

THE FIRST EPISTLE TO THE THESSALONIANS.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE EPISTLE AS A WHOLE.

Click to follow [Link](#).

1:1.	EPISTOLARY. INTRODUCTION.
1:2—3:10.	THANKSGIVING. NARRATION. APPEAL.
3:11—13.	PRAYER.
4:1—5:22.	EXHORTATION. "concerning them which are <i>falling asleep</i> " (4:13-17).*
5:23—25.	PRAYER.
5:26—28.	EPISTOLARY. CONCLUSION.

THE FIRST EPISTLE TO THE THESSALONIANS. INTRODUCTORY NOTES.

1. The Church of the Thessalonians was planted by Paul, in association with Silas and Timothy (Acts 17:1—9). Although some of the Jews believed, it was composed mainly of Gentiles, and their joyful reception of the message as the word of God was the prelude to active missionary operations in all Achaia and Macedonia (1:8), a territory about as large as Great Britain. In this respect especially they were a model church. From them sounded forth "the word of the Lord", and they became examples to believers, showing the power of that word in their lives. The apostle writes in a joyful spirit, for he had just received from Timothy glad tidings of their faith and love (3:6).

2. A large part of the Epistle is occupied with the doctrine of the Lord's coming, that coming which He Himself announced, Matt. 24:36; 25:31; 26:64; *et al.*, the same coming of which He spoke in Acts 1: 7, "it is not for you to know the times and the seasons which the Father hath put in His own power". The similarity of Paul's language, concerning "the times and the seasons" (5: 1), bears instruction for us. Indeed throughout the Epistle the nearness of that coming is emphasizes (1: 10; 2: 12, 19; 3: 13; 4: 13—18; 5: 1—11, 23). But, as has been well observed, that which draws near may withdraw also, and such we know to be the case, for owing to His people's rejection of the King and kingdom, the latter is in abeyance till the "times of the Gentiles" are ended. 1 and 2 Thessalonians are unique in many respects; e.g. *chronologically*, as well as *canonically* (see [Ap. 180, 192](#)); the use of special terms in relation to the coming (*parousia* and *epiphaneia*) of our Lord; for these see Notes. And they are the only Epistles addressed to a church specifically.

3. This Epistle is the earliest of the writings of Paul, having been sent out from Corinth about the end of 52 or the beginning of 53 A.D. Some hold that, of all the books of the New Testament, it was the first written.

4. Thessalonica, now Salonica, on the bay of the same name, has always been one of the busiest ports of the Aegean. It was the chief city of a division of Macedonia, and is said to have had a population of 200,000 at the beginning of our era. Much smaller now, the city has always had a large proportion of Jews among its inhabitants.

THE FIRST EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE THESSALONIANS. †

1 °Paul, and *Silas*, and *Timothy*, to the °church of the °Thessalonians *which is* in °God the Father and *in* the °Lord °Jesus Christ: °Grace *be to* you, and peace, ...

2 We °give thanks to °God always for you all, °making mention of you in our °prayers;

3 Remembering °without ceasing your work *proceeding from* °faith, and labour of °love, and patience of hope *of* our °Lord °Jesus Christ, in the sight of °God *even* our °Father;

4 °Knowing, brethren °beloved, your *a vessel of election* of °God.

5 For our °gospel came not unto you in °word only, but *in power also*, and in the *Divine power*, and in much °assurance; as ye °know what manner of men we *became* among you *on account of you*.

6 And ye became *imitators* of us, and of the °Lord, having received the °word *within* much *tribulations*, with joy of the °Divine power :

7 So that ye °became *examples* to all that °believe in Macedonia and Achaia.

8 For from you °sounded out the °word of the °Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but ... in every place your °faith *towards God* is spread *has gone forth*; so that we need not to °speak any thing.

9 For they themselves *report* of us what

1. 1 Paul. In all his other Epistles, save Philippians, 2 Thessalonians, and Philemon, *apostolos* is added. He was held in terms of tender regard and affection by the converts at Philippi and Thessalonica, and there was no need to assert his authority.

Silvanus. Same as Silas. A leader of the church at Jerusalem (Acts 15. 22), and a prophet (v. 32), he accompanied Paul on his second missionary journey, and took part in the founding of the churches of Macedonia. Acts 15. 40--18. 18.

Timotheus. See 2 Cor. 1. 1.

unto = to.

church. Ap. 186.

Thessalonians. This and the Second Epistle are the only ones addressed in this form. Romans, Ephesians, Philippians and Colossians are addressed to "saints". The two Epistles to the Corinthians to "the church of God at Corinth", and Galatians to the "churches of Galatia".

God. Ap. 98. I. i. 1.

Father. Ap. 98. III.

Lord. Ap. 98. VI. i. B. 2. B.

Jesus Christ. Ap. 98. XI.

Grace. Ap. 184. I. 1. Cp. Rom. 1. 7.

from. Ap. 104. iv. This last clause is omitted in most texts.

1. 2—3. 10 [For Structure see below].

2 give thanks. Gr. *eucharisteo*. See Acts 27. 35.

always. Ap. 151. II. G. i.

for. Ap. 104. xiii. 1.

making mention. See Rom. 1. 9.

in. Ap. 104. ix. 1.

prayers. Ap. 134. II. 2.

1: 2--3: 10. THANKSGIVING. NARRATION. APPEAL.

<p>1: 2-4. Thanksgiving.</p> <p>1: 5. Reason. The Gospel received not in word but power.</p> <p>1: 6-9. Its effect.</p> <p>1: 10- Believers wait for God's Son.</p> <p>1: -10. Deliverance <i>from</i> the wrath to come.</p> <p>2: 1-12. Paul and the brethren. Their teaching while present.</p> <p>2: 13- Thanksgiving.</p> <p>2: -13. Reason. The Gospel received as the word of God.</p> <p>2: 14. Its effect.</p> <p>2: 15, 16- Unbelieving Jews killed God's Son.</p> <p>2: -16. Delivered <i>to</i> the wrath to come.</p> <p>2: 17--3: 10. Paul and the brethren. Their feelings while absent.</p>	<p>of = proceeding from. Gen. of origin. <u>Ap. 17. 2;</u> or, it may be Gen. of character. <u>Ap. 17. 1,</u> and would read "faithful work, loving labour, and hopeful patience".</p> <p>faith. <u>Ap. 150. II. 1.</u></p> <p>and = even.</p> <p>election. Gr. <i>ekloge</i>. See Acts 9. 15.</p> <p>power. <u>Ap. 172. 1.</u></p> <p>were = became.</p> <p>affliction. Gr. <i>thlipsis</i>. See Acts 7. 10.</p> <p>believe. <u>Ap. 150. I. 1. i.</u></p> <p>also. The texts omit.</p> <p>speak. <u>Ap. 121. 7.</u></p>
---	--

<p>3 without ceasing. Gr. <i>adialeptos</i>. Only here, 2. 13; 5. 17. Rom. 1. 9.</p> <p>love. <u>Ap. 135. II. 1.</u> Cp. <u>5. 8.</u> Col. 1. 4, 8. Rev. 2. 4.</p> <p>4 Knowing. <u>Ap. 132. I. i.</u></p> <p>5 gospel. <u>Ap. 140.</u></p> <p>Holy Ghost = Divine power. <u>Ap. 101. II. 14.</u></p> <p>among. <u>Ap. 104. viii. 2.</u></p> <p>6 followers = imitators. Gr. <i>mimetes</i>. See 1 Cor. 4. 16.</p> <p>7 ensamples. Gr. <i>tupos</i>. See Phil. 3. 17, and cp. 1 Tim. 4. 12. Tit. 2. 7. 1 Pet. 5. 3.</p> <p>8 sounded out. Gr. <i>execheomai</i>. Only here. Cp. Luke 4. 37, and 1 Cor. 13. 1.</p> <p>to God-ward = towards (<u>Ap. 104. xv. 3</u>) God.</p> <p>9 shew = report.</p>	<p>beloved. <u>Ap. 135. I. 1.</u></p> <p>word. <u>Ap. 121. 10.</u></p> <p>assurance. Gr. <i>plerophoria</i>. See Col. 2. 2.</p> <p>for your sake = on account of (<u>Ap. 104. v. 2</u>) you.</p> <p>is spread abroad = has gone forth.</p> <p>of. <u>Ap. 104. xiii. 1.</u></p>	<p>Lord. <u>Ap. 98. VI. i. B. 2. A.</u></p> <p>also, &c. = in power also.</p> <p>for your sake = on account of (<u>Ap. 104. v. 2</u>) you.</p> <p>affliction. Gr. <i>thlipsis</i>. See Acts 7. 10.</p> <p>believe. <u>Ap. 150. I. 1. i.</u></p> <p>also. The texts omit.</p>
--	--	--

manner of ^oentering in we had unto you, and how ye turned **unto** ¹God from ^oidols to ^oserve **a** living and ^otrue God;
10 And to ^owait for **His** ^oSon from *the heavens*, **Whom He** raised ^ofrom the dead, *even* ^oJesus, **Which rescueth** us from *the coming wrath*.

2 For yourselves, brethren, *understand* our entrance in [upon public life] unto you, that it was not ^oin vain:
2 But even *having* ^osuffered before, and *having been treated with contumely*, as ye ¹know, at Philippi, we ^owere bold in our ^oGod to ^ospeak unto you the ^ogospel of ^oGod with much *conflict*.

3 For our ^oexhortation *was* not of deceit, nor of uncleanness, nor *meant to decoy*:

4 But as we were *tested, and so approved* of ²God to ^obe put in trust with the ²gospel, even so we ²speak; not as ^opleasing ^omen, but ²God, **Which** trieth our hearts.

5 For ^oneither at any time ^oused we **a word of flattery**, as ye ¹know, nor a *pretence* of covetousness; ¹God *is* witness:

6 Nor of ⁴men *seeking* ^oglory, ⁵neither of you, nor yet of ^oothers, *though we were able to be for a burden*, as the ^oapostles of ^oChrist.

7 But we were ^ogentle *in the midst of* you, even as a ^onurse ^ocherisheth *her own* ^ochildren:

8 So being ^oaffectionately desirous of you, we were *well pleased* to have imparted *to* you, not the ¹gospel of ²God only, but *our own lives also*, because ye were ^odear unto us.

9 For ye remember, brethren, our labour and *toil*: for labouring night and day, *with a view to our not being chargeable unto* any of you, we ^opreached unto you the ²gospel of ²God.

10 Ye *are* witnesses, and ²God *also*, how ^oholily and ^ojustly and ^ounblameably we *became towards* you that ^obelieve:

11 As ye ¹know how we ^oexhorted and ^ocomforted and *testified to each* one of you, as a father *doth* his ⁷children,

12 *With a view to your walking* worthy of ²God, **Who** ... ^ocalled you unto *His own* ^okingdom and ⁶glory.

entering in. Gr. *eisodos*. See Acts 13. 24. **unto.** Ap. 104. xv. 3.
to. Same as "unto", above.

idols. This shows that these converts were mainly Gentiles. The Jews were bitterly hostile. Acts 17. 4-6, 13.

serve. Ap. 190. III. 2.

the = a.

true. Ap. 175. 2.

10 wait for. Gr. *anameno*. Only here in N.T. In Sept. of Job 7. 2. Isa. 59. 11. A much stronger word than *meno*, p. 1511.

Son. Ap. 108. iii.

heaven = the heavens. See Matt. 6. 9, 10.

raised. Ap. 178. I. 4.

from the dead. Ap. 139. 3., but with the texts, 139. 4.

Jesus. Ap. 98. X.

delivered = rescueth.

us. Paul and the brethren are intended, being Jews. See v. 9.

from. Ap. 104. iv., but texts read 104. vii.

wrath, &c. = the coming wrath. See 2. 16.

2: 1-12. PAUL AND THE BRETHREN. THEIR TEACHING WHILE PRESENT.

- | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|
| 1, 2. | The Gospel of God imparted. |
| 3. | Their exhortation ; not of deceit. |
| 4-. | Their preaching. |
| -4-6. | God their witness. |
| 7. | Comparison ; as a nursing mother. |
| 8. | The Gospel of God imparted. |
| 9-. | Their labor ; not to be chargeable. |
| -9. | Their preaching. |
| 10. | God their witness. |
| 11, 12. | Comparison ; as a father. |

2, 1 know. Ap. 132. I. i.

entrance in. See 1. 9.

unto. Ap. 104. xv. 3.

in vain. See 3. 5.

2 after that we had = having.

suffered before. Gr. *propascho*. Only here.

were, &c. = having been treated with contumely. Gr. *hubrizo*. See Acts 14. 5. Referring to their being scourged, though Romans (Acts 16. 37, 38).

were bold. Gr. *parrhesiazomai*. See Acts 9. 27.

God. Ap. 98. I. i. 1.

speak. Ap. 121. 7.

gospel. Ap. 140.

with. Ap. 104. viii. In this one verse the preposition *en* is transl. "at", "in", "with".

contention. Gr. *agon*. See Phil. 1. 30.

3 exhortation. Gr. *paraklesis*. See Acts 4. 36, and Ap. 134. I. 6.

nor. Gr. *oude*.

guile. Gr. *dolos*. See Acts 13. 10.

4 allowed = tested, and so approved. Gr. *dokimazo*. Same as "trieth", and as "prove" (5. 21).

be put in trust with. Ap. 150. I. i. iv.

pleasing men. Cp. Gal. 1. 10.

men. Ap. 123. 1.

5 neither, nor. Gr. *oute*.

used we. Lit. were (became) we in (Gr. *en*).
prophasis. See Acts 27. 30.

others. Ap. 124. 1.

See Acts 15. 28. Cp. v. 9.

7 gentle. Gr. *epios*. Only here and 2 Tim. 2. 24.

cherisheth. Gr. *thalpo*. See Eph. 5. 29.

apostle's love for them.

willing = well pleased.

children. Ap. 108. i.

unto = to.

9 travail = toil. Gr. *mochthos*. See 2 Cor. 11. 27.

Gr. *epibareo*. See 2 Cor. 2. 5.

any. Ap. 123. 3.

10 holily. Gr. *hosios*. Only here. Cp. the adj. Acts 2. 27.

unblameably. Gr. *amemptos*. Only here and 5. 23. Cp. 3. 13.

among = towards. No prep.

believe. Ap. 150. I. i. i.

paramytheomai. See John 11. 19.

12 That, &c. = With a view to (Ap. 104. vi) your walking.

His = His own.

flattering words. Lit. a word (Ap. 121. 10) of flattery.

6 Nor. Gr. *oute*.

sought we = seeking.

cloak = pretence. Gr.

glory. See p. 1511.

burdensome. Lit. in (Gr. *en*) a burden, i.e. for a burden. Gr. *baros*.

Christ. Ap. 98. IX.

nurse. Gr. *trophos*. Only here.

her = her own. This shows that a mother is meant. The image expresses the intensity of the

8 affectionately desirous. Gr. *himeiromai*, or *homeiromai*. Only

dear unto. Ap. 185. III.

because, &c. = with a view to (Ap. 104. xv. 3) our not (Ap. 105. II) being chargeable unto.

preached. Ap. 121. 1.

unto. Ap. 104. vi.

justly. Gr. *dikaios*. See 1 Cor. 15. 34, and cp. Ap. 191. 1.

behaved ourselves. Lit. became.

11 exhorted. Ap. 134. I. 6.

comforted. Gr.

hath Omit.

charged = testified to. Gr. *marturomai*, with texts. See Gal. 5. 3.

every = each.

called. Some texts read "calleth".

kingdom. See App. 112, 114.

13 *On account of this we also thank* ²God ^owithout ceasing, because, when ye received the ⁵word of ²God ^owhich ye heard *from* us, ye received *it not as* the ⁵word of ⁴men, but as it is *truly*, the ⁵word of ²God, which *is made energetic* also in you that ¹⁰believe.

14 For ye, brethren, became *imitators* of the ^ochurches of ²God which in Judaea are in ^oChrist Jesus: for ye also ... suffered *the same* of your own ^ocountrymen, even as *they also have* of the Jews:

15 Who both killed the ^oLord *even Jesus*, and *the* ^oprophets, and *chased us out*; and they please not ²God, and are contrary to all ⁴men:

16 Forbidding us to ²speak to the Gentiles *in order that* they might be saved, *with a view to their filling up* their ^osins ^oalway: for *the appointed wrath* ^ois come upon them to the *end*.

17 But we, brethren, *having been bereaved* from you for ^oa short time in ^opresence, not in heart, *were diligent* the more abundantly to ^osee your face with great desire.

18 Wherefore we *wished to* come unto you, even I Paul, ^oonce and again; but Satan ^ohindered us.

19 For what *is* our hope, or joy, or ^ocrown of ^orejoicing? *Are* not even ye in the presence of our ¹⁵Lord Jesus ... at **H**is ^ocoming ?

20 For ye are our ⁶glory and joy.

3 Wherefore when we *were no longer able to bear it*, we *were willing* to be left at ^oAthens alone;

2 And ^osent Timotheus, our brother, and *pastor and teacher* of ^oGod, and our ^ofellowlabourer in the ^ogospel of ^oChrist, *with a view to establishing* you, and to *exhort* you ^oconcerning your ^ofaith:

3 That *no one* should be *agitated* by these *persecutions*: for yourselves ^oknow that we ^oare appointed *unto this*.

4 For verily, when we were with you, we *foretold* that we *were about to be afflicted*; even as it *came to pass also*, and ye ³know.

5 *On account of this*, ¹when I *was no longer able to bear it*, I ²sent to ^oknow your ²faith, ^olest by some means the tempter ... tempted you, and our labour be ^oin vain.

Athens. See Acts 17. 15, 16. When Silas and Timothy joined Paul, he and Silas must have agreed to dispatch Timothy to Thessalonica, and then Silas must have departed on some other mission. See in v. 5 the change from "we" to "I".

2 sent. Ap. 174. 4. **minister.** Ap. 190. I. 1.

God. Ap. 98. I. i. 1. **fellowlabourer.** Gr. *sunergos*. See 1 Cor. 3. 9. The texts vary here. **gospel.** Ap. 140.

Christ. Ap. 98. IX. **to, &c.** = with a view to (Gr. *eis*) establishing. **comfort: or, exhort.** Ap. 134. I. 6

concerning. Ap. 104. xiii. 1. but the texts read *huper* (Ap. 104. xvii. 1.) **moved:** or, agitated. Gr. *saino*. Only here. **faith.** Ap. 150. II. 1.

3 no man. Gr. *medeia*. **are appointed.** Lit. lie. Gr. *keimai*. Cp. Luke 2. 34. Phil. 1. 17. **afflictions.** Gr. *thlipsis*. See 1. 6.

know. Ap. 132. I. i. **should** = were about to. **thereunto** = unto (Ap. 104. vi) this. **4 told ... before** = foretold. Gr. *prolego*. See 2 Cor. 13. 2. **suffer, &c.** = be afflicted. Gr. *thlibo*.

came to pass. Add "also". **5 For this cause** = On account of (Ap. 104. v. 2) this. **know.** Ap. 132. I. ii. **lest, &c.** Gr. *me pos*.

have. Omit. **in vain.** See 2. 1., and cp. 2 Cor. 6. 1. Gal. 2. 2. Phil. 2. 16.

13 For this cause = On account of (Ap. 104. v. 2) this. **also thank we** = we also thank. See 1. 2.

without ceasing. See 1. 3.

which ye heard. Lit. of hearing. Gr. *akoe*, as in Gal. 3. 2, 5.

in truth = truly.

effectually worketh = is made energetic. See Ap. 172. 4.

14 followers. See 1. 6.

Christ Jesus. Ap. 98. XII.

churches. Ap. 186.

have. Omit.

like = the same

countrymen. Gr. *sumphuletes*. Only here.

they = they also.

15 Lord. Ap. 98. VI. i. B. 2. A.

Jesus = even Jesus. Ap. 98. X.

their own = the.

prophets. Ap. 189.

have persecuted us. = chased us out. Gr. *ekdioko*. Only here and Luke 11. 49.

16 that = in order that. Gr. *hina*.

to, &c. = with a view to (Ap. 104. vi) their filling up (Gr. *anapleroo*).

See 1 Cor. 14. 16.

sins. Ap. 128. I. ii. 1.

always. Ap. 151. II. G. i.

the wrath: the appointed wrath. See Lev. 26. Deut. 28 and 32.

is come. Gr. *phthano*. See Luke 11. 20.

upon. Ap. 104. ix. 3.

uttermost = end. Gr. *telos*.

2: 17--3: 10. PAUL AND THE BRETHREN. THEIR FEELINGS WHILE ABSENT.

2: 17, 18.

Their departure.

2: 19, 20.

Joy in the Thessalonians.

3: 1.

Their solicitude.

3: 2-4.

Mission of Timothy.

3: 5-

Their solicitude.

3: -5.

Mission of Timothy.

3: 6.

Timothy's return.

3: 7-10.

Joy in the Thessalonians.

17 being taken = having been bereaved. Gr. *aporphanizomai*. Only here. Cp. John 14. 18. **from.** Ap. 104. iv.

a short time. Lit. a season of an hour.

presence, face. Cp. 1 Cor. 5. 3. Col. 2. 5.

endeavoured = were diligent.

see. Ap. 133. I. 1.

18 would have = wished to. Ap. 102. 1.

once and again. Cp. Phil. 4. 16.

hindered. Gr. *enokpto*. See Acts 24. 4.

19 crown. Cp. Phil. 4. 1.

rejoicing. Gr. *kauchesis*. See Rom. 3. 27.

Jesus Christ. Ap. 98. XI. but the texts omit "Christ".

coming. Gr. *parousia*. See Matt. 24. 3. The first of seven occ. in these two Epistles. See 3. 13; 4. 15; 5. 23. 2 Thess. 2. 1, 8, 9.

3. 1 when, &c. = no longer bearing it, i.e. able to bear it.

no longer. Gr. *meketi*.

forbear = bear. See 1 Cor. 9. 12.

thought it good = were well pleased. Same as "were willing" (2. 8).

6 But now when Timotheus came from you unto us, and ^obrought us good tidings *of* your ²faith and *love*, and that ye have good remembrance of us ^oalways, ^odesiring greatly to ^osee us, as we also *to see* you:

7 *For this cause*, brethren, we were ²comforted over you ^oin all our *persecutions* and *necessity* by your ²faith:

8 For now we *have life in all of its manifestations*, ^oif ye ^ostand fast in the ^oLord.

9 For what thanks can we render to ²God again for you, for all the joy wherewith we joy *on account of you* before our ²God;

10 Night and day ^opraying ^oexceedingly *for the seeing of* your face, and might ^operfect *the shortcomings of* your ²faith?

11 Now ²God **H**imself and our ^oFather, and our ^oLord ^oJesus ..., ^odirect our way unto you.

12 And the ¹¹Lord make you to ^oincrease and abound in ^olove one toward another, and toward all *men*, even as *we also do* toward you:

13 ^oTo the end he may *strengthen* your hearts ^ounblameable in ^oholiness ^obefore ²God, even our ¹¹Father, at the ^ocoming of our ¹¹Lord ¹¹Jesus ... with all **H**is ^osaints.

4 Furthermore then we *request of* you, brethren, and *appeal to* you by *the* ^oLord ^oJesus, *in order that* as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please ^oGod, so ye would abound *the more*.

2 For ye ^oknow what *charges* we gave you by the ^oLord ¹Jesus.

3 For this is the *desire* of ¹God, *even* your ^osanctification, that ye should ^oabstain from fornication:

4 That *each* one of you should ²know how to ^opossess *his own* ^ovessel in ³sanctification and honour;

5 Not in the lust of *desire*, even as the *Gentiles also* which ²know not ¹God:

6 That *he should not* ^ogo beyond and *get advantage on* his brother in *the* matter: because that the ¹Lord *is* the ^oavenger *concerning* all *such sins*, as we *forewarned you also* and ^otestified.

6 brought . . . good tidings. Ap. 121. 4. The only place, save Luke 1. 19, where *euangelizo* does not refer to the gospel.

charity = love. Ap. 135. II. 1.

always. Ap. 151. II. G. i.

desiring greatly. Gr. *epiptheo*. See Rom. 1. 11.

see. Ap. 133. I. 1.

7 Therefore. Same as "For this cause", v. 5.

over. Ap. 104. ix. 2.

in. Same as "over".

distress = necessity, as 1 Cor. 7. 26.

8 live. See Ap. 170. 1.

if. Ap. 118. 1. b.

stand fast. Gr. *steko*. See Phil. 4. 1.

Lord. Ap. 98. VI. i. B. 2. B.

9 for. Ap. 104. xiii. 1.

for. Ap. 104. ix. 2.

for your sakes = on account of (Ap. 104. v. 2) you.

10 praying. Ap. 134. I. 5.

exceedingly. Gr. *huper* (Ap. 104. xvii. 1) *ek* (Ap. 104. vii)

perissou. Most of the texts read as one word. See Eph. 3. 20.

that we might. Lit. for (Ap. 104. vi) the seeing (Ap. 133. I. 1).

perfect. Ap. 125. 8.

that, &c. = the shortcomings. Gr. *husterema*. See 1 Cor. 16. 17.

in = of.

11 Father. Ap. 98. III.

Lord. Ap. 98. VI. i. B. 2. A.

Jesus Christ. Ap. 98. XI. but the texts omit "Christ" here and v. 13.

direct. Gr. *kateuthuno*. Here; 2 Thess. 3. 5. Luke 1. 79. Cp *euthuno* in John 1. 23 and Jas. 3. 4.

12 increase. Gr. *pleonazo*. See Rom. 5. 20.

love. Same as "charity", v. 6.

toward. Ap. 104. vi.

we = we also.

13 To the end. Ap. 104. vi.

stablish Gr. *sterizo*. See Rom. 1. 11.

unblameable. Gr. *amemptos*. See Phil. 2. 15.

holiness. Gr. *hagiosune*. See Rom. 1. 4.

before. See John 12. 37.

coming. Gr. *parousia*. Cp. 2. 19.

saints. See Acts 9. 13.

4. 1—5. 22 [For Structures see below].

4. 1 beseech. Ap. 134. I. 3.

exhort. Ap. 134. I. 6.

by. Ap. 104. viii.

Lord. Ap. 98. VI. i. B. 2. B.

Jesus. Ap. 98. X.

that = in order that. Gr. *hina*.

God. Ap. 98. I. i. 1.

more and more = the more.

2 know. Ap. 132. I. i.

commandments. Gr. *parangelia*. Cp. 1 Tim. 1. 18 (charge).

Lord. Ap. 98. VI. i. B. 2. A.

4: 1—5: 22. EXHORTATION AND INSTRUCTION.

4: 1-12. Exhortation.

14: 13--15: 11. Instruction.

5: 12-22. Exhortation.

4: 1-12. EXHORTATION.

1. Walk, as before God.

2. Commandments.

3-5. God's will : sanctification (positive and negative).

6. Brethren : not to be defrauded (negative).

7, 8. God's call : sanctification (negative and positive).

9, 10. Brethren : to be loved (positive).

11. Commandments.

12. Walk, as regards men.

3 will. Ap. 102. 2.

sanctification. Gr. *hagiasmos*. See Rom. 6. 19.

abstain. Gr. *apechomai*. See Acts 15. 20.

4 every = each.

possess. Gr. *ktaomai*. See Luke 21. 19.

his = his own.

vessel. Gr. *skeuos*. Cp. 1 Pet. 3. 7.

5 lust. Gr. *pathos*. See Rom. 1. 26. The R.V. renders it "passion".

concupiscence = lust, or desire.

Gentiles = Gentiles also.

6 no man = that he (should) not (Ap. 105. II).

go beyond. Gr. *huperbaino*. Only here.

defraud. Gr. *pleonekteo*. See 2 Cor. 2. 11.

any = *the*.

avenger. Gr. *ekdikos*. Only here and Rom. 13. 4.

of = concerning. Ap. 104. xiii. 1.

such = such (sins).

also have forewarned = forewarned also. Gr. *proeipo*. Only here; Acts 1. 16. Gal. 5. 21.

testified. Gr. *diamarturomai*. See Acts 2. 40.

7 For ¹God ^o*hath* not called us unto uncleanness, but unto *sanctification*.

8 He therefore that ^odespiset, despiset not ^oman, but ¹God, Who *giveth* unto *you* His ^oHoly Spirit.

9 But ^oas touching ^obrotherly love ye need not that I write *to* you: for ye yourselves are ^otaught of God to ^olove one another.

10 And indeed ye do it ^otoward all the brethren which are in all Macedonia: but we *appeal to* you, brethren, that ye *abound* ¹more and more;

11 And that ye *strive* to ^obe quiet, and to *attend to your own affairs*, and to work with your own hands, as we ^ocommanded you;

12 ¹In order that ye may walk ^ohonestly toward ^othem that are without, and *that* ye may have lack of ^onothing.

13 But *we* would not *that you should be ignorant*, brethren, ^oconcerning them which are *falling asleep*, ¹in order that ye sorrow not, even as *the rest also* which have *not* hope.

14 ^oFor ^oif we ^obelieve that ¹Jesus died and ^orose again, *so we believe also that them* which are *fallen asleep through Jesus* will ¹God bring ^owith Him.

15 ¹⁴For this we say ^oto you by ... ^oword of the ¹Lord, that we which are alive *and* ^oremain unto the ^ocoming of the ²Lord shall not *stand in the way of* them which are *fallen asleep*.

16 *Because* the ²Lord Himself shall descend from ^oheaven with a *word of command*, with the voice of the ^oarchangel, and with the *last trump* of God: and ^othe dead in ^oChrist shall ¹⁴rise first:

17 *Thereafter* we which are alive *and* ¹⁵remain shall be ^ocaught up ^otogether with them in ... clouds, to ^omeet the ²Lord in the air: and ^oso shall we ^oever be with the ¹Lord.

18 *So then* ^ocomfort one another with these ¹⁵words.

14 For. Gr. *gar*. if. Ap. 118. 2. a. believe. Ap. 150. I. 1. iii. (we believe) also that them". sleep = are fallen asleep.

between the words "sleep" and "bring". To which does it belong? "Sleep in Jesus" is an expression not found elsewhere. In v. 16 the "dead in Christ" are spoken of, with which may be compared 1 Cor. 15. 18. And the proper meaning of *dia* with the Genitive is "through", though it is wrongly transl. "in" Matt. 26. 61. Mark 14. 58. 1 Tim. 2. 15. Heb. 7. 9; 13. 22, and "among" 2 Tim. 2. 2. The context will show that "through" is the meaning, as the R.V. renders it in margin. "Through" the Lord Jesus Christ we have peace, reconciliation, sonship, the Holy Spirit's gifts, victory, and many other blessings; Rom. 5. 1, 10; Rom. 8. 37. 1 Cor. 15. 57. 2 Cor. 5. 18. Eph. 1. 5. Col. 1. 20. Tit. 3. 6. Death is not a blessing, but an enemy. Inflicted by the Lord (Rev. 2. 23; 19. 21), and permitted by Him, it is the work of the devil (Heb. 2. 14. Rev. 2. 10), whose works He came to destroy. It is better, therefore, to take the words "through Jesus" with "bring", and read, "God will through Jesus bring with Him", in harmony with John 5. 25; 11. 25. Phil. 3. 21. with. Ap. 104. xvi.

15 the. Omit. word. Ap. 121. 10. remain. Gr. *perileipomai*. Only here and v. 17. Is this subsequent to Phil. 3. 11? coming. Cp. 2. 19. prevent = anticipate. Gr. *phthano*. See Rom. 9. 31. "Prevent" meant "go or come before". Now it only means "stand in the way of". asleep = fallen asleep.

16 For = Because. Gr. *hoti*. heaven. Sing. See Matt. 6. 9, 10. shout = word of command. Gr. *keleusma*. Only here in NT. In the Sept. in Prov. 30. 27, the rendering of which is, The locust has no king, yet it marches orderly at one word of command.

archangel. Only here and in Jude 9, where he is called Michael, which connects this event with Dan. 12. 1. trump. Cp. Matt. 24. 31 and 1 Cor. 15. 52. the dead. Ap. 139. 1. Christ. Ap. 98. IX.

17 Then. Gr. *epeita*, thereupon, thereafter. caught up. Gr. *harpazo*. See Acts 8. 39. 2 Cor. 12. 2, 4. Rev. 12. 5. together. Gr. *hama*. the. Omit. meet. Gr. See Matt. 25. 1. in. Ap. 104. vi

so. I.e. by resurrection, or translation. ever. Ap. 151. II. G. ii.

18 Wherefore = So then. comfort. Same as "beseech", v. 10.

7 hath. Omit. unto. Ap. 104. ix. 2. holiness. Same as "sanctification", v. 3.

8 despiseth. Gr. *atheteo*. See John 12. 48. man. Ap. 123. 1. hath also given. The texts read "giveth".

unto. Ap. 104. vi. us. The texts read "you". holy Spirit. Though there are two articles, the reference is to the gifts of Acts 2. 4, the Spirit being always the Giver. Ap. 101. II. 14.

9 as touching. Ap. 104. xiii. 1. brotherly love. Gr. *Philadelphia*. See Rom. 12. 10.

unto = to. taught of God. Gr. *theodidaktos*. Only here. love. Ap. 135. I. 1.

10 toward. Ap. 104. vi. beseech. Same as "exhort", v. 1. increase. Same as "abound", v. 1.

11 study. Gr. *philotimeomai*. See Rom. 15. 20.

be quiet. Gr. *hesuchazo*. See Luke 23. 56.

do, &c. = attend to your own affairs. Cp. 2 Thess. 3. 11.

commanded. Gr. *parangello*. See Acts 1. 4.

12 honestly. Gr. *euschemonos*. See Rom. 13. 13.

them that are without. Cp. 1 Cor. 5. 12, 13. Col. 4. 5.

nothing. Gr. *medeis*.

4: 13--5: 11.

INSTRUCTIONS.

4: 13. Instructions as to those who are asleep.

4: 14. First reason. For (*gar*) God will bring them from the dead.

4: 15. Second reason. For (*gar*) those who are alive shall not *stand in the way of* them.

4: 16, 17. Third reason. Because (*hoti*) both shall be caught up together (*hama*).

4: 18. Wherefore comfort one another.

5: 1. Instructions not necessary as to times and seasons.

5: 2-6. First reason. Because (*gar*) they knew already the character of the day of the Lord.

5: 7, 8. Second reason. Because (*gar*) they that sleep sleep in the night.

5: 9, 10. Third reason. Because (*hoti*) we are appointed to live together (*hama*) with Him.

5: 11. Wherefore comfort one another.

13 I. Texts read "we". would. Ap. 102. 1.

have you, &c. See Rom. 1. 13. concerning. Ap. 104. xiii. 1.

asleep = falling asleep. Ap. 171. 2.

others = the rest. Ap. 124. 3. Add "also". no = not, as v. 5.

rose again. Ap. 178. I. 1. even so them also. Read "so in Jesus" = through (Ap. 104. v. 1) Jesus. This stands in the Gr.

5 But of the °times and the seasons, brethren, ye have *not* need that I write *to* you.

2 °For yourselves °know °perfectly that the day of the °Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

3 ... When they ... say, "Peace and safety;" then °sudden °destruction cometh upon them, as *birth pangs upon* a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, *in order that* that day should °overtake you as a thief.

5 Ye are all the °children of °light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

6 Therefore let us not °sleep, as *do* °others; but let us °watch and °be sober.

7 °For they that sleep °sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

8 But let us, who are of the day, °be sober, putting on the °breastplate of °faith and °love; and for an °helmet, *the* hope of salvation.

9 *Because* God *appointed us not* to °wrath, but to *obtaining* salvation by our °Lord °Jesus Christ,

10 Who died for us, *in order that*, whether we *watch* or °sleep, we should live °together with Him.

11 Wherefore °comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as *ye are doing also*.

12 And we °beseech you, brethren, to °know them which labour among you, and °are over you in the °Lord, and admonish you;

13 And to *reckon* them °very highly in °love *on account of their work*. And °be at peace among yourselves.

14 Now we *appeal to you*, brethren, °warn them that are *disorderly*, °comfort the *fainthearted*, °support the weak, be patient toward all *men*.

15 °See *lest any* render °evil for evil *to* °any *man*; but °ever follow that which *is* good, both *towards one another*, and to all *men*.

16 Rejoice °evermore.

17 °Pray °without ceasing.

18 In every thing °give thanks: for this *is* the *desire* of °God in °Christ Jesus *in regard to* you.

19 Quench not °Spirit.

20 °Despise not °prophesyings.

21 °Prove all things; °hold fast that which *is* good.

22 °Abstain from *every form* of °evil.

23 And *may the God of peace Himself* °sanctify you °wholly; and *I pray God your spirit and soul and body be kept entire*

5. 1 of. Ap. 104. xiii. 1.

times, seasons. See Ap. 195.

no = not. Ap. 105. I.

2 For. Gr. *gar*.

unto = to. Ap. 132. I. i.

perfectly. Gr. *akribos*. See Acts 18. 25.

Lord. Ap. 98. VI. i. B. 2. B.

3 For. The texts omit.

shall. Omit.

sudden. Gr. *aiphnidios*. Only here and Luke 21. 34.

destruction. Gr. *olethros*. See 1 Cor. 5. 5.

travail. Gr. *odin*. See Acts 2. 24.

4 that = in order that. Gr. *hina*.

overtake. Gr. *katalambano*. See John 1. 5.

5 children. Ap. 108. iii.

light. Ap. 130. I.

nor. Gr. *oude*.

6 sleep. Ap. 171. I.

others. Ap. 124. 3.

watch. See Matt. 24. 42.

be sober. Gr. *nepho*. Here, v. 8. 2 Tim. 4. 5. 1 Pet. 1. 13; 4. 7; 5. 8.

8 breastplate. Gr. *thorax*. See Eph. 6. 14.

faith. Ap. 150. II. 1.

love. Ap. 135. II. 1.

helmet. Gr. *perikephalaia*. See Eph. 6. 17.

9 For = Because. Gr. *hoti*.

God. Ap. 98. I. i. 1.

hath. Omit.

to. Ap. 104. vi.

wrath. Cp. 1. 10.

obtain = obtaining. Gr. *peripoiesis*. See Eph. 1. 14.

Lord. Ap. 98. VI. i. B. 2. A.

Jesus Christ. Ap. 98. XI.

10 wake = watch, together. Gr. *hama*, as in 4. 17.

11 comfort. Ap. 134. I. 6. Same as in 4. 18.

also ye do = ye are doing also.

12 beseech. Ap. 134. I. 3. Not the same as 4. 10.

among. Ap. 104. viii. 2.

are over. Gr. *protisteimi*. See Rom. 12. 8.

13 esteem = reckon.

very highly. Gr. *huperekperissos*. See 3. 10 and Eph. 3. 20.

for their work's sake = on account of (Ap. 104. v. 2) their work.

be at peace. Gr. *eireneuo*. See Rom. 12. 18.

14 exhort. Ap. 134. I. 6.

warn. Same as "admonish", v. 12.

unruly. Gr. *ataktos*. Only here. Cp. 2 Thess. 3. 6, 11 (the adv. transl. "disorderly").

comfort. Gr. *paramytheomai*. See 2. 11.

feble-minded = fainthearted. Gr. *oligopsuchos*. Only here.

support. Gr. *antechomai*. Here; Matt. 6. 24. Luke 16. 13. Tit. 1. 9.

toward. Ap. 104. xv. 3.

15 See. Ap. 133. I. 8:

that none = lest (Ap. 105. II) any (Ap. 123. 3).

evil. Ap. 128. III. 2.

for. Gr. *anti*. Ap. 104. ii.

any man. Gr. *tis*. Ap. 123. 3.

ever. Ap. 151. II. G. ii.

among yourselves = towards (*eis*) one another.

16 evermore. Ap. 151. II. G. iii.

17 Pray. Gr. *prqseuchomai*. Ap. 134. I. 2.

without ceasing. See 1. 3.

18 give thanks. Gr. *eucharisteeo*. See 1. 2.

will. Ap. 102. 2.

Christ Jesus. Ap. 98. XII.

concerning = in regard to. Gr. *eis*. Ap. 104. vi.

19 Spirit. Ap. 101. II. 4.

20 Despise. Gr. *exoutheneo*. See Acts 4. 11.

prophesyings. Cp. 1 Cor. 12. 10: 13. 2, 8; 14. 6, 22. The reference to these gifts explains v. 19.

21 Prove. Gr. *dokimazo*. See Rom. 12. 2. Eph. 6. 10. 1 John 4. 1.

holdfast. Gr. *katecho*. See Matt. 21. 38.

22 Abstain. See 4. 3.

all = every.

appearance = form. Gr. *eidos*. See John 5. 37.

evil. Ap. 128. III. 1.

23 the very, &c. = may the God of peace Himself. Cp. Acts 7. 2. Heb. 13. 20.

sanctify. See John 17. 17.

wholly. Gr. *holoteles*.

Only here. **whole, &c** Read, "your spirit and soul and body be kept entire".

whole. Gr. *holokleros*. Only here and Jas. 1. 4. The noun in

Acts 3. 16.-

spirit. Ap. 101. II. 6.

at the °coming of our °Lord °Jesus Christ.

24 °Faithful *is* **He** That calleth you, **Who** *will do it also*.

25 Brethren, °pray for us.

26 Greet all the brethren with an °holy kiss.

27 I °charge you *by* the °Lord that *the* epistle be read unto all the ... brethren.

28 The °grace of our °Lord °Jesus Christ *be* with you.

soul. Ap. 110. III. 2.

blameless. See 2. 10.

unto = at. Gr. *en.* Ap. 104. viii.

coming. See 2. 10. Notice how in every chapter of this Epistle the coming of the Lord is presented, and in a different aspect: 1. 10; 2. 19; 3. 13; 4. 14-17; 5. 23. In this verse there is a beautiful correspondence. H | The work of the God of peace. Sanctification : complete.

J | w | The whole person.

x | One part of it (the *pneuma*).

J | w | The whole person (the living soul).

x | The other part of it (the body).

H | The coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Preservation : without blemish.

24 Faithful. Gr. *pistos.* Ap. 150. III. Cp. 1 Cor. 1. 9; 10. 13. 2 Thess. 3. 3. 2 Tim. 2. 13. Heb. 10. 23; 11. 11. 1 Pet. 4. 19. Rev. 3. 14; 19. 11. **also, &c.** = will do it also.

25 for. Gr. *peri.* Ap. 104. xiii. 1.

26 with. Gr. *en.* Ap. 104. viii.

27 charge. Gr. *orkizo.* See Acts 19. 13, but the texts read *enorkizo*, which occ only here.

28 grace. Gr. *charis.* Ap. 184. I. 1.

holy kiss. See Rom. 16. 16.

this = the.

holy. Most texts omit.

Amen. Omit, with texts.

with. Gr. *meta.* Ap. 104. xi. 1.