



1 Thessalonians

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Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Passage</u>	<u>Verses</u>	<u>Weeks</u>	
				Paul's Personal Thoughts
Jun 27, 2021	1 Thess. 1:1-10	10	1	Faith and Example of the Thessalonians
Jul 4, 2021	1 Thess. 2:1-12	12	2	Paul's Ministry in Thessalonica
Jul 11, 2021	1 Thess. 2:13-16	4	3	The Word of God
Jul 18, 2021	1 Thess. 2:17-20	4	4	Paul's Desire and Joy
Jul 25, 2021	1 Thess. 3:1-5	5	5	Response to Persecution
Aug 1, 2021	MINISTRY FAIR			
Aug 8, 2021	1 Thess. 3:6-13	8	6	Timothy's Report
				Paul's Practical Instructions
Aug 15, 2021	1 Thess. 4:1-12	12	7	A Life pleasing to God
Aug 22, 2021	1 Thess. 4:13-18	6	8	Resurrection of Dead
Aug 29, 2021	1 Thess. 5:1-11	11	9	The Coming of the Lord
Sep 5, 2021	1 Thess. 5:12-28	17	10	Final Exhortations

Alexander's Greek Empire (323 BC)



THE ROMAN EMPIRE, 44 BCE - 117 CE





MACEDONIA

EUROPE

Black Sea

Thessalonica

Philippi

Amphipolis

Neapolis

Berèa

Apollonia

TURKEY

Troas

Paul goes to Europe

Thessalonica to Corinth:
400 miles (645 km) mainly by sea
300 miles (480 km) by land

GREECE

By land

By sea

ACHAIA

Aegean Sea

Gulf of Corinth

Athens

Corinth

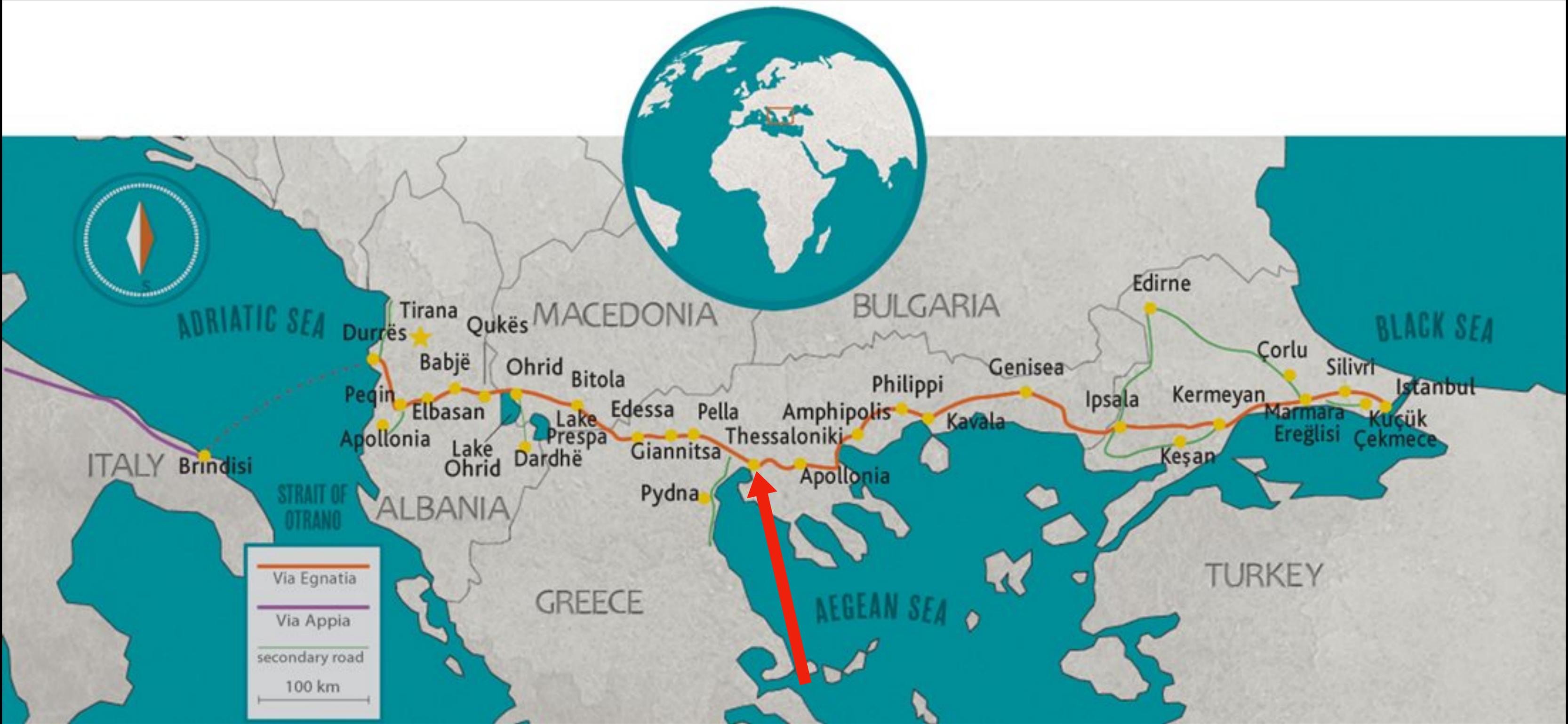
EUROPE

AFRICA

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Noting the importance of Thessalonica's strategic location on the Egnatian Way to the spread of the gospel, William Barclay writes,

It is impossible to overstress the importance of the arrival of Christianity in Thessalonica. If Christianity was settled there, it was bound to spread East along the Egnatian Road until all Asia [Minor] was conquered and West until it stormed even the city of Rome. The coming of Christianity to Thessalonica was crucial in the making of it into a world religion.

Pharisee Gamaliel's counsel

Acts 5:35–39

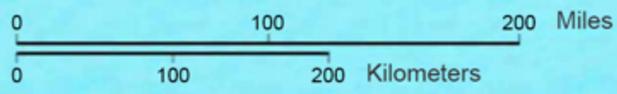
And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you propose to do with these men. For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a group of about four hundred men joined up with him. But he was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census and drew away some people after him; he too perished, and all those who followed him were scattered. So in the present case, I say to you, stay away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or action is of men, it will be overthrown; but **if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them; or else you may even be found fighting against God.**”



PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Acts 13 & 14

- City
- One of the "Seven Churches" - Rev. 2-3
- ← Paul's Route →





PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Acts 15:36 - 18:22

- City
- One of the "Seven Churches of Asia" - Rev. 2-3
- ← Paul's Route

1 Thessalonians 3:6-7

But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always think kindly of us, longing to see us just as we also long to see you, for this reason, brethren, in all our distress and affliction we were comforted about you through your faith;

First Epistle to the Thessalonians

Author: Apostle Paul

Location of writing: Corinth

Time of writing: A.D. 51

Theme of 1 Thessalonians: Growth of a New Church

Unique Emphasis: The coming of our Lord Jesus Christ

A wooden cross stands on a rocky hill under a dramatic sunset sky. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the clouds and reflecting on a body of water in the foreground. The text 'The Power of the Gospel' is written in a large, white, serif font across the center of the image.

The Power of the Gospel

1 Thessalonians 1

Theme Statement

The gospel does not come in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit with full conviction which radically changes lives to live in obedience to the Lord God and to look forward to the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Salutation

1 Thessalonians 1:1

From: Paul and Silvanus and Timothy

To: the church of the Thessalonians **in union** with God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

The apostle elaborated on the nature of the church with the somewhat unusual but wonderful expression ***in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ***, which demonstrates the Thessalonians' vital and inextricable union with God and Christ. They participated in the very life of God and the life of Christ. There is an indivisible spiritual union between Christ and His own. In his New Testament letters, Paul taught that believers do not simply believe facts *about* Jesus Christ, but that they are ***in Him***. He told the Galatians, "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me" (Gal. 2:20). "For you have died," he reminded the Colossians, "and your life is hidden with Christ in God" (Col. 3:3). That is the inexplicable and incomprehensible mystery of what it is to be a Christian—that God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit live within the believer and the believer lives in them in a sharing of divine and eternal life.

Salutation

1 Thessalonians 1:1

From: Paul and Silvanus and Timothy

To: the church of the Thessalonians **in union** with God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

Greeting: Grace to you and Peace

Praise the Lord God for His work of Salvation

1 Thessalonians 1:2-4

1. This praise applies specifically to true believers in Jesus Christ - v. 2
2. These believers exhibited the foundational spiritual qualities of faith that produced good works, love that persevered and an enduring hope in the return of Christ - v. 3
3. Salvation is the sovereign electing love of the Lord God - v. 4

Observe the powerful means of salvation
1 Thessalonians 1:5

1. Salvation comes in part by means of the gospel message - v. 5a
2. Salvation comes in power by the convicting and regenerating work of the Holy Spirit - v. 5b

Observe the powerful results of salvation

1 Thessalonians 1:6-10

1. The outstanding fruit of faith in the gospel is a change of behavior
2. True believers experience joy of the Holy Spirit in the face of trials
3. True believers are an encouragement to other believers in the Lord Jesus Christ
4. True believers share the gospel with unbelievers
5. True believers repent and move in the opposite direction from their ungodly and sinful ways to be a slave to the living and true God
6. True believers live in anticipation of the return of the Lord Jesus Christ who rescues us from the wrath to come and provides eternal life together with Him



Application

Application

How am I doing in the area of works of faith?

How am I doing in the area of loving God and loving others?

How am I doing in the area of anticipating our hope of Christ's return?

How has my behavior changed since becoming a believer? a year ago?

How is my joy of the Holy Spirit in the face of trials?

How am I doing in encouraging other believers in Christ?

How am I doing in sharing the gospel with unbelievers?

How am I doing at turning away from ungodly or sinful ways and living in obedience to my Master?

