

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 06 March	1Thessalonians 1:1-10	Commended
2) 13 March	1Thessalonians 2:1-12	Shared
3) 20 March	1Thessalonians 2:13-20	Response Required
4) 27 March	1Thessalonians 3:1-13	Encouraged
5) 03 April	1Thessalonians 4:1-12	Demonstrated
6) 10 April	1Thessalonians 4:13-18	Promised
7) 17 April	Matthew 28	Risen
8) 24 April	1Thessalonians 5:1-11	Returning
9) 01 May	1Thessalonians 5:12-28	Living
10) 08 May	2Thessalonians 1:1-12	Enduring
11) 15 May	2Thessalonians 2:1-12	Observing
12) 22 May	2Thessalonians 2:13-17	Praying
13) 29 May	2Thessalonians 3:1-18	Waiting

INTRODUCTION

- Be ready for the Lord's return by WATCHING & PRAYING
 - ♦ WATCH your Words | WATCH your Thoughts
 - ♦ WATCH your Deeds | WATCH after Others
 - ♦ Be a WATCHMAN – Warning others of God's pending judgment
 - ♦ And PRAY without ceasing

Passage	Comments
1Thes 5:12-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reference to Church Elders and possibly many others <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ They diligently labor among/with us Act 20:34-35 ♦ They have responsibility over us Act 20:28 ♦ They give us instructions 1Tim 3:2 • How should we "appreciate" and "esteem" them very highly in love? <input type="checkbox"/> More Money? <input type="checkbox"/> More Prayer? <input type="checkbox"/> More Praise? <input type="checkbox"/> Less Headaches? <input type="checkbox"/> Other? • How should we live in peace with each other? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ When should we ignore problems or sins?..... 1Peter 4:8 ♦ When do we acquiesce and when do we fight or contend for the faith?..... Rom 12:18; 1Cor 13:11 ♦ Discernment is always needed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is important to acknowledge hard working saints in our midst and to uphold them, support them, and yes, treat them differently. These include Pastors, Ministers, and nursery/children's workers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Elders (Pastors) should receive double honor 1Tim 5:17 ♦ We bless those materially who bless us spiritually Acts 28:10 ♦ Nursery, children, & youth workers should at least be relieved and not carry the burden all by themselves. Share the workload. Don't treat them as free babysitters while you enjoy a sermon • All of these listed saints will hear the Lord's tribute to them, "Well done thou good and faithful servant" Mat 25:21
5:14-22	<p>How would we accomplish and score the following: ..[Score]</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Admonish the unruly/undisciplined [] 2. Encourage the fainthearted/weak [] 3. Help the weak [] 4. Be patient with everyone [] 5. Don't repay evil for evil [] 6. Seek after the welfare of others [] 7. Rejoice always [] 8. Pray without ceasing [] 9. Give thanks in everything [] 10. Do not quench the Spirit [] 11. Do not despise prophecies [] 12. Prove everything [] 13. Hold fast to that which is good [] 14. Abstain from every form of evil [] <p>And how well did we score on these elements this past week?</p>
	<p>More on When to Admonish and When to Avoid Unruly Saints</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admonish a misdirected or mis-focused brother or sister, and do not treat them as an enemy/fool by ignoring/avoiding/cancelling them....2Thes 3:15 • Avoid those who cause dissension (are they being fools?) Prov 14:7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Why not reprove them? Discernment is KEY. Titus 3:10 says to reject those after the 2nd admonition (possible for foolish behavior). ♦ Fools require different principles. For example, contending with fools is a no-win situation. When you wrestle with a pig you both get muddy and the pig likes it Prov 26:4,5; 29:9 • Parallel passages include: Mat 7:15; Rom 16:17-18; Gal 1:8; 2Thes 3:6,14; 1Tim 6:3-5; 2Tim 3:5; Titus 3:10; 2John 1:10

Passage	Comments
5:23-24	<p>The God of Peace (aka, Prince of Peace) Sanctifies Us</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of Sanctification: A continuous process of being made holy, i.e., maturing into the image of Christ over time • Our body, soul, and spirit will be presented blameless at the coming of Christ. What He started He will complete on the "Day of Jesus Christ"..... Phil 1:6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ This is probably the Rapture cf 1Cor 1:8; Phil 1:10; 2:16 ♦ At the Marriage Supper of the Lamb the Bride of Christ (His Church) will be in her full glory Rev 19:9
5:25-28	<p>Final Admonitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are to pray for the faithful How? When? Where? What would our prayer look like? • Greet other believers with an "holy kiss" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IOW, with honest, sincere greetings - How else could this "holy kiss" be expressed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Fist bumps <input type="checkbox"/> Handshakes <input type="checkbox"/> Hugs <input type="checkbox"/> High Fives? • "I adjure you" – This is strong language to urge that this message be shared with other churches

SUPPORTING PASSAGES ON A "HOLY KISS"

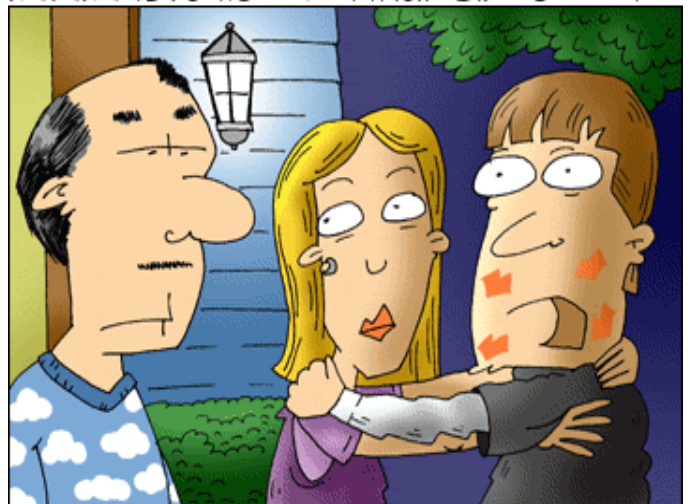
- [Luke 7:45](#). "You gave Me (Jesus) no kiss; but she, since the time I came in, has not ceased to kiss My feet.
- [Acts 20:37](#). And they began to weep aloud and embraced Paul, and repeatedly kissed him
- [Rom 16:16](#). Salute one another with an holy kiss.
- [1Cor 16:20](#). Greet ye one another with an holy kiss.
- [1Pet 5:14](#). Greet one another with a kiss of love.

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- Many times we are told to be ready, be on the alert, be watchful for Jesus' coming ([Mt 24:42](#); [25:13](#); [Mk 13:35](#); [1Thes 5:6](#); [Jms 5:8-9](#))
- We need to grasp the BIG picture of life and our part in it, and we need to see who is around us and if we need to help and encourage them, admonish them or avoid them (assuming we are in the right)
- God accomplishes His mission enabling us to stand blameless before Him when we are Raptured, most definitely at His Marriage Supper.

NEXT WEEK: 2Thes 1. 2Thessalonians corrects some doctrinal issues with the last days and continues to encourage struggling believers; then the gloves come off and Paul is blunt about the Saints avoiding those with prodigal behavior and not helping those who exhibit laziness.

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Thanks to Barbara (See 2Corinthians 13:12) 10-18-2004

WE WERE GREETING EACH OTHER WITH A HOLY KISS ... I SWEAR