

Class: NT 615 Exegetical

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Subject: Note Book 4.

### **GREETING - 1 Thessalonians 1:1**

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

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

Grace to you and peace <sup>[a]</sup>from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### **STEADFAST FAITH - 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3**

<sup>2</sup>We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, <sup>3</sup>remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father,

### **GODLY EXAMPLE - 1 Thessalonians 1:4-8**

<sup>4</sup>knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God. <sup>5</sup>For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men, we were among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe. <sup>8</sup>For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything.

### **TRANSFORMED LIFE - 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10**

<sup>9</sup>For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.*

My text is an epistle or letter. Most scholars believe it was written by the Apostle Paul while in the company of Timothy and Silas, as indicated in the opening greeting. It was written to the Church at Thessalonica.

The four pericopes I have outlined are consistent with the chapter and other Epistles written by the apostle. However, the pericope from v 9-10 fits into the preceding verses of the text. It is in harmony with the rest of 1 Thessalonians. It is also in harmony with the letter to the church at Corinth (1 Corinthians 15), which outlined the transforming power of a new life in Christ Jesus and the assurance of a new powerful, resurrected immortal body. It is also in harmony with the letter sent to the Church at Smyrna in the book of Revelation. The believers at Corinth turn to God from serving strange gods and following the philosophy of the Greek culture. I can identify with the periscope of a transformed life, turning from the secular idols of this world and turning to God, and after many years, I still have to stand firm against numerous cultural forces.