

[The Book of Thessalonians](#)  
Chapter 1  
**“Turning, Serving, and Waiting”**

Return To  
All Commentary

There was a little girl who arrived home from Sunday school class.

The verse that they had learned that morning was **“Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in Heaven.”**

She asked her mother what that verse meant. Her mother told her that **“It means that when you are good and kind and thoughtful and obedient, you are letting Christ's light shine in your life before all who know you.”**

The very next Sunday, the little girl got in a bit of a fight with one of the other students and created such an uproar that the Sunday school teacher had to go and find her mother to get her settled down.

Her mother was very concerned when she went into the classroom. She asked her young daughter: **“Sweetie, don't you remember what we talked about; letting your light shine for the Lord before men?”**

The little girl blurted out, **“But Mom, I have blowed myself out.”**

**I think that we do the same thing sometimes. “We Blow out our own light.” Over time, We slowly loose that excitement and dedication to Jesus that we once had.**

1. We begin to loose Jesus as our **first love**.
2. We begin to **turn back** to the world.
3. We are not **living our life** for Jesus as we once were.
4. We are not **living in a constant expectation** that Jesus could come at any moment.

**Even the warning signs that indicate these things are true, many times we don't notice:**

- We don't go to church every Sunday anymore.
- There are other things that are more important than the mid week bible study.
- We don't read our own bible every day anymore.
- We stop praying and speaking to the Lord everyday.
- We have lost that excitement that we once felt when we first knew Jesus.

Now the thing about Jesus church is that you will never find “The perfect church.”. Even if you think that you did find the perfect church, once you start going there, it won’t be perfect anymore!

The new church in Thessalonica was as about a good example of what a church really should be as you will ever find.

### 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

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 from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 **We give thanks to God always for you all**, making mention of you in our prayers,

3 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,

4 knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God.

5 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.

6 And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit,

7 so that **you became examples** to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe.

8 **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.

9 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,**

10 **and to wait for His Son from heaven,** whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

1. **The excitement that the believers in Thessalonica had for Jesus**, was being heard of all over the world.
2. **Three times Paul gives thanks** to the Lord for the believers in Thessalonica **for the way that they responded** to the teaching Paul gave them.

#### **Verse 9:**

- **They had** “TURNED from their old life to the Lord.
- **They were** “SERVING the Living God” with their new life now.
- **They were** WAITING for Jesus return everyday by watching for Him.

**They were able to keep their relationship with Jesus on fire and alive by continually doing three things every day: “Works of Faith”, “Labors of Love”, and “Patience of Hope”**

1. **“Works of Faith”**: They had turned away from their old life, the way that they used to live, and they had began to only live for and to follow Jesus.
2. **If you don’t know it yet, continuing to follow Jesus and keep Him first in your life, does take some work.**
3. **Now, I didn’t say** your salvation takes work, Jesus paid the full price for you to be saved.
4. **But, the Bible does continually encourage us** to work on our salvation after we were saved, **that is, to work to keep it fresh alive and growing.**

### **Philippians 2:12**

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation** with fear and trembling;

### **2 Corinthians 13:5**

**Examine yourselves** as to whether you are in the faith. **Test yourselves...**

5. **Many people claim to “Believe In Jesus”**, but then when you see their life, nothing has really changed from the way their life used to be.

**James said**, “You believe in Jesus, **show me by the way you live your life** that you believe.

**If you really believe in Jesus, then it has to effect the way you live your life.**

### **James 2:14-24**

14 What does it profit, my brethren, **if someone says he has faith but does not have works?** Can faith save him?

15 **If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food,**

16 and one of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” **but you do not give them the things** which are needed for the body, what does it profit?

17 Thus also **faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.**

18 But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

19 **You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!**

20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, **that faith without works is dead?**

21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?

22 Do you see that **faith was working together with his works**, and by works faith was made perfect?

23 And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” And he was called the friend of God.

24 You see then that **a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.**

**There is a self test that the Holy Spirit has given to those that claim to believe in Jesus**

1. **Has it** changed your life?
2. **These changes happen because** Jesus has come to live inside of you and given you new desires.
3. **Change does not happen** and last, as a result of your attempts alone.
4. **Without Jesus living inside of you**, and the power of His Holy Spirit, you will never be able to become like Jesus.
5. **Has their been any change** in you since you first believed in Jesus and asked Him to be Lord and Savior of your life?
6. **If not**, then something is wrong.

Now, in balance, we also have to be careful not to do something else, that is swing to far to the other side.

1. **Believing in Jesus** and really being saved, does not mean you will be perfect.
2. **It does not mean** that you won't still make mistakes and sin.
3. **It does not mean** that you are saved or accepted by God because you have changed your life, or have done some good works.
4. **You were only saved** because you believed that Jesus died for you, nothing else.

Saved and Forgiven	Not saved and forgiven
You admit that you have sinned.	You believe you are a good person
You believe Jesus died for your sins	You reject Jesus sacrifice for your sins
You accept his sacrifice for you.	You try to be acceptable by good works.
You still make mistakes.	Or, you say you believe in Jesus
Evidence, A changed life.	Evidence: Your Life is still the same.

John said that if you claim to know Jesus but it does not change your life, you are a LIAR.

**1 John 2:4**

He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

**The second thing that the Thessalonians Believers in Jesus were doing to keep their relationship with Jesus fresh and alive...**

6. **"Labors of Love"**: They were good examples to those who saw their lives. They were enthusiastic about knowing Jesus and living what the Word of God says.
  - **Again, if you have really believed** in Jesus, it will matter to you how others view your life.
  - **You will constantly be seeking** to take on the Love, patience, forgiveness, kindness, gentleness, longsuffering that Jesus has, and seeking to put off the old selfish and self centered behaviors that you have.
  - **You won't let yourself be condemned** when you fail, because God's Word taught you that Condemnation does not come from Jesus, it comes from Satan.
  - **You do allow yourself to be Convicted** to change when you are Challenged and taught that your relationship with Jesus requires effort on your part to keep it fresh.

**Finally, the Thessalonians Believers in Jesus were doing something that I do not believe Christians are doing today...**

7. **“Patience of Hope”**: They kept their love for Jesus fresh and alive by reminding themselves everyday of the hope that they have; **“Jesus could come for us at any moment”**.

**Did you know that a passionate enthusiasm for Jesus return to get you is tied to your salvation?**

- **Think about this for a minute, How many people do you know who are excited about Jesus coming for them, that are not saved?**
- **See what I mean**, I don't think you can really be saved and not be excited about Jesus coming for you at the Rapture.
- **If you are not excited about Jesus return, examine yourself, WHY NOT?** And does this lack of excitement mean something else?

**Jesus tied His return for us to some very important facts.**

1. **If you lived everyday** like you believed Jesus could come for you on that day, you will not be putting off till later, things you should be doing now.
2. **You will want to go to every Bible Study** you can get to, so you will stay in a knowledge of Gods Word of how He wants you to live for Him.
3. **You will be in Church every time that the doors are opened**, because you realize that these are the people you are going to spend eternity with, better get to know them now!
4. **You Will be purifying your life of all of the Junk**, so that when Jesus comes for you, you won't be embarrassed that you still had this stuff in your life.
5. **You will be working for Jesus**, so that when He comes, he finds you serving Him.
6. **You will be telling your friends and family** that Jesus is coming soon, so they better make sure they are ready.
7. **Your Hope is that Jesus is about to come for you**, not in your retirement, or your saving account, or in your job or your friends or family.
8. **You are patient with other people**, because you recognize that
  - **Even believers** in Jesus are still a work in progress.
  - **Non believers** in Jesus are only the way they are, because they just don't know Jesus yet.
  - **You yourself** are not perfect yet, “He who began a good work in you, will complete it...Someday you will be like Jesus...”

Your walk with Jesus is very much like riding a bicycle. What happens when you are riding a bike and you stop? You fall Over!

Years ago when Elsie and I rode motorcycles together, as Elsie was learning to ride, she would do the cutest thing.

Many times when we would stop, she would forget to put her feet down and .... You know what happened.

Your walk with Jesus requires that you are in a continual forward motion. If you stop that forward motion for even a day, like the bike and the motorcycle, you will just fall over. Unless of course you want to try and Support yourself by your own feet.

I talked to a Brother in this fellowship during the Thanksgiving banquet and he told me, *“You know a year ago you hardly saw me around here. Now, If I miss one Sunday, it messes up my whole week...”*

You see that’s what I’m talking about...

**Who changed this brothers heart into wanting to be here in church every Sunday?**

It is Jesus working in his heart. This brother responding to the work in his heart by seeking more of Jesus in his life

1. **He recognized** that the closer he gets to Jesus, the happier he is.
2. **He recognized that he gets closer to Jesus** when he comes to church and learns more about Him.
3. **Gods Word said** not to “Forsake the assembling of ourselves together.”
4. **I am just like you**, many times I don’t want to come here, it is just my flesh, it doesn’t want to do anything spiritual.
5. **But then, I make myself** get up and come to church, and you know what? I am always glad I did, every time I am blessed when I leave here.

### **1 Thessalonians 1:5-7**

5 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.

6 And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit,

7 so that **you became examples** to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe.

**These believers in Thessalonica were known for the way that they were leading others to Jesus.**

1. **They did a survey a few years back** and discovered that 70-80% of church growth is by Believers in Jesus telling their friends and family about Jesus.
2. **What we sometimes forget** is that it is really the Holy Spirit that leads a person to Jesus.

### **John 6:63**

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing.

3. **You can memorize that bible word for word, but if the Holy Spirit does not empower that word**, nothing is going to happen when you share it.

4. **On the other hand, you might not know very much of the bible**, but if you have prayed first and asked the Holy Spirit to take the little you know and use it to reach people, He will empower you to lead thousands to Jesus

### **1 Thessalonians 1:5**

5 For our gospel did not come to you **in word only, but also in power**, and **in the Holy Spirit...**

**So what do you tell your friends and family? Keep it as simple as possible.**

1. Jesus came to forgive them.
2. He died for their sins.
3. If they believe this and confess it, God saves them from any future judgment.
4. Live for Jesus the rest of your life.
5. Go to a bible teaching church that will love them.
6. Tell them to “Abide in Jesus”, that is stay close to Him, every day.

### **John 15:1-2**

1 “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.

2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit **He takes away**; and every branch that bears fruit **He prunes**, that it may bear more fruit.

**Did you get that?**

There are only three places that you can be right now, if you claim to know Jesus...

1. **You are a branch attached to Jesus the Vine**, you are abiding in Him and you are growing.
2. **You have detached yourself from Jesus today, and because of that, you are not bearing any fruit in your life today.** Do this long enough and what will the Father do, “Take you away”, that is, cut you off completely from the vine, “Gather you together will all of the others who are gathered and burned.”
3. **You are being Pruned.** You are growing and bearing fruit, but right now you are struggling a little because Jesus is pruning you.

**The Father prunes you so that you will bear more fruit.**

1. **If you have ever had a fruit tree and you didn’t cut off the small and spindly branches from the tree at the end of the year**, you know that the next year when the fruit begins to develop, it just falls off before it is ripe, or breaks the branches that are still too small to support the weight.
2. **If you want fruit and growth** you have to cut off the small branches.

**If you and I are going to grow, Jesus is going to allow us to go through some pain and cutting in our life.**

He does this because he Loves us and wants to see us grow and bear fruit.

**But notice...**

### **John 15:6**

**If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out** as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.

1. **If we begin to backslide and fall away from Jesus** and detach ourselves from Him, it is possible that we can be **“Cast out, gathered and burned.”**
2. **Can you loose your salvation?** It appears here that **if you choose** to fall away from Jesus and not abide in Him DAILY, and stay attached to Him DAILY, you can suffer the same fait as someone who has rejected Jesus.

In Matthew 24, Jesus tells the story of one of His servants that goes back into their old life, and when He comes and finds that his servant has fallen away He will appoint that servant the same place as though who do not believe in Jesus.

### **Matthew 24:48-51**

48 But if that evil servant says in his heart, **“My master is delaying his coming,**  
49 and **begins to beat his fellow servants,** and to **eat and drink with the drunkards,**  
50 the master of that servant **will come on a day when he is not looking for him** and at an hour that he is not aware of,  
51 and **will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites.** There shall be **weeping and gnashing of teeth.**

**This is why it is important to daily measure your walk daily,** “Am I growing or backsliding today?”

- **Did I Spend time in prayer** today with Jesus.
  - **Was I in the Word** today.
  - **Am I in Church every Sunday** and Mid week service OR ARE OTHER THING MORE IMPORTANT?
  - **Do I seek fellowship** with other believers.
1. **If you see a trend** where these things are beginning to decrease, a person has already began to fall away from the Lord.
  2. **If you see this trend in someone here in our fellowship.** You have not seen them at church in a couple weeks, it is our duty as a believer to call them and encourage them to get back to church.

**As messed up as Peter was when he first began, towards the end, after he had seen Jesus raised from the dead, he really got his act together.**

**Peter said that we should add to our faith virtue,** which is the quality of being morally good, balanced in your life, doing right things.

## **2 Peter 1:5**

But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue...

**Then Peter added that “you know these things but it is my job to stir them up in you and remind you of them...**

## **2 Peter 1:13**

Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you

**And so, as we begin the book of 1 Thessalonians, I am to encourage and remind first myself, and then all of you, of these same things.**

## **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 from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**The letter to the Thessalonians was most likely the first one written out of the 14 letters that Paul wrote.**

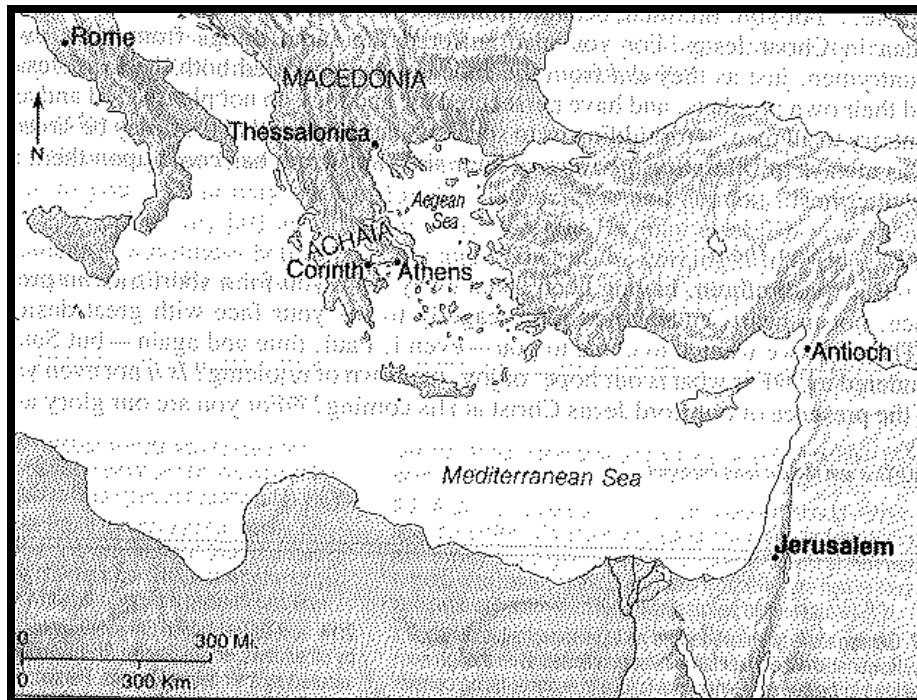
1. **Paul made 3 journeys** planting churches and teaching, 1 Thessalonians was written during his second journey. (look at the Map)
2. **The name in verse one, “Silvanus”**, was also called “**Silas**”. Paul brought Silas and Young Timothy with him on this trip.
3. **In the book of acts in chapter 16** , it says that Paul had a vision of a man from Macedonia. In this vision he asked Paul to come to Macedonia to start a new church there.

## **Acts 16:9-10**

9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. **A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.”**

10 Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.

**Notice on your map that Paul traveled all the way from Jerusalem to the area of Macedonia, to start the of the Thessalonians**



The people that Paul is teaching were Greek speaking.

1. **All of their lives** they had grown up with Greek culture.
2. **Because of this**, it was probably hard for them to grasp the concepts of Life and Death that Paul was teaching.
3. **In Greek culture**, Hades is the place of the Dead.
4. **There are 5 rivers** that separate Hades from the land of the living.
  - “Acheron”: The river of Woe.
  - “Cocytus”: The river of Lamentation.
  - “Phlithan”: The river of Fire.
  - “Lethes”: The river of forgetfulness (**I think I have crossed that one!**)
  - “Styx”: The river of Hate. It winds 9 times around Hades.

According to Greek tradition, “Cheron” is the old man that carries the dead to the underworld, as he crosses the river Styx.

There the Dragon tailed dog “Cerberus” guards, allowing souls to enter but never leave.

1. **To the new Greek Christians in Thessalonica, the concept of crossing back over the river Styx and coming back to life was impossible.**
2. **No person could ever come back** from the dead, in their way of thinking.
3. **So when Paul taught** that Jesus defeated death forever, and that when Jesus returns to the earth he will be bringing with Him all those who had died believing in Him, they were having a really hard time with that whole idea.

It was for this reason, that many in Thessalonica were very confused about Jesus second coming.

1. **Because they didn't understand** Jesus returning to earth, Paul wrote this letter explaining the whole issue.
2. **As a result** we also learn all about Jesus return to the earth as we study the letters of 1 and 2 Thessalonians.
3. **The Greek Christians in Thessalonica also did not understand the difference between Jesus second coming physically to the earth, and Jesus return in the air to remove those who believe in him, at the Rapture.**
4. **As a result**, by the time that we finish 1 and 2 Thessalonians, you will have an understanding of Jesus second coming and the Rapture of the Church..

The second coming of Jesus physically to the earth is taught in both the Old and New testaments.

**Zechariah 12:2** Begins to detail for us what Israel will be like in the time period just before Jesus returns...

“Behold, **I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples**, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem. **Ever wonder why the whole world is so preoccupied with such a very small insignificant piece of land?**

#### **Zechariah 12:8 I**

In that day **the LORD will defend** the inhabitants of Jerusalem;

#### **Zechariah 12:9-10**

9 It shall be in that day that **I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. Ezekiel 38 describes the Moslem nations with southern Russia Coming against Israel in the last days, before the 7 year Tribulation begins.**

THEN DURING THE 7 YEAR TRIBULATION, ISRAEL WILL RECEIVE JESUS AS THEIR MESSIAH.

10 “And **I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son**, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

#### **Romans 11:25-26**

25 For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, **that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.**

26 And **so all Israel will be saved...**

#### **Zechariah 13:8**

And it shall come to pass in all the land,” Says the LORD,, (DURING THE 7 YEARS) **“That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die, But one-third shall be left in it:**

9 I will bring the one-third through the fire, Will refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested. **They will call on My name**, And I will answer them. I will say, This is My people'; And each one will say, **The LORD is my God.**' ”

#### **Zechariah 14:1-4**

1 Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, And your spoil will be divided in your midst.

2 For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem;

3 **Then the LORD will go forth \_\_\_\_\_ And fight against those nations**, As He fights in the day of battle. **When Jesus returns to earth Physically, the nations of the world will be gathered together to fight against Him, this is called “The Battle of Armageddon”**  
Revelation 19

4 And **in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives**, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, Making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south.

**So The Prophet Zechariah Says That When Jesus Returns, It Will be to the Mount of Olives.**

#### **Acts 1:9-12**

9 Now when Jesus had spoken these things, while they watched, **He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.**

10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel,

11 who also said, “Men of Galilee, **why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.**”

12 **Then they returned to Jerusalem from WHERE? the mount called Olivet**, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey

Jesus said:

#### **John 14:1-3**

1 “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me.

2 **In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.**

3 And **if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself;** that where I am, there you may be also

**So, the second coming of Jesus that you have heard so much about, will be a Physical return of Jesus to the earth, according to Zechariah, and the Book of Acts, at the Mount of Olives, in Israel.**

**But what about the Rapture, what is it?**

1. **If the second coming of Jesus** at the mount of Olives is not the Rapture, then what is it and when does it happen?
2. **Does this mean** that there are two comings of Jesus in the last days?

These were the same questions that the Greek believers at Thessalonica had. Paul wrote to explain to them what these two are, and when they will happen.

1. **The Rapture** is not the second coming of Jesus.
2. **At the Second coming**, as we just learned, Jesus will return physically to the earth at the mount of Olives.
3. **At the Rapture**, Jesus will not touchdown on the earth, he will meet us in the clouds above the earth.
4. **The Second coming comes at the end** of the Great tribulation period, the Rapture happens before the Tribulation Begins.

Us Today-----Rapture---Israel Signs Peace Treaty. 7 Year Tribulation Begins-----Tribulation Ends---Jesus Returns.

### **1 Thessalonians 4:16-17**

16 For the Lord Himself **will descend from heaven** with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then **we who are alive** and remain shall be **caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air**. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

The Tribulation period is the time of “The Wrath Of The Lamb”, when the Lord will judge the world for it’s sin of rejecting His Sacrifice. Because of this, we will not be here, because...

### **1 Thessalonians 5:9**

For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ

1. **When you accepted Jesus as your Savior**, all of your sins were forgiven and removed as if they never existed.
2. **There is therefore no judgment** awaiting you, your judgment for your sin happened at the Cross.
3. **In the Book of Revelation**, Jesus tells the church of Philadelphia...

### **Revelation 3:10**

Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

So, the argument that some have made that the church is not immune from tribulation, because even Jesus said that in this world we would have tribulation.

### **John 16:33**

These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. **In the world you will have tribulation;** but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

**The Great Tribulation is not tribulation from the world, it is Tribulation from God Himself.**

1. **Does it make sense that The Father would sacrifice His Son for our sins so that we would not see His wrath**, then make us go through the 7 year tribulation period where 2/3rds of the world will die.
2. **The book of Revelation says** that If a person gives their life to Jesus during the Tribulation period, the antichrist will Behead them.

**Therefore, we as Jesus bride, are not appointed to the wrath of God, but to obtain salvation, WE WILL NOT BE HERE!**

**I will give you more extensive evidence from the Bible as we go along in our study or 1 and 2 Thessalonians**

**1 Thessalonians 1**

5 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.

6 And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit,

7 so that **you became examples** to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe.

8 **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.

9 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,

10 and **to wait for His Son from heaven**, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

**More evidence from inside the Word of God.**

1. **If the Rapture of the church does not happen** till after the 7 year tribulation period, what would be the next event that we would be watching for?
2. **The revealing of the Antichrist**, who comes at the beginning of the 7 years to sign a peace treaty with Israel.

**This last verse in 1 Thessalonians 1 says that we are now waiting for His Son, not waiting for the Antichrist.**

**In the Book of Titus**, he also says that we are waiting for the appearing of Jesus, not the appearing of the Antichrist.

**Titus 2:13**

...looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

**Do you think that the Father wants us waiting and anticipating Jesus coming or the Antichrists? If Jesus does not come till the end of the 7 years, then that means**

**that right now we are watching for the appearing of the Antichrist...I DON'T THINK SO!!!**

So, you and I are to daily examine our walk with Jesus:

- **Are we “TURNING** from the old life to the Lord.
- **Are we “SERVING** the Living God” with their new life now.
- **Are we WAITING** for Jesus return everyday by watching for Him.