

Sermon Outline

A FAITH KNOWN EVERYWHERE | Geoff Lin

Readings: Acts 17:1-9 (p.1578); 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 (p.1681)

Q. What is Trinity Church Adelaide "known for"?

1. The church of the Thessalonians in God (v1)

1 Thess 1:1 Paul, Silas and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you.

- "the church of God in Corinth" (1 Cor 1:2; 2 Cor 1:1)

2. What Paul prays for the Thessalonians (vv2-3)

1 Thess 1:2 We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. 3 We remember before our God and Father your work produced by *faith*, your labor prompted by *love*, and your endurance inspired by *hope* in our Lord Jesus Christ.

- always ... all of you ... continually

- faith, love, hope

3. What Paul knows about the Thessalonians (vv4-10)

1 Thess 1:4 For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. ⁶ You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. ⁷ And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. ⁸ The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—**your faith in God has become known everywhere**. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, ⁹ for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you *turned* to God from idols to *serve* the living and true God, ¹⁰ and to *wait* for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead —Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

i. the Thessalonians are loved by God and chosen by Him (v5)

ii. how can Paul be so confident about the Thessalonians? (vv6-10)

- "our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction"

- mimic and model

- message and messenger

- turn => serve => wait

"Until He Returns" (1 Thessalonians)

1:9 ... They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead —Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

2:19 For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you? ²⁰ Indeed, you are our glory and joy.

3:13 May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

4:17 After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

5:23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

4. So what, for us?

i. a theological clarification

ii. a wonderful encouragement

Q. What is Trinity Church Adelaide "known for"?

For discussion: how does your life show that you have **turned**, are **servicing**, and are still **waiting**?