

1 Thessalonians 4:9 - 18

Outline line

I Practical Christian Living (9 -12)

II The Rapture (13 - 18)

(V9) "But concerning brotherly love you have no need that I should write you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; and indeed you do so toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more;"

*Paul is encouraging them.

*The Love of the brethren -

[Q] What is the Love of the brethren?

[Q] What did Jesus say about it? - (John 3:34-35)

Read (Acts 2:42-47). What can we learn in this passage about their love for each other? How is this different from how believers act toward each other today?

(V.10) "And in fact, you do love all of God's family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, to do so more and more."

Excel still more - this is the second time he used this phrase in this chapter. The first time was in vs,1. Here we learn an important principle.

{Believers are to always keep growing}.

(V.11 a) "And to make ambition to lead a quiet life: - Believers are to have ambition.

[Q] What is most people's ambition?

(11 b) "You should lead a quiet life: "You should mind your own business." Work with your hands, just as we told you."

[Q] What does he mean to lead a quiet life? To attend to your own business?

Work with your hands."

[Q] What is the connection between (v.12 an vs11)?

Cross references - on mind your own business:

(1 Tim. 5:13)

(2 Thess. 3:11)

(Prov.20:3)

(2 Thess. 3:6)

On work:

(Gen. 2:15)

(Eph. 4:28)

(2 Thess 3:10)

(Matt. 11:28)

(John 6: 27)

To lead a quiet life - Few people in today's day and age live busy.

Ask anybody "How are you doing?" And what will they say ? 'Busy. Soooo busy.'

Parents are busy taking their children to piano class, swimming class, soccer practice, choir rehearsal, dancing class, language class, martial arts class, etc., they have no time for anything.

A lot of busyness is just allowing ourselves to get sucked in to culture.

[Q} are these things wrong?

(John 6:27) - "do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on Him God the Father has placed His seal of approval."

Their busyness is not leading them closer to the Lord or anyone else closer to the Lord.