

Sermon Outline
Joy in the Holy Ghost
I Thessalonians 1:2-10

I. The character of the Thessalonian Christianity vv. 2-3
St. Paul remembers them in prayer vv. 2-4

Work of faith

Work that results from faith Eph 2:8-10

Labor of love

Activity prompted by love Rom 13:8-10

Patience of hope

Endurance inspired by hope Col 1:27 (*cf.* IThess 5:8)

II. The election of the saints vv. 4-10
Paul & company are confident of their election v. 4

A How the gospel came to them v. 5

Not just in words, but power Rom 1:16-17; Eph 1:13

B Their response vv. 6-7

Imitators of Paul & co. (*see* v. 5b)

Joy in the Holy Ghost Jn 15:10-11 (*cf.* 16:20-22, 33)

A¹ How the gospel went out from them vv. 8-10

They became a pattern to follow (*cf.* v. 7)

Reported in all the world (Greece & Rome – *cf.* Acts 18:2)

III. Lessons in assurance

The gospel itself – the power of God Rom 1:16-17

Imitating the Apostles and Jesus Phil 3:17; 4:9

Welcoming the Word

Turning from idols to serve the living God

Living *contra* dead

True *contra* false

Demonstrating faithfulness

Faith known to others v. 8

Expectation of deliverance v. 10 (*cf.* ICor 15:19-20)