

Lesson 4 – Paul’s Writings: *Galatians, I and II Thessalonians*

A. Galatians

1. Author: Paul – What do we know about Paul’s life and personality (an early, violent opponent of the church Acts 7:58-8:3, three accounts of his conversion: Acts 9:1-31, 22:3-21 and 26:1-23, other descriptions in Paul’s own words: Philippians 3:4-7, I Timothy 1:15-16)?
2. Readers: Churches in Galatia (Galatians 1:2, possibly those founded during Paul’s first missionary journey of Acts 13-14)
3. Time of Writing: Not as certain as some of Paul’s other epistles, but possibly during his second missionary journey of 49-52 A.D.
4. Purpose and Themes: Strong denunciation of false teaching requiring an adherence to the Law, particularly circumcision (the key question addressed in Acts 15)
 - Defense of the source of Paul’s teaching – revealed from God not man
 - Justified by faith rather than by works of the Law
 - Fruit of the Spirit
5. Outline. Fill in the titles using the answers provided, and choose a best verse.

Reference	Best Title	Best verse	Possible Answers
1:1-5			<i>Substance of Paul’s Teaching</i>
1:6 – 2:21			<i>Final Words</i>
3:1 – 4:31			<i>Greeting</i>
5:1 – 6:20			<i>Fruit of Paul’s Teaching</i>
6:21-24			<i>Source of Paul’s Teaching</i>

6. Key Verses:
 - Galatians 1:6-8
 - Galatians 2:20
 - Galatians 3:10-14
 - Galatians 3:26-27
 - Galatians 4:4-6
 - Galatians 5:16-24
 - Galatians 6:8-10

B. I Thessalonians

1. Author: Paul
2. Readers: The newly established church in Thessalonica (cf. Acts 17:1-9)
3. Time & Place of Writing: From Corinth – latter stage of 2nd Journey – 49-52 A.D.
4. Purpose & Themes: Instruct them on matters not covered during the their conversion and establishment and encourage them to continue on the same path of steadfastness
 - Second Coming of Christ
 - Work of faith, labor of love, steadfastness of hope

5. Outline. Fill in the titles using the answers provided, and choose a best verse.

Reference	Best Title	Best verse	Possible Answers
1:1-10			<i>Paul's Past Work Among Them</i>
2:1-16			<i>Final Instructions and Greetings</i>
2:17 – 3:10			<i>Words of Gratitude for the Thessalonians</i>
3:11 – 4:12			<i>Paul's Desire to See Them and Know of Them</i>
4:13 – 5:11			<i>Prayer and Plea for Purity</i>
5:12-28			<i>Instructions Regarding the Coming of the Lord</i>

6. Key Verses:

- I Thessalonians 1:2-3
- I Thessalonians 2:13
- I Thessalonians 3:11-13
- I Thessalonians 4:9-12
- I Thessalonians 4:16-18
- I Thessalonians 5:14

C. II Thessalonians

1. Author: Paul
2. Readers: newly established church in Thessalonica
3. Time and Place of Writing: Also from Corinth, just shortly after I Thessalonians.
4. Purpose & Themes: Correction of misunderstandings regarding the second coming of Christ
5. Outline. Fill in the titles using the answers provided, and choose a best verse.

Reference	Best Title	Best verse	Possible Answers
1:1-12			<i>Reassuring Words Regarding 2nd Coming</i>
2:1-12			<i>Words of Gratitude for the Thessalonians</i>
2:13-17			<i>Warnings Against Idleness</i>
3:1-5			<i>Prayer for Comfort and Hope</i>
3:6-18			<i>Request for Prayer</i>

6. Key Verses:

- II Thessalonians 1:3-5
- II Thessalonians 1:7-9
- II Thessalonians 2:9-12
- II Thessalonians 2:14-16
- II Thessalonians 3:6-15