

## **1 Thessalonians 1:1-10<sup>iv</sup>**

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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### <sup>iv</sup> **About 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

In Paul's absence, his community were exposed to the attacks of local Jews and Gentiles. His concern for their welfare led him to send Timothy back to visit. His joy at Timothy's encouraging report occasioned Paul's letter. He adapts the common form of a Greek letter to his own purposes. After saluting the recipients, Paul proceeds to a thanksgiving that he expands to express his sense of God's activity among them. He knows that God has chosen them. The evidence of their election lay in the power wrought by the proclamation of the good news.

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