

"THE APOSTLE'S DEFENSE OF HIS MINISTRY" (Part 1)
(1 Thessalonians 2:1-12)

- I. THE PRESCRIPT OF "1 THESSALONIANS" (1:1)
- II. THEIR THANKSGIVING TO GOD FOR THESE THESSALONIAN BELIEVERS. (1:2-10)
- III. THE VINDICATION OF THEIR MESSAGE AND MINISTRY. (2:1-16)

A. Their GODLY MINISTRY in Review. (2:1-12)

1. Addressing the FALSE ACCUSATIONS of the Opposition. (2:1-6)

a. The *PERSUASIVE MEANS* of Addressing these Allegations.

Paul addressed the actual or anticipated false accusations hurled against his missions team by...

- a.1) Appealing to *the Thessalonians* personal _____ of their past visit.
- a.2) Appealing to the _____ the *missionary team preached* and its _____ among them.
- a.3) Appealing to *two credible witnesses*, namely _____ and _____.
- a.4) Appealing to *two instructive analogies* to describe their ministry, namely as _____ (2:1-6) and that of _____ (2:7-12).

b. The *HISTORICAL CIRCUMSTANCES* Surrounding the Evangelization of Thessalonica. (2:1-2)

- 1) *Their past visit* was blessed by God with spiritual _____ (2:1)

* Who could testify of this?

2) *Their preaching...*

a.4.a) was in spite of past _____ . (2:2a)

a.4.b) was by divinely-enabled _____ . (2:2b)

a.4.c) was the message of the _____ of God. (2:2c)

a.4.d) was amidst present _____ . (2:2d)

c. The ***SPECIFIC DENIALS*** of these False Allegations. (2:3)

1) As to the accusation of *the source of their message*, it was not out from _____ . (2:3a)

* What is the first issue Paul addresses?

2) As to the accusation of *their motive in ministry*, it was not from _____ . (2:3b)

3) As to the accusation of *their method of ministry*, it was not in _____ . (2:3c)

d. The ***SPIRITUAL DEFENSE*** of Their Ministry. (2:4)

1) As to *the authority of their ministry*, they had been _____ to be entrusted with the Gospel. (2:4a)

2) As to *the aim of their ministry*, it was not as pleasing _____, but as pleasing _____. (2:4b)

* How does this apply to you?