

II Thess. 1: 1-5

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SUBJECT: A Faith that Growth
Exceedingly

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II Thess. 1:1-5

A Faith That Grows & Glorifies

Int.

Paul's great love for, concern for, the church at Thessalonica. of Acts 17:11 "... Berea more noble ..." But Thess letters, more to Thess. Their constancy in tribulation, persecution; their seeking after truth, moved his heart...

I Thess. 1:1,2 The three divine sisters. Paul recognizes faith in its true - now specific faith in its flowers, fruit.

2:7,8,11,12 In addition to recognizing, believing, faith he works hard to promote it. Husbandry of God: sow in tears, reap in joy.

3:12 Accompanied his public labors with private prayer

4:1 Not only publicly prays, but added earnest exhortations

5:23,24 Finally added faith to prayer, & exhortation. When we are sure that will do it, it will surely be done. Church at Thess. the child of Paul's prayers - of his labors - at last child of his faith.

I. Christian necessity for thanksgiving
Εὐχαριστεῖν ὀφείλομεν τῷ θεῷ πάντοτε περὶ ὑμῶν, ἀδελφοί, ...

It's duty to praise God; merit, surely that we should do so. Blessed be God for what He is doing for His people.

- II Thess. 1:4,5 persecution... that may be counted worthy...
of Acts 5:41 "... rejoiced, counting it as suffer..."

II Reason for Paul's Thanksgiving
 ὅτι ὑπερουξάνει ἡ πίστις ὑμῶν

An intense and universal commendation.

§. if there was but one but could say of us this text... "The blessing of increased faith is of unspeakable value. That all the brethren be strong in the faith, what a cause for thanksgiving!"

of. mt. 14:31 "O thou of little faith..." ΟΛΥΓΟΠΙΣΤΕ Little Faith

Little faith will save from drowning, not utterly perished, but great faith, strong faith, walks on the water, builds up the church, overcomes the world, overcomes sinners, glorifies Christ. Little faith slow, feeble - in his the which church halls, stambles, has not the will to fight, resist, overcome. But great faith growth & maturity, lifts the banner aloft, leads in the van, needs no for help or, faith surmounts to flight, casts down the walls of Goliath, builds up the walls of Zion, smites the Philistine, lifts up the light, carries out the projects, purgates of God with holy zeal.

But Little Faith languishes for behind.

He seldom thinks he is sure of heaven. When God made up his mind, little faith is well as his men; a diamond still a diamond though - diamonds are small - faith too is little still faith. & it has more excellent jewel for its crown. Little faith runs to the bank, if, cheaply for foundation of the world, length with Christ & God love him; always soft, & manner is heaven for him. But he very seldom arrives it. Sometimes afraid of hell. Little worth of God abide upon him, not of the debt, not called upright, not come to Jesus Christ, will not hold out to the end; if hell a thousand? All faith sure of heaven - arrives it. Christ's Prizels too. Many grounded hall... see streets paved with gold, black walls, foundation has the solid mass of the glorified. But poor little faith can scarcely see the light must less the sun. Proper is the shadows. while not think his very much. In contrast hardly care put on feet before the other.

(5) In walking Canada, hither come to a frozen stream. On hands, knees, cautiously creeping out, across. Over the mountains side a driving snow storm. draft horse, heavy wagon, loaded with great logs, on the ice, across....

Little Faith, which always leaves you weak (if you is sufficient for the) yet never thinks to lay you weak. Can be but little between your body you not sufficient. One says every part his to fight. Carriers of it seems clean, this is his garments with your old, show was out, feet black, transferred but day to heavy, mud, said for her.

III. Can see the basis for Paul's ardent thanksgiving

- Can be a weak argument, find not growing. But as much better a healthy, strong one.
- 1. John 4:1 (4:2-7) how much better Abraham. Not loses all, saved as if by fire.
- 2. can barely live. Did it Abraham who gave his love less no less no less until brought this to live in one dress a day - has done making this. Stand in soul, not just.

To grow. what cause for thanksgiving!
 life is earliest stage attended by growth. particularly does it grow into the second life into the present. Have more faith & fear will have no faith. This life is earth & spiritual growth.

1. Faith grows by looking to Jesus, coming to Jesus, laying all of Peter, as long as looked to Jesus, walked. To living with water, beyond to sink. All X has promised, said, hidden.

2. Faith grows by increase of knowledge, experience the teaching of the Scriptures - first promise, unbelief on out of the night. - the two natures - the allness of God... to uttermost

Reading the Scriptures; time for quiet communion, meditation of truth, "much to do" - three hours of prayer.
 of old saint "T & P": "tried and proved"

We want little faith possess to get more faith.
 of a workman, strong muscles. All the brains of use.

3. Faith grows by tribulations, troubles, ^{conflict,} persecutions
Times of cloud, rain, storm, growing times.

- f. the oak, in wind, rain
- g. several death hardly with bread, but more ^{express} multiple

The more the church, that counteracts, in its rise in power

- f. best form, not increased, flourish is the plan
- g. as persecution rose like the deluge, that confidence rises
and rose about it, like Noah's ark, rose higher the days
of water.
- g. great & 7, like great nations, not made at home in
baracks, but must fly, it under of cannon.

g. persecutions cement the church together
the more persecuted, the more they cling together
hammer, ^{also consolidated}
heat ^{would its solid mass.}

back up the guide, where? rally in circumstances
faithful? no. Day faith, they hold together. Long the
endless, the redemptive, the regenerated.

