

# 1 Thessalonians 12 - (5:12-18)

## Final Exhortations

### 1. 5:12-13 – Toward those over you

- a. “know them” – There is an office – 1 Tim 3:1, 3:13, Titus 1:5; 2 Tim 2:2
- b. It is not a dictatorship or a democracy – Eph 6:4; 2 Tim 4:2
- c. The calling is not unique to that position – 1 Tim 3:1, 1 Ths 4:7
- d. All those he justified are called to be saints – Rom 1:7, 8:28, 1 Cor 1:26

### 2. 5:14-15 – Toward all men

- a. “Warn the unruly” – 2 Thess 2:15, 3:6, 1 Cor 11:34, 14:40
- b. These are stable, strong, and ... impatient.
  - i. Bear the weak... - Rom 15:1-3
- c. “none render evil for evil” – Titus 3:2-3, Rom 12:17-19
  - i. This is not justice, it is charity – 1 Cor 6:7-8 – 1 Cor 2:15
  - ii. A good lesson to someone who cares - Prov 13:10
  - iii. Do good to all men - Gal 6:10

### 3. 5:16 – Toward God: Rejoice evermore

- a. *Rejoice* – *def.* to experience excessive gladness, joy, delight, happiness
  - i. “a rational prospect of possessing what we love or desire”
- b. Again...Rejoice! - Phil 3:1; 4:4 → why? Phil 1:28-29; Gal 1:4
- c. What do we rejoice in?
  - i. The Lord - Phil 3:3, 2 Cor 10:17, Rom 14:17
  - ii. Our possession of salvation – Rom 5:11, Eph 1:3, 2 Cor 4:4-6
  - iii. Our hope - Romans 8:18; 12:12; 1 Thess 2:19-20
  - iv. Christ in us, the hope of glory (rejoicing!) - Col 1:25
- d. How to rejoice – requires a view of the victory – 1 Cor 15:54-57
  - i. To rejoice in God requires humility – Col 3:12
  - ii. There is a time not to rejoice - Rom 12:15
  - iii. Rejoicing requires constant attendance – Phil 1:25-26, Rom 15:30-32

### 4. 5:17 – Pray without ceasing

- a. Prayer has become a waste of time for them who do not understand it
- b. Prayer works to help us take spiritual inventory.
- c. Paul does not pray all the time – Col 1:9, 2 Thess 3:8
- d. But, prayer takes time – It is not “Our life is a constant prayer”
- e. “Continue in prayer and watch...” - Col 4:2

### 5. 5:18 – In every thing give thanks

- a. Gratitude and Charity are linked at 1 Cor 8:1, 13:4 and Phil 2:3-4
- b. Pride and thanks giving - Romans 1:20-21; Rom 13:8
- c. *Gratitude* – thankful; thoughtful appreciation resulting in a sense of duty
- d. Things you receive are not always physical; don't be selfish – Eph 1:3
- e. “in every thing” not “for every thing” – 1 Thess 5:18 & Eph 5:20
- f. Paul does not thank God for bad things → 2 Cor 12:9-11, Rom 5:2-3