

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How do we obtain the righteousness of Christ?
2. How can we persist in righteousness?
3. What does it mean to abound?
4. How can the Spirit be quenched? (vs. 5:19)
5. Describe the process of “proving all things”. (vs. 5:21)
6. Can we “pray without ceasing”? Describe a good prayer life.

### SUMMARY:

After receiving salvation we should continue to live for God and increase spiritually. [\[SoF:9\]](#) It should also be with us as it was with the Thessalonians in that the Word of God was sounded out among the people throughout their region. Their faith was spread abroad. [\[SoF:15\]](#)

Jesus said “*let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father, which is in heaven.*” (Matthew 5:16)

### NOTES:

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[\[SoF:9\]](#) We believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling the believer is empowered to live a Godly life in spiritual unity with Christ [\[SoF:15\]](#) We believe that the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ is an invitation for everyone to live a life of abandonment to Him, Who loved us and gave Himself for us - surrendering His personal ambitions and possessions in an unreserved committal to take the proclamation of the Gospel throughout "all the world to every creature".

## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #7

November 15, 2026

Fourth Quarter

## PERSISTENCE IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

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**LESSON TEXT:** 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; 2:1-20; 5:1-28

**LESSON SETTING:** Paul encourages the Christians in their spiritual walk.

**TIME:** Approximately 54 A.D.

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### I. A GLOWING REPORT. 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

- A. Work of Faith (vs. 3, 8) James 2:17-18; Revelation 2:2
- B. Labor of Love (vs. 3) Luke 6:35; Hebrews 6:10-11
- C. Patience of Hope (vs. 3) Romans 5:4-5
- D. Spiritual Joy (vs. 6) Ezra 6:22; Psalm 5:11

### II. A GOOD REPRESENTATIVE. 1 Thessalonians 2:1-20

- A. Boldness in Speaking the Gospel (vs. 2) [\[SoF:15\]](#) Acts 14:3; 19:8
- B. Pleasing God Rather Than Men (vs. 4) Acts 5:29
- C. Self-sacrificing (vs. 8) 1 Corinthians 10:23-24; 2 Corinthians 12:15
- D. Walking Worthy of God (vs. 10, 12) Romans 6:4; 1 John 2:6

### III. A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. [\[SoF:9\]](#) 1 Thessalonians 5:1-28

- A. Walking in the Light (vs. 5) Ephesians 5:8; 1 John 1:7
- B. Doing Good for Evil (vs. 15) Matthew 5:44; 1 Peter 3:11
- C. Praying Always (vs. 17) Acts 12:5; Colossians 4:12; Philippians 1:3-4
- D. Yielding to the Spirit (vs. 19)

**GOLDEN TEXT: *FURTHERMORE THEN WE BESEECH YOU, BRETHREN, AND EXHORT YOU BY THE LORD JESUS, THAT AS YE HAVE RECEIVED OF US HOW YE OUGHT TO WALK AND TO PLEASE GOD, SO YE WOULD ABOUND MORE AND MORE.***

1 Thessalonians 4:1

**NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON:** Acts 17:15-34

**SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES:** Psalm 135:13-21; Isaiah 40:18-25

**QUARTERLY THEME:** Life and Writings of Paul

**TOPIC:** THE MESSAGE AT MARS HILL

**INTRODUCTION:**

A very critical day was approaching for the Athenians when the Apostle Paul entered their city. Because truth and error cannot but clash, Paul's spirit stirred within him, when he saw the city "*wholly given to idolatry.*" Of special significance to him was a particular altar with the inscription: "*To the Unknown God.*"

What Paul saw, however, neither left him shaky, softened, or savorless, for it wasn't long until his words brought reaction in the synagogue, market place, amongst the philosophers and finally at Mars Hill.

The Athenians, like many Americans, had not only been in quest of truth, satisfying principles and gratifying forms of worship, but were also groping for a relationship with the unknown God.

The scene being set, Paul stood in the midst of Mars Hill, and said "*Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, Him declare I unto you*". Paul's message declared God as a spirit who not only created, but is Lord of all things. He therefore is not confined to the limits of man's concepts and abilities, but rather limits man so that man upon realizing his own limitations might seek Him and find Him as a Savior.

The conclusion of the message cast the die for the Athenians: in the fact of future judgment they were obligated to repent. "*Some mocked, and others said, we will hear thee again of this matter. Howbeit, certain men clave unto him and believed.*"

**CENTRAL TRUTH:** Though unregenerate man continues to grope in darkness, God is not very far from anyone.

**GOLDEN TEXT:** *AND THE TIMES OF THIS IGNORANCE GOD WINKED AT; BUT NOW COMMANDETH ALL MEN EVERYWHERE TO REPENT.*

Acts 17:30

The period of time during which God had been winking ended with the coming of Jesus Christ. This indicates that His all-searching eyes are now steadily beholding men. He that rejects Christ and receives not His words shall surely be judged. (John 12:48)

Now while God has commanded all men everywhere to repent, He has also assured that "*whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. But, how then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?*" (Romans 10:13-15)

My fellow-believers, the logic of God's Word pointing to my obligation and yours is undeniable. And God watches us too!

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF November 16 – 22**

- Mon. God's Law Concerning Idolatry. Exodus 20:1-6
- Tue. The Folly of Idolatry. Psalm 135:13-21
- Wed. Glory of the True God. Isaiah 40:18-26
- Thu. \*Idolatry in Ancient Athens. Acts 17:15-21
- Fri. \*The True God Proclaimed in Athens. Acts 17:22-34
- Sat. Christian Responsibility to the Lost. Romans 1:13-25
- Sun. Christian Responsibility to the Saved. 1 Corinthians 10:14-21

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