

January 31, 2016

## **“Thessalonica – A Model of Excellence: A Final Punch List!”**

*1 Thessalonians Chapters 5:12-28*

*“Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

### **A. Treatment for those in ministry...**

1. Responsibilities of those serving in ministry.

*“...who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you.”*

- a. Work hard.
- b. Care for those you serve.
- c. Admonish or warn those you serve.

2. Responsibilities of those served in ministry.

*“Dear brothers and sisters, honor those who are your leaders in the Lord’s work... Show them great respect and wholehearted love because of their work.”*

- a. Honor those who serve.
- b. Show great respect to those who serve.
- c. Show wholehearted love to those who serve.

### **B. Punch list...**

1. Live peacefully with each other.

*“Get along among yourselves, each of you doing your part.”*

2. Warn those who are lazy.

*“Our counsel is that you warn the freeloaders to get a move on.”*

3. Encouraged the disheartened or timid.

*“Gently encourage the stragglers,”*

4. Help the weak.

*“and reach out for the exhausted, pulling them to their feet.”*

5. Be patient with everyone.

*“Be patient with each person, attentive to individual needs.”*

6. Make sure nobody pays back wrong but always try to do good to each other and all people.

*“And be careful that when you get on each other’s nerves you don’t snap at each other. Look for the best in each other, and always do your best to bring it out.”*

7. Always be joyful.

*“Be cheerful no matter what;”*

8. Never stop praying.

*“pray all the time;”*

9. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for those who belong to Christ Jesus.

*“thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live.”*

10. Do not stifle the Holy Spirit.

*“Don’t suppress the Spirit,”*

11. Do not scoff at prophecies but test everything this is said and hold onto what is good.

*“and don’t stifle those who have a word from the Master. On the other hand, don’t be gullible. Check out everything, and keep only what’s good.”*

12. Stay away from every kind of evil.

*“Throw out anything tainted with evil.”*

### **C. Final prayers and promise for us...**

1. Prayer:

*“May God himself, the God who makes everything holy and whole, make you holy and whole, , put you together— spirit, soul, and body—and keep you fit for the coming of our Master, Jesus Christ.” The Message*

- a. *“May God Himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through.”*
- b. *“May your whole Spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

2. Promise: *“The one who calls you is faithful, and He will do it”*

*“The One who called you is completely dependable. If he said it, he’ll do it!” The Message*

3. Prayer and instructions:

*“Friends, keep up your prayers for us. Greet all the followers of Jesus there with a holy embrace. And make sure this letter gets read to all the brothers and sisters. Don’t leave anyone out. The amazing grace of Jesus Christ be with you!” The Message*

- a. Pray for leaders, the church, and each other.
- b. Give a warm welcome to each other.
- c. Read to all.
- d. Receive His amazing grace!

*“And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.”  
Philippians 1:6*

Coming Next:  
February 7, 2016

## **“Thessalonica – A Model of Excellence: He is Still Coming!”**

*1 Thessalonians Chapters 1:1-2:12*

*“Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ...we ask you not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come.” 2 Thessalonians 2:1-2*