



1 THESSALONIANS

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GOING DEEPER // THE WORD, WORLD, AND THE NEED FOR COMMUNITY // 1 THESS 2:13-2

Paul displays the reason why the Thessalonians accepted the word. This has a great impact on how they react to suffering. how does the church react to suffering now (local, international, global)?

*I'd rather see a sermon than hear one any day;
I'd rather one should walk with me than merely show the way.
The eye's a better pupil and more willing than the ear,
Fine counsel is confusing, but example's always clear...*

Edgar Guest

"The reading of the word of God, and the explication and application of it in good books, is a means to possess the mind with sound, orderly, and working apprehensions of God, and of his holy truths: so that in such reading our understandings are often illuminated with a heavenly light, and our hearts are touched with a special delightful relish of that truth; and they are secretly attracted and engaged unto God and all the powers of our souls are excited and animated to a holy obedient life."

Richard Baxter

How is God's wrath usually viewed by different cultures, traditions, and people that you know?



God's wrath is often viewed like this:

What other way has God's wrath been displayed? See **Romans 1:18-23**

It is those who reject God's word, God's people, and God himself who receive his wrath due to their own decisions. How do we see both God's active and passive wrath in our world today?

In light of God's wrath and the message received by this church, they continue to persist in their faith. How can we persist in our faith and model it to those around us?

"The Son of God became man and affirmed the very real physical needs and suffering of this world. he had compassion for the helpless and met their needs with perfect mercy. But He also saw the spiritual needs of His people. he saw that they were slaves to sin and various passions. He saw our foolishness and disobedience and hate. And He came to save us from all of that. Not because we had done anything to deserve being saved but according to His own mercy."

Lisa May

SERMON OUTLINE

1. The Proper response to God's Word

- a. Receive it
- b. Accept it
- c. Value it

2. The foolish Response to God's Word

- a. Reject God's Word
- b. Reject God's people
- c. Reject God Himself

3. The heart of Christian community

- a. The opposition to Christian community
- b. The longing to be together
- c. The encouragement community is supposed to have for one another