



*How do you show your confidence in Jesus and His Word?

*How to walk to please Jesus.

**1 Thessalonians 4:1 (NKJV) Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God; 2 for you know what commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus. 3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, 5 not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6 that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. 7 For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. 8 Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.*

1. **V:1-5 Now is the time for sanctification and honor.** To be set apart by God's power.
 - A. **Sanctification** is God's will for our lives.

Salvation gives you God's Spirit and you are separated from **the penalty of sin**.

- B. **Sanctification gives you** the ability to enjoy this life and to live honoring God in it. In the baptism or infilling of God's Spirit, you are separated from **the power of sin**. Our death or the rapture takes us to heaven where we are promised to live a life separated from **the presence of sin**.

2. **V:6-8 Now is not the time to reject God.** The age of Jesus' return is not the time for lust, it is the time for a holy lifestyle.

God will be the avenger. When you defraud/deceive others or live as sinful when professing to be in a personal relationship with Jesus. He is warning us that we are rejecting more than the Pastor's word or the Church's we are rejecting God himself.

You must be careful that rejecting the Holy Spirit can leave you in a delusional state that is difficult to escape.

*Love and unity are different sides of the same coin?

**1 Thessalonians 4:9 But concerning brotherly love you have no need that I should write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; 10 and indeed you do so toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more; 11 that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, 12 that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing.*

1. **V:9- Increasing your love means what?**

We are not the judges of the world or of Christians. God has had to forgive me too many times for a judgmental attitude.

He is preparing us through His Spirit, His Love, and His Word for eternal life. Each day is a day closer to heaven.

2. **V:9-10 Walking properly** toward those who are outside is accomplished how?
 - A. **By leading a life that is not in upheaval.** Christians' lives should have a peace that can't be explained and a power that is experienced.
 - B. **Tough/tender love** to those who walk under the spirit of this world and deception.

*The comfort in knowing Jesus is returning.

**1 Thessalonians 4:13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.*

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

1. **V:13-14 Now is not the time** to be unenlightened/ignorant.
 - A. **Our confidence** is in the resurrection. If you don't believe in Christ's resurrection you won't believe in the resurrection of the believer
 - B. **Our hope** is the truth of the rapture or the resurrection of the dead.

2. **V:15-17 There is always a proper order and timing** with God for all Spiritual events.
 - A. **God's timing** is always according to his plan. Jesus came in the fullness of time. Speaking of his 1st entrance into this world was a perfect time. Told to the exact day through the Prophet Daniel in Daniel 9:26
 - B. **A day is appointed for Jesus' return.** Acts 1:7 The Father has set this time with His authority.

3. ***V:18 Comfort one another with these truths.**
 - A. *In the Old Testament 1,845 scriptural references to Jesus' return to rule from the earth.
*17 O.T. books give prominence to this event. Giving events and details that should not be disputed.

 - B. *In the New Testament 316 scriptural reference to Jesus' return.
*216 Chapters give prominence to this event. 23 of the 27 New Testament books include the teaching of Jesus' return.

40 of the 66 books establish the truth of Jesus' second coming. The Father has the day set in advance.