

# Love the Lord – Love Your Neighbor- 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

Lord's Day – August 15, 2021 – Chas Morse

## Introduction:

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## Book Outline:

- I. Paul's Greeting 1:1
- II. Paul's Personal Thoughts 1:2-3:13
  - A. Thanksgiving for the Church 1:2-10
  - B. Reminders for the Church 2:1-16
  - C. Concerns for the Church 2:17-3:13
    - 1. Recalling his continued absence from his beloved family 2:17-20
    - 2. Ratifying his reason to send Timothy 3:1-5
    - 3. Recording his relief with Timothy's encouraging report 3:6-13
- II. Paul's Practical Instructions 4:1-5:22
  - A. Believers Call - Love for God – Holy Living 4:1-12
  - B. Believer's Rapture & Union with Christ 4:13-18
  - C. Christ's Return w/Believers & Second Coming 5:1-11
  - D. Implications for Christian Living 5:12-24
  - E. Final Greetings 5:25-28

## Key Verses:

One of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And He said to him, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND." "This is the great and foremost commandment. "The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' "On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets." (Matthew 22:35–40, NASB95)

## Proposition:

**Question:** How does God expect the believer to conduct himself while living briefly in this sin-cursed world?

**Answer:** God saved believers for the purpose of sanctification and then future glorification. Believers in Christ now live in the verses of Romans 8:28-30.

**Message's Thrust:** God commands us to love Him and the Lord Jesus Christ with all of our being (heart, soul, and mind, 4:1-8), to love believers in the immediate sphere of our influence (family, local church, friends, etc., 4:9-11), and lastly to love those unbelievers (outsiders) whom He chooses to sovereignly lead into our lives (4:12).

## I. God's Call for Excellence – Loving Obedience (4:1-8)

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### A. God's Overall Call – Walking and Pleasing God (vv 1-2)

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### B. God's Specific Will – Holy Living - (vv 3-5)

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### C. God's Stated Consequences for Disobedience – Defrauding Neighbor and Rejecting God (vv 6-8)

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## II. God's Repeated Call for Excellence – Possess an Ambitious Love – (vv 9-11)

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### A. Lead a quiet Life (v 11)

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### B. Attend to your own Business (v 11)

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### C. Work with your own Hands (v 11)

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## III. God's Secondary Result – Behave Properly towards Unbelievers (v 12)

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