

1 Thessalonians 03 - (2:1-8)

Paul's Manner of Ministry

1. 2:1-3 – Paul's motive

- a. Not in vain – describes Paul not Thessalon. “to live is Christ” - Phil 1:21
 - i. Genuine and not for gain – Titus 1:10; 3:9, 2 Tim 2:16, Acts 20:33
- b. Bold with contention – 1 Thess 1:5
 - i. Boldness is *in Christ* - Eph 3:12; Rom 1:16
 - ii. “to make known the mystery” - Eph 6:19, Acts 21:21
 - iii. Trouble at Philippi & Thessalonica → Acts 16:22-24; Acts 17:1-10
- c. Not deceitful, unclean, nor with guile: - No disguise! Single minded.
 - i. Not underhanded - 2 Cor 4:2
 - ii. Not fraudulent - 2 Cor 11:13

2. 2:4-6 – Paul's apostleship

- a. The only audience where he does not reference his office in the greeting
- b. 2:4 - “in trust with the gospel” – Titus 1:3; 1 Tim 1:11, 1 Cor 9:17, Eph 3:2
- c. “not men-pleasers” – Gal 1:10; Col 3:22 & Eph 6:5-6
 - i. He is quoting old testament! – Prov 17:3, covenant → Psalm 7:9
 - ii. God tries the heart → Heb 4:12, 2 Tim 3:16; an example: 2 Cor 9:7
- d. 2:5 - Sincere speech – 1 Cor 2:1-5
 - i. Flattering words deceive the simple - Rom 16:18
 - ii. Sincere - 2 Cor 2:17; “plainness” - 3:12, “rude” - 11:5-6
- e. 2:6 - Not seeking glory – Phil 4:11-13 → his glory 1 Thess 2:20; Gal 6:14
 - i. He counted his gain as loss → Phil 3:7-8
- f. “as the apostles of Christ” – God sends, it is not the hearers responsibility
 - i. Paul was the apostle – Rom 11:13; 1 Tim 1:16
 - ii. He had the authority to reap → 1 Cor 9:1-9; 15

3. 2:7-8 – Paul's sincere desire

- a. 2:7 - Gentle, as a nurse cherisheth
 - i. They were new, but not carnal - 2 Cor 12:13-15
 - ii. Gentle → (not weak) not quick wicker in the spirit of 2 Tim 2:24
 - iii. There was a time to be firm → Gal 4:19-20; 1 Cor 4:21
 - iv. Later, he is like a father – 2:11
- b. 2:8 - “Not the gospel only” – Phil 2:17;
 - i. Paul is spent for his “children” - 2 Cor 1:6, 12:15
 - ii. He does not count his life dear - Acts 20:24
 - iii. “dear” → they are highly valued and beloved – 1:4
 1. This is not about personalities, this is about doctrine!