It thrills us through and through to think of it!
(Halley's Bible Handbook; 2000; history, comments, notes; pages 829-830)

V 2. It's amazing how much Paul was able to teach the Thessalonians in the three weeks he spent with them. V 6 Not all people who claim to be Christians are honest businessmen. V. 10 Many Christians are settled into spiritual complacency and aren't growing in Christ. V. 11 Paul was aware of the damage which gossips can do when they don't mind their own business. V. 13 The term "asleep" is used in the New Testament to describe a Christian who has moved from his earthly body to his heavenly body. The word "moved" would be more appropriate. The Christians wanted to differentiate this condition from the state of death for the unbeliever (John 11:26; 2 Corinthians 5:1-8; 12:2-4). V. 15 "Prevent" means having an advantage over. Those who live until the Lord comes won't have any advantage over those who died earlier. V. 16-17 Isaiah 42:13; Jeremiah 25:30; Hosea 11:10; Joel 3:16; Amos 1:2; Revelation 4:1, 10:3. Those Christians who have died are already with Christ and will be with Him at His coming (verse 14). We'll meet them with the Lord in the air. "Caught up" (the Greek is harpazo) here means "snatched away with great force" (1 Corinthians 15: 51-52).
(New Testament Study Guide; 2005; Chuck Smith; notes & commentaries; pages 124-125)

Did you know the Bible specifically tells us in 1 Thessalonians 4:11 to mind our own business? Minding our own business is a principle we need to follow, and we will discover that we enjoy life so much more when we apply it. Many times we get into things that were really none of our business to begin with, and those very things end up making us miserable. God does not give us an anointing to handle someone else's business; He gives us anointing for our own. This is why things become so messy when we get involved where we should not. There is obviously a time to get involved and help people in need, but there is also a balance that should be honored. Ask God to help you know when to get involved in a situation and when to mind your own business!

Do you know that God is concerned about your body as well as your soul? God commands you to abstain from sexual immorality (see **1 Thessalonians 4:3-6**) because engaging in sexual activity outside of marriage will keep you from living a holy life. Avoid situations that may tempt you or that cause lust to rise up in you. Practice fidelity in marriage and chastity in singleness.

*Thy heart is not right in the sight of God. **Acts 8:21**.*

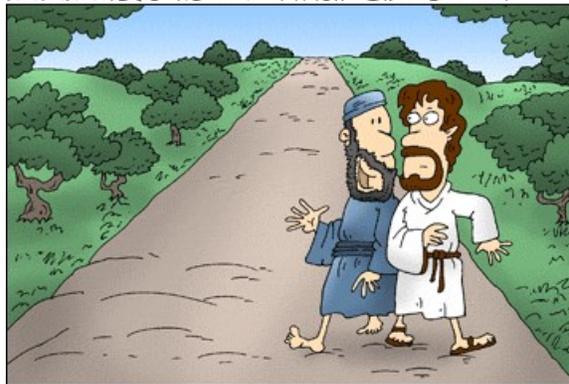
The worst of all mockeries is a religion that leaves the heart unchanged: a religion that has *everything* but the love of Christ enshrined in the soul.

—F. Whitfield

(The Word; Word Search 9; Bible Software; 2008; Amplified Bible, KJV, American Standard, Darby.....and many more)

(Amplified Bible; The Every Day Life Bible; Joyce Meyers Ministry; Scripture, notes, commentaries; page 1977 -1979)

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06-20-2011

JUUUST ... A CLOSER WALK WITH THEEEE

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(See Genesis 6-8)

06-17-2011

THAT DOES NOT QUALITY AS GOPHER WOOD

Psa 119:105

**Thy word [is] a lamp unto
my feet, and a light unto my path.**



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