

Williamsburg Community Chapel Men's Breakfast



February 22, 2019

1 Thessalonians is *our call to wait well for Christ's return.*

What are you waiting for?

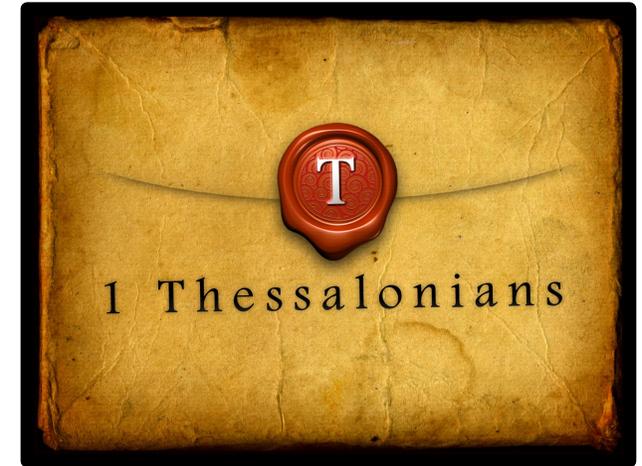
How are you waiting for it?



Thessalonica

Paul's Second Missionary Journey (A.D. 49-51)

The Book of 1 Thessalonians



#4 – *Waiting Well Requires Anticipation*
1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5

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Waiting Well Requires Anticipation

(1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5)

2:17-20

Paul's strong desire to re-visit and hindrances (*the Adversary*)

3:1-5

Reasons for sending Timothy (*their afflictions*)

Waiting Well Requires Anticipation (1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5)

Paul had a deep affection for the Thessalonians ...

“Paul in particular, having no children of his own, found his unbounded capacity for paternal affection amply employed in his relationship with his converts.”

- F.F. Bruce

Waiting Well Requires Anticipation (1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5)

1) Anticipate *the Adversary* (2:18; 3:5)

“(Satan’s) main activity is putting obstacles in the path of the people of God, to prevent the will of God from being accomplished in and through them ... Satan can only oppose if God gives him permission.”

- F.F. Bruce

Waiting Well Requires Anticipation **(1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5)**

1) Anticipate *the Adversary* (2:18; 3:5)

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

- *Ephesians 6:11*

Waiting Well Requires Anticipation

(1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5)

- 1) Anticipate *the Adversary* (2:18; 3:5).**
- 2) Anticipate *Afflictions* (3:3-4).**

“Remember the word that I said to you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ *If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you ...*”

- John 15:20

Waiting Well Requires Anticipation (1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5)

“The fact of the matter is that you will have trouble after you become a child of God ... He has never promised that we would miss the storm, but we will go through all the storms of life ... He will go with us through the storms and ... we will reach the harbor.”

- J. Vernon McGee

Waiting Well Requires Anticipation **(1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5)**

- 1) Anticipate *the Adversary* (2:18; 3:5).**
- 2) Anticipate *Afflictions* (3:3-4).**

And not only this, but we also exult in our *tribulations*, knowing that tribulation brings about *perseverance*; and perseverance, *proven character*; and proven character, *hope*.

- Romans 5:3-4

Waiting Well Requires Anticipation

(1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5)

- 1) Anticipate *the Adversary* (2:18; 3:5).**
- 2) Anticipate *Afflictions* (3:3-4).**
- 3) Anticipate *the Advent* (2:19)**
 - “His coming” (parousia/παρουσία) = “advent, arrival”
 - 6x in the Thessalonian letters (1 Thessalonians 2:19; 3:31; 4:15; 5:23; 2 Thessalonians 2:1, 8); 11x in rest of NT.

Waiting Well Requires Anticipation **(1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5)**

- 1) Anticipate *the Adversary* (2:18; 3:5).**
- 2) Anticipate *Afflictions* (3:3-4).**
- 3) Anticipate *the Advent* (2:19)**
- 4) Anticipate *the Need for Affirmation***

Waiting Well Requires Anticipation

(1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5)

Questions:

- 1) Why do you think it is important to **anticipate** our **adversary** (Satan)?
- 2) Why is the **advent** (second coming) of Jesus a source of hope for us?
- 3) Do you know someone currently experiencing **affliction**? How can you **affirm** them this week?

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Next Week: No Men's Breakfast (We'll return March 8th)

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Have a great week of waiting well.

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