

Seeing The Future Be Even Greater Than The Past

1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

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INTRODUCTION

Main Idea: A great past does not guarantee a great future.
We must remain faithful to the things that guarantee a great future.

I. We Must Trust God Will Get Us Through Every Obstacle We Face

You know, brothers and sisters, that our visit to you was not without results.² We had previously suffered and been treated outrageously in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in the face of strong opposition. 1 Thessalonians 2:1-2

(See also Matthew 16:18, Matthew 6:25-34,
2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

II. We Must Live With Integrity

*Pleasing God should always be our number one priority.

³ For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. ⁴ On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts.

⁵ You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed—God is our witness. ⁶ We were not looking for praise from people, not from you or anyone else, even though as apostles of Christ we could have asserted our authority.

1 Thessalonians 2:3-6

III. We Must Teach And Obey The Truth

⁷ Instead, we were like young children among you. Just as a nursing mother cares for her children,⁸ so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.

1 Thessalonians 2:7-8

IV. We Must Live Out The Truth In Relationships

For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children,¹² encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

1 Thessalonians 2:11-12

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. John 13:35