

# 1 Thessalonians Series

Lesson #003

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Dean Bible Ministries

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# 1 Thessalonians

## Grace and Gratitude





MACEDONIA

THRACE

BITHYNIA AND PONTUS

MARMARA SEA

ASIA

AEGEAN SEA

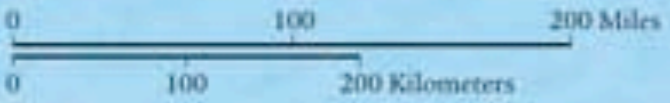
ACHAIA

CARIA

LYCIA

PAMPHYLIA

MEDITERRANEAN SEA



PAUL'S FIRST AND SECOND

**“Macedonia  
First”**

**Coin shows the  
prominence of  
Macedonia.**





Focus	Reflections on the Thessalonians						Instructions to the Thessalonians							
	1:1		3:13				4:1		5:28					
Divisions	Paul's Commendation of Their Growth		Paul's Founding of the Church		Timothy's Strengthening of the Church		Direction for the Thessalonians' Growth		Revelation Concerning the Dead in Christ		Description of the Day of the Lord		Instructions for Holy Living	
	1:1	1:10	2:1	2:16	2:17	3:13	4:1	4:12	4:13	4:18	5:1	5:11	5:12	5:28
Topics	Personal Experience						Practical Exhortation							
	Looking Back						Looking Forward							
Place	Written in Corinth													
Time	c. A.D. 51													

**1 Thess. 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.”**

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**cf., Ezra 7:12, “Artaxerxes, king of kings, ... to Ezra the priest, greetings”**



**1 Thess. 1:2, “We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers,**

**1 Thess. 1:3, “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,**

**1 Thess. 1:4, “knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God.”**

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**“Toubias to Apollonios, greeting. If you are well and if all your affairs and everything else is proceeding according to your will, many thanks to the gods.” 3<sup>rd</sup> cent. AD letter**

1 Thess. 1:2, “We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers,”

εὐχαριστέω *eucharisteō*

pres act indic 1 plur

to give thanks, to be grateful

**1 Thess. 1:2, “We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers,”**

- 1. A personal and pastoral concern for their well being and spiritual growth.**
- 2. Expresses a Divine viewpoint on the priorities in prayer.**
- 3. Encourages them to pursue the goals expressed in Paul’s prayer.**
- 4. Summarizes and foreshadows basic themes in the epistle.**

# The Doctrine of Gratitude



# **1. Etymology and definition**

**Gratitude derives from the Latin, *gratus*, related to both grace, favor, kindness and the response to kindness.**

**2. Gratitude is expressed as appreciation, acknowledgment, appreciativeness, gratefulness, recognition, thankfulness. Failure to be grateful is the result of arrogance, self-seeking, and self-absorption, the idea that what is given is deserved. An attitude of entitlement is the opposite of gratitude.**



**2. Gratitude is expressed as appreciation, acknowledgment, appreciativeness, gratefulness, recognition, thankfulness. Failure to be grateful is the result of arrogance, self-seeking, and self-absorption, the idea that what is given is deserved.**

**Rom. 1:21, “For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks; but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.”**

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**Grace orientation begins by understanding that everything we are and have comes from God. That we deserve nothing and that there is nothing about us that impresses God.**