

and them of Hierapolis.
 14 * Luke the beloued phisitio greteth you, and Demas.
 15 Salute the brethren which are of Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the Church which is in his house.
 16 And when this epistle is red of you, cause that it be red in the Church of the Laodiceans also, and that ye likewise read the epistles written from Laodicea.

17 And say to Archippus, Take hede to the ministerie, that thou hast receiued in the Lord, that thou fulfil it.
 18 The salutation by the hand of me Paul. Remember my bades. Grace be with you, Amen.

Written from Rome to the Colosians and sent by Tychicus, and Onesimus.

g Ether to Paul, or els w they wolde write as an answere to this epistle fte so y Colosiãis

THE FIRST EPISTLE of Paul to the Theffalonians.

THE ARGUMENT.

After that the Theffalonians had bene wel instructed in the faith, persecution, which perpetually followeth the preaching of the Gospel, arose, against the which although they did constantly stand, yet S. Paul (as moste careful for th:m) sent Timothie to strengthen them, who sone after admonishing him of their estate, gaue occasion to the Apostle to confirme them by diuers arguments to be constant in faith, & to suffer whatsoeuer God calleth them vnto for the testimonie of the Gospel, exhorting them to declare by their godlie liuing the puritie of their religion. And as the Church can neuer be so purged, that some cockle remaine not among the wheat, so there were among them wicked men, which by mouing vaine and curious questions to ouerthrowe their faith, taught falsely, as touching the point of the resurrection from the dead: whereof he briefly instructeth them what to thinke, earnestly forbidding them to seke curiously to knowe the times, willing them rather to watche lest the sudden comming of Christ come vpon them at vnwares: and so after certeine exhortations, and his commendations to the brethren, he endeth.

CHAP. I.

2 He thanketh God for them, that they are so stedfast in faith & good workes. 6 And receiue the Gospel with suche earnestnes. 7 That they are an example to all others.

1 **P**AUL and Siluanus, and Timotheus, vnto the Church of the Theffalonians, which is in God the Father, and in the Lord Iesus Christ: Grace be with you, and peace from God our Father, & from the Lord Iesus Christ.

a For there is no Church w is not ioyned together in God.

2 Theff. 1. 3.

Philip. 1. 3.

b Which declareth it selfe by moſte liuelie frutes.

c Whereby you declared your selues moſte readie and painful to helpe the poore. d The effectual preaching of the Gospel is an evident token of our election.

e To beleue, & to be tully persuaded to haue the gifts of the holie God, and ioyfully to suffer

2 * We giue God thanks alwayes for you all, making *mencion of you in our prayers Without ceasing, remébring your b effectual faith, & diligent loue & the patience of your hope in our Lord Iesus Christ in the sight of God euen our Father,
 4 Knowing, beloued brethren, that ye are elect of God.
 5 For our d Gospel was not vnto you in worde onely, but also in power, and in the holie Gost, & in muche assurãce, as ye knowe after what maner we were among you for your sakes.
 6 And ye became followers of vs, and of the Lord, and receiued the worde in muche affliction, with e ioye of y holie Gost, for Christs sake, are most certeine signes of our election.

7 So that ye were as ensamples to all that beleue in Macedonia and Achaia.

8 For from you founded out the worde of the Lord, not in Macedonia & in Achaia onely: but your faith also which is towarde God, spred abroade in all quarters, that we nede not to speake any thing.

9 For f they them selues shewe of you what maner of entring in we had vnto you, and how ye turned to God from idoles, to serue the s liuing and true God,

10 And to loke for his Sonne from heauen, whome he raised from the dead, euen Iesus which deliuereth vs from the h wrath to come.

f To wit, all y faithful.

g For idoles are dead things and onely fained fantasies.

h Which he shal execute vpon the wicked.

CHAP. II.

1 To the intent they shoulde not faint under the crosse. 2 He comendeth his diligence in preaching. 13 And theirs in obeing. 18 He excuseth his absence, that he colde not come and open his heart to them.

1 **F**OR ye your selues knowe, brethren, that our entrance in vnto you was not in a vaine,

2 But euen after that we had suffred before, and were shamefully entreated at *Phillippi (as ye knowe) we were bolde b in our God, to speake vnto you the Gospel of God with muche struiuing.

3 For our exhortatiõ was not by deceit, nor by vnclennes, nor by guile.

4 But as we were alowed of God, that the

a Not in outwarde shewe and in pompe, but in trauel & in the feare of God.

b Act. 16. 22. By his helpe and grace.

Against menpleasers. I. Theſſalonians. Appointed to afflictions 1442/1224

c Which declar-
eth a naugh-
tie confidence.

Gospel ſhuld be committed vnto vs, ſo we ſpeake, not as they that c pleaſe men; but God, which trieth our hearts.

5 Nether yet did we euer vſe flattering wordes, as ye know, nor colored couetouſnes, God is recorde.

6 Nether foght we praife of men, nether of you, nor of others,

d Or, in auaricie

7 When we might haue bene chargeable, as the Apoſties of Chriſt: but we were gentle among you, euen as a d nource cheriſheth her children.

d He humbled himſelf to ſupporte all things without all reſpecte of lucre: euen as y tender mother which nour- ceth her children, and thinketh no office to vile for her childrens ſake. *Act. 20. 34. 1. cor. 4. 14. 2. theſ. 3. 8.*

8 Thus being affectioned towarde you, our good wil was to haue dealt vnto you, not the Gospel of God onely, but alſo our owne ſoules, becauſe ye were dere vnto vs.

9 For ye remember, brethren, our labour & trauail: for we laboured day & night, becauſe we wolde not be chargeable vnto a-
me of you, & preached vnto you the Gos- pel of God.

10 Ye are witneſſes, and God alſo, how ho- lily, & iuſtly, & vnblameably we behaue our ſelues among e you that beleue.

e For it is not poſſible to auoide the reproches of y wicked, which euer hate good doings. *Eph. 4. 1. philip. 1. 27. col. 3. 10.*

11 As ye knowe how that we exhorted you, and comforted, and beſoght euerie one of you (as a father his children)

12 That ye woulde walke worthie of God, who hath called you vnto his kingdome and glorie.

13 For this cauſe alſo thanke we God with- out ceaſing, that whē ye receiued of vs the worde of the preaching of God, ye recei- ued it not as the worde of men, but as it is in dede the worde of God, which alſo wor- keth in you that beleue.

14 For brethren, ye are become followers of the Churches of God, which in Iudea are in f Chriſt Ieſus, becauſe ye haue alſo ſuffered y ſame things of your owne coun- trey men, euen as they haue of the Iewes,

f In his Name and vnder his protection.

15 Who bothe killed the Lord Ieſus and their owne Prophetes, & haue persecuted vs, and God they pleaſe not, and are con- trarie to all men,

g And wolde hinder all me from their ſal- uation. *h* And heape vp the meaſure, *Mat. 13. 12. Rom. 2. 11.*

16 And forbid vs to preache vnto the Gen- tiles, that they might be ſaued, to h fulfil their ſinnes alway: for the wrath of God is come on them, to the vtmoſte.

i He meaneth not this of all the Iewes in general: but of certeine of the particularly ceased not after they had put Chriſt to death, ſo perſe- cute his worde, and his mi- niſters. *k* Therefore I wolde not forget you, except I wolde forget my ſelf.

17 For aſmuche brethren, as we were kept from you for a ſeaſon, cōcerning ſight, but not in the heart, we enforced the more to ſe your face with great deſire.

18 Therefore we wolde haue come vnto you (I Paul, at leaſt once or twiſe) but Sara hindered vs.

19 For what is our hope or ioye, or crowne of reioycig are knot euē you it in y preſen- ce of our Lord Ieſus Chriſt at his cōmig

20 Yes, ye are our glorie and ioye.

CHAP. III.

l He ſheweth how greatly he was affectioned towarde them bothe in that he ſent Timotheus to them, 10 And alſo prayed for them.

1 W Herefore ſince we colde no lon- ger forbear, we thought it good to remaine at Athens alone,

a Rather ſeking your commodi- tie, then mine owne in ſending of Timotheus to you. *Act. 16. 1.*

2 And haue ſent Timotheus our brother & miniſter of God, and our labour fellow in the Gospel of Chriſt, to ſtabliſh you, and to comfort you touching your faith,

3 That no man ſhulde be moued with theſe afflictions. for ye your ſelues knowe, that we are appointed thereunto.

4 For verely when we were with you, we tolde you before that we ſhulde ſuffre tribulations, euen as it came to paſſe, and ye knowe it.

5 Euen for this cauſe, when b I colde no lon- ger forbear, I ſent him y I might knowe of your faith, leſt the c rēpter had tempt- ed you in any ſorte, and that our labour had bene in vaine.

b His great af- fection towar- de the ſmale ſlocke. *c* Meaning Sa- tan.

6 But now lately when Timotheus came from you vnto vs, and broght vs good ti- dings of your faith & loue, and that ye haue good remēbrance of vs alwayes, deſi- ring to ſe vs, as we alſo do you,

7 Therefore, brethren, we had conſolation in you, in all our affliction and neceſſitie through your faith.

8 For now are we d aliuē, if ye e ſtand faſt in the Lord.

d If ye remaine conſtant in faith and true doctrine, I ſhal thinke that all mine afflictions be ſo many pleaſures, and ſhal be reſtored from death to liſe. *Rom. 2. 10. 1. cor. 15. 23.*

9 For what thākes can we recōpenſe to God againe for you for all the ioye wherewith we reioyce for your ſakes before our God,

10 Night and day praying exceedingly y we might ſe your face, & might f accōpliſh that which is lacking in your faith?

e If you perſe- uere in faith. *f* We muſt dai- ly growe from faith to faith.

11 Now God him ſelf, euen our Father, and our Lord Ieſus Chriſt, guide our iorney vnto you,

12 And the Lord increaſe you & make you abunde in loue one towarde another, and towarde all mē, euē as we do towarde you:

13 *To make your hearts ſtable and vnbla- meable in holines before God euen our Fa- ther, at the comming of our Lord Ieſus Chriſt with all his Saints.

Chap. 3. 23. 1. cor. 13. 8.

CHAP. IIIII.

1 He exhorteth them to holines, *6* Innocencie, *9* Loue, *11* Labour, *13* And moderation in lamenting for the dead, *17* Deſcribing the end of the reſurreccion.

1 And furthermore we beſeche you, bre- Athré, & exhorte you in the Lord Ie- ſus that ye increaſe more and more, as ye haue receiued of vs, how ye ought to walke, and to pleaſe God.

a And as it we re, ouer come your ſelues. *b* The greke worde ſignified ſuchecom- mādements as one receiueh from ſome mā to giue them in his name to o- thers. *Rom. 22. 2. ephe. 5. 17.*

2 For ye knowe what bcommandements we gaue you by the Lord Ieſus,

3 *For this is the wil of God euen your ſan- ctification, c that ye ſhulde abſteine frō fornication,

4 That euerie one of you ſhulde know, how to poſſeſſe his d veſſel in holines & honour,

d That is, his bodie which is pre- paured by ſuche ſilhuces.

5 And not in the lust of concupiscence, euen as the Gentiles which knowe not Gods
 1. Cor. 6. 8. 6 *That no man oppresse or defraude his brother in any matter: for y^e Lord is a venger of all suche things, as we also haue tolde you before time and testified.
 1. Cor. 1. 2. 7 *For God hathe not called vs vnto vnclennes, but vnto holines.
 8 He therefore that despiseth these things, despiseth not man, but God who hathe euen giuen* you his holie Spirit.
 9 But as touching brotherlie loue, ye neede not y^e I write vnto you: *for ye are taught of God to loue one another.
 10 Yea, & that thing verely ye do vnto all y^e brethren, which are throughout all Macedonia: but we beseeche you, brethre, that ye increase more and more,
 11 *And that ye studie to be quiet, and to medle with your owne busines, & to worke with your owne hands, as we commanded you,
 12 That ye may behaue your selues honestly towardes them that are without, & that nothing be lacking vnto you.
 13 ¶ I wolde not, brethren, haue you ignorat concerning the which are a slepe, that ye sorrowe not euē as other w^h haue no hope.
 14 For if we beleue that Iesus is dead, and is risen, euē so them which slepe in Iesus, wil God bring with him.
 15 For this say we vnto you by the worde of the Lord, *that we which liue, & are remaining in the coming of the Lord, shal not preuent them which slepe.
 16 For the Lord him self shal descēd from heauē with a showte, & with the voyce of the Archāgel & *with the trūpet of God: and the dead in Christ shal rise first.
 17 Then shal we which liue and remaine, be caught vp with them also in the cloudes, to mete the Lord in the ayer: & so shal we euer be with the Lord.
 18 Wherefore, comfort your selues one another with these wordes.

CHAP. V.

1 He enformeth them of the day of iudgement & comming of the Lord, 6 Exhorting the to watch, 12 And to regard suche as preache Gods worde among them.

1 **B**ut of the times & seasons, brethren, ye haue no neede y^e I write vnto you.
 2 For ye your selues knowe perfetly, that the day of the Lord shal come, euen as a thefe in the night.
 3 For when they shal say, Peace, and safetie, then shal come vpon them sudden destruction, as the trauail vpon a woman with childe, and they shal not escape.
 4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkenes, that

that 2000 yere before the Lawe, 2000 vnder the Lawe and 2000 after the Lawe the worlde shal endure. *Mat 24. 44. 2 pet 3. 10. wuel 33 & 16. 15. b That is, suddenly & vnlooked for.

that day shulde come on you, as it were a thefe.

5 Ye are all the children of light, and the childre of the day: we are not of the night nether of darkenes.
 6 Therefore let vs not slepe as do other, but let vs watch and be sober.
 7 For they that slepe, slepe in the night, & they that be drunken, are drunken in the night.
 8 But let vs which are of the day, be sober, *putting on y^e brest plate of faith & loue, & of the hope of saluation for an helmet.
 9 For God hathe not appointed vs vnto wrath, but to obtaine saluatiō by the meanes of our Lord Iesus Christ,
 10 Which dyed for vs, that whether we wake or slepe, we shulde liue together with him.
 11 Wherefore exhorte one another, & edifie one another, euen as ye do.
 12 Now we beseeche you, brechten, that ye knowe them, which labour among you, & are ouer you in the Lord, and admonish you,
 13 That ye haue them in singular loue for their workes sake. Be at peace amōg your selues.
 14 We desire you, brethre, admonish them that are vnruie: comforte the feble minded: beare with the weake: be pacient towarde all men.
 15 *Se that none recompense euil for euil vnto any man: but euer followe that which is good, bothe towarde your selues, and towarde all men.
 16 Reioyce euermore.
 17 *Pray continually.
 18 In all things giue thanks: for this is the wil of God in Christ Iesus towarde you.
 19 Quench not the Spirit.
 20 Despise not¹ prophecying.
 21 Trye all things, and kepe that which is good.
 22 Absteyne from all appearance of euil.
 23 Now the verie God of peace sanctifie you throughout: and I pray God that your mwhole spir and soule and bodie, may be kept blameles vnto the comming of our Lord Iesus Christ.
 24 *Faithful is he which calleth you, which wil also do it.
 25 Brethren, pray for vs.
 26 Grete all the brethre with an holie kisse.
 27 I charge you in y^e Lord, that this epistle be red vnto all the brethren the Saintes.
 28 The grace of our Lord Iesus Christ be with you, Amen.

The first epistle vnto the Thessalonians written from Arhens.

e Here Steps is taken for coempt of saluation, when men continue in finnes and will not awake to godlines.
 d And not be ouercomewith the carus of y^e worloe.
 e That is, lighted by y^e Gospel.
 f Here it is taken onely to dye, & is ment of the faithfull
 g As the floeke is bounde to loue y^e shepherde, so is it his duetie to teache the and exhort them in true religion.
 h Where this cause ceaseth, that they worke not: the honor also ceaseth, and they must be expelled as wolues out of the floeke.
 Prou. 17. 13. & 20. 22.
 mat. 5. 39. rom. 12. 17.
 1. pet. 3. 9.
 i Have a quiet minde & conscience in Christ which shal make you reioice in the middes of sorrowes, Rom. 5. 2. cor. 6. 10.
 Luk 18. 1.
 eccle. 18. 12.
 colof. 4. 3.
 k God that hathe giuen his Spirit to his elect, wil neuer suffer it to be quenched, but hathe reuelled by what meanes it may be maintained, y^e is, by suche exhortations as these, & by continual increase in godlines.
 l The preaching of y^e worde of God.
 Chap. 3. 12.
 1. cor. 1. 8.
 1. cor. 1. 8.
 m Then is a man fully sanctified & perfect, when his mindethinketh nothing, his soule, that is, his vnderstanding and wil, coueteth nothing: neither his bodie doeth execute any thing contrary to the wil of God.

a So muche more we ought to be ware of all dreames & fantasies of me which weare them selues & others in searching out curiously the time that the Lord shal appere, alledging for them selues a vaine prophetic, and more falsely ascribed to Elias that 2000 yere before the Lawe, 2000 vnder the Lawe and 2000 after the Lawe the worlde shal endure. *Mat 24. 44. 2 pet 3. 10. wuel 33 & 16. 15. b That is, suddenly & vnlooked for.