

PERSECUTION IS COMING, BUT YOU ARE IN GOOD COMPANY

(1 Thessalonians 2:13-16)

I. THE VINDICATION OF THEIR MESSAGE AND MINISTRY (2:1-16)

A. Their GRATEFULNESS to GOD was WITHOUT CEASING (2:13-16)

1. Paul and his missionary team thanked God constantly because...

a. the Thessalonians had “_____” the Word of God (2:13a)

b. these believers “_____” this teaching, as *not* being from men, but rather, from _____ (v. 13b)

c. the Thessalonians had _____ the Scriptures, it was currently _____ in them (2:13c)

2. The missionary team was grateful that the Thessalonian believers were persevering as they suffered for the cause of Christ.

a. The *consequence* of their suffering was that they “*became* _____ *of the* _____ *of* _____ *which are in Judea in Christ Jesus.*” (2:14a)

b. The *cause* of their suffering was their “*own* _____.” (2:14b)

* Why was this especially difficult?

c. Paul used three *classic examples* of the Jews to verify the opposition to God's Word...

1) "who killed the _____" (v. 15a)

2) "who killed their _____" (v. 15b)

3) "and _____" (v. 15c)

* What is God's evaluation of them?

d. These religious Jews tried to forbid the Thessalonians from speaking to the _____
Gentiles about the gospel in order that they would get _____. (v. 16a)

e. Paul wrote that there were two consequences to these disturbing actions...

1) they were _____ the measure of their sins (v. 16b)

2) divine _____ was _____ upon them (v. 16c)

* What can you learn from this?