OUTLINE OF 1 THESSALONIANS

1A PAUL REMINDS THEM OF THEIR PAST EXPERIENCES chap 1-3

- 1B Their conversion and conduct chap 1:1-10
 - 1C Their conversion chap 1:1-5
 - 2C Their conduct chap 1:6-10
- 2B Their experience with Paul as a minister chap 2:1-16
 - 1C Paul's ministry to the Thessalonians chap 2:1-12
 - 1D His integrity chap 2:1-6
 - 2D His parental affection chap 2:7-12
 - 2C The Thessalonians' response to Paul's ministry chap 2:13-16
 - 1D They received Paul's teaching as the Word of God chap 2:13
 - 2D They endured persecution chap 2:14-16
- 3B Paul's departure and desire to be with them chap 2:17-3:13
 - 1C Paul is forced to leave and prevented from returning chap 2:17-20
 - 2C Paul sends Timothy to comfort and encourage them chap 3:1-13
 - 1D Timothy's journey and ministry chap 3:1-5
 - 2D Timothy's good report chap 3:6-8
 - 3D Paul's thanksgiving and prayer for them chap 3:9-13

2A PAUL EXHORTS THEM TO FUTURE FAITHFULNESS chap 4:1-12

- 1B To press forward in their walk with God chap 4:1-2
- 2B To maintain sexual purity chap 4:3-8
- 3B To grow in love among themselves chap 4:9-10
- 4B To work and provide for themselves chap 4:11-12

3A PAUL INSTRUCTS THEM ABOUT THE RETURN OF CHRIST chap 4:13-5:11

- 1B The resurrection and rapture of believers chap 4:13-18
- 2B The wrath and judgment on unbelievers chap 5:1-3
- 3B How believers are to prepare for the Day of the Lord chap 5:4-11

4A PAUL GIVES IMPORTANT MISCELLANEOUS COMMANDS chap 5:12-28

- 1B Commands regarding our treatment of others chap 5:12-15
 - 1C How we are to treat pastors in particular chap 5:12-13
 - 2C How we are to treat people in general chap 5:14-15
- 2B Commands regarding our attitude toward God chap 5:16-22
- 3B Concluding prayer and requests chap 5:23-28

THEME: The hope of the Second Coming of Christ gives us patience and comfort in the face of life's difficulties.

Key verse: KJV 1 Thessalonians 1:9 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye 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, which delivered us from the wrath to come.