

Sermon Handout

Hope, Joy, Crown of Rejoicing
I Thessalonians 2:9-20

- I. The behavior of Paul & Silas as missionaries vv. 9-12
 - a. Labored & struggled v. 9
 - b. Acted holy & just v. 10
 - c. Appealed, comforted & witnessed vv. 11-12
So that their lives would be worthy of Jesus

A pattern is set by the apostles for future elders (Eph 4; Tit 1; Acts 20)

- II. Thanking God for the saints' perseverance vv. 13-16
 - a. They received the gospel as the Word of God v. 13
Not merely as the word of men, but the truth (Jn 14:6, 10)
 - b. They remained steadfast in face of persecution vv. 14-16
As those in Jerusalem did, and from the same source

- III. Paul's desire to be with them again vv. 17-20
 - a. Away from them physically, not spiritually or emotionally v. 17
 - b. Prevented from their presence v. 18
Satan's interference *cf.* 2:15-16; Rev 2:9 (Smyrna)
 - c. You are our hope, joy & crown v. 19
Our glory & joy v. 20

Their faith, love, hope causes the apostles to rejoice *cf.* 1:3

A faith that *works*

A love that *labors*

A hope that *endures*