

1 Thessalonians 07 - (4:2-12)

How to Live and Please God

1. 4:1-3 – How to walk and please God

- a. Abound in the pleasing of God through their walk – Eph 2:10, Col 1:10
- b. 4:2 - Commandments by the Lord – not MMLJ; these are Pauline
- c. The will of God is revealed in the Bible – Eph 1:9; 5:17, 1 Tim 2:4
 - i. “for this is the will of God...” - 1 Thess 5:18
 - ii. Do all for the glory of God - 1 Cor 10:31, Rom 16:27

2. 4:3-6 – Sanctification

- a. 4:3 - “abstain from fornication”- physical is symptom of spiritual incontinence
- b. 4:4 - “how to possess your vessel” – the body as a vessel – 1 Cor 9:27
 - i. Our “tabernacle” – 2 Cor 5:1-3,6-7
 - ii. Our warfare is not with the flesh - 2 Cor 10:3-6, Eph 6:12
- c. Sanctification: *def.* ~ separation for holy use → 1 Cor 1:30, 6:11
 - i. 4:5 – separate from the Gentiles who know not God – Eph 4:17-19
 - ii. “honour” – to glorify, high esteem
- d. 4:6 - “no man go beyond and defraud”
 - i. Beyond the realm of righteousness – Rom 6:22
 - ii. Defraud – depriving of a right or wrong – Paul says, 1 Cor 6:7-8
 - iii. The avenger – Rom 13:3-4 and 2 Thess 1:8

3. 4:7-8 – Holiness

- a. Unclean → moral filth, sin, lewdness, disgusting
 - i. This reflects our view of God – is he holy or “normal”?
 - ii. Profanity leads to ungodliness - 2 Tim 2:16, 1 Tim 6:20
- b. Holiness is the substance of God’s glory – Exo 15:11, Psa 105:3
 - i. Holy is the Lord – Isa 6:3

4. 4:9-10 – Brotherly love (aka...charity) – Phil 2:4

- a. “ye are taught of God” – by doctrine, Rom 5:8, by Spirit - 1 Thess 1:7
- b. “increase more and more...” – the Christian life is not a dead end!
 - i. We are conformed to the image of Christ – Rom 8:29
 - ii. Changed into the same image ... - 2 Cor 3:18

5. 4:11-12 – Honesty

- a. Work with your OWN hands, why? → they were begging and borrowing
 - i. Honest among those outside - Col 4:5, Eph 5:15-17
 - ii. They were not working - 2 Thess 3:6
- b. Our life: Sincere, gravity, that cannot be condemned – Titus 2:6-7
- c. For the gospel’s sake, we cannot be double minded – 1 Cor 9:18-19,23
- d. There were some disorderly, meddling, begging → 2 Thess 3:9-12