

RIGHTEOUSNESS

While We Wait

Sept.12, 2021

Study Text: 1 Thessalonians 4:1 - 5:11

Intro: When we live please God, we C_____ to live in ways that please God. When we live to please God, we V_____ death differently than the world and we remain R_____ for Christ's return. Read the last few verses of each chapter in 1 Thess. What is mentioned in each passage?

How do we, as Christians, view the world differently than the lost view the world?

Demosthenes (a Greek statesman & public speaker) once wrote: *We keep prostitutes for pleasure; we keep mistresses for the day to day needs of the body; we keep wives for the begetting of children and for the faithful guardianship of our homes.* There was no shame in _____.

This was one of the dangers facing the church in Thessalonica and all the churches throughout the Roman Empire. Read Ro.13:13, 1 Cor.6:18, Gal.5:19-21, Eph.5:5, Phil.3:18-19, and Col.3:5. All these passages speak to the dangers of sexual immorality. Do we see such behavior in our society today? Would Paul's teachings to them benefit us today? Let's look at Paul's words and see what kind of lives we are to lead.

1. A Life Pleasing to God (1 Thess.4:1-2)

- Man cannot simply do his own T_____ or do what is right in his own E_____.
- To please God, man must walk in the L_____ (1 Jo.1:7) and according to the T_____ (3 Jo.4).
- They were urged to do this "more and more". What does that mean to you?
- Where did their instruction come from?

2. A Life of Sexual Purity (1 Thess.4:3-8)

- (4:3-5) In as few words as possible, what was God's will for them?
- (4:6-7) What was to be their motivation?
- (4:8) What was to be their help? If someone does not do this, who were they disregarding?

3. A Life of Brotherly Love (1 Thess.4:9-12)

- What were they encouraged to do?
- They were to do that M_____ and M_____! (Have we heard this phrase before?)
- We are to L_____, we are to W_____, and we are to watch our N_____! Why?

4. A Life of Hope (1 Thess.4:13-18)

- (4:13) Paul did not want them to G_____ about those who were A_____, but rather have the knowledge that they were taken care of. This was not true for the pagans who did not accept the loving grace and kindness of God, and had no H_____ in the beauty of the R_____.
- (4:15) What assurance do we have about the resurrection?
- (Jo.14:3) Our hope is based on a P_____ made by Jesus!

5. A Life With Knowledge Concerning His Return (1 Thess.5:1-11)

- The day of the Lord will come like _____ (See also Luke 12:39-40)
What does that mean?
- The "world" will say there is P_____ and S_____. What will come upon them and what is their end? (5:3)

* It will be I_____ ABLE, it will be S_____ EN, and it will be P_____ FUL.
- Why would the Thessalonians not be surprised? (5:4-5) (See also Col.1:13,14 & 1 Pet.2:9)
- We are to be P_____ and A_____!
- We are to live as C_____ of L_____!
- Our lives show our F_____, our L_____, and the hope of our S_____.
- We are not destined/appointed for W_____, but for our S_____. (5:9)
- We are to _____ with him. (5:10)
- Until that day, we are to _____ (5:11)

Next week: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28