Northwest Bible Church – Oct. 15, 2023 – 1 & 2 Thess. – Alan Conner

**1 Thess. Summary & 2 Thess. Introduction**

Intro

**A. PAUL’S MINISTRY IN THESSALONICA.**

 1. Acts 17:1-10 -

 2. Paul’s escape during the night was a source of criticism.

**B. THEMES IN 1 THESS.**

 1. Divine election, 1 Thess. 1:4-5.

 2. Importance of Sanctification.

 a. 1 Thess. 2:11-12; walk worthy of God

 b. 1 Thess. 4:1-10 God’s will is your sanctification, “EXCEL STILL MORE.”

 3. The Second Coming.

 a. Every chapter ends with a reference to it.

 b. The comfort of the coming of the Lord, 1 Thess. 4:13-18,

 c. The timing of the rapture is post-trib., 1 Thess. 4:17.

 d. As a “thief in the night” is only for unbelievers, 1 Thess. 5:3-4.

 4. Community.

 a. Mutual ministry, 1 Thess. 5:13-18

 b. corporate worship, 1 Thess. 5:19-22.

**C. INTRO TO 2 THESS.**

 1. When written?

 2. Authors (2 Thess. 1:1).

 3. Recipients (2 Thess. 1:1). “in God our Father”.

 4. Blessing (2 Thess. 1:2). “grace and peace”.

 5. Issues to be dealt with.

 6. Outline of 2 Thess.

 a. Thankfulness for perseverance in suffering (2 Thess. 1:3-12).

 b. God’s people will not be deceived by false teachers (2 Thess. 2:1-12).

 c. Thank God for electing grace and its comforts (2 Thess. 2:13-17).

 d. Prayer for the spread of the gospel and sanctification (2 Thess. 3:1-5).

 e. Stay clear from the unruly, and follow our example (2 Thess. 3:6-16).

 f. Final greeting and blessing (2 Thess. 3:17-18).

 7. Purpose of 2 Thessalonians -

 (1) to strengthen the Thessalonians in the face of persecution (2 Thess. 1:3–12

 (2) to correct the false teaching and exhort to stand firm (2 Thess. 2:1–3:5).

 (3) to deal with problems (2 Thess. 3:6–15).

Conclusion

Things to Ponder: What are the main things you learned from 1 Thessalonians? Why did Paul emphasize election in 1 Thess. 1:4-5? What lessons for the Christian life can we learn from this epistle? Why is the second coming so important to our Christian lives?