

THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD

“For the word of God is living and powerful,
and sharper than any two-edged sword,
piercing even to the division of soul and spirit,
and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner
of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

(Hebrews 4:12)

1 THESSALONIANS

“Holiness in Light of Christ’s Return”

“That He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.”

(1 Thessalonians 3:13)

OUTLINE OF 1 THESSALONIANS

“Holiness in Light of Christ’s Return”

I. Personal Reflections *Chapters 1–3*

II. Practical Instructions *Chapters 4,5*

OUTLINE OF 1 THESSALONIANS

“Holiness in Light of Christ’s Return”

II. Practical Instructions *Chapters 4,5*

A. Life Before God and Man *(4:1–12)*

B. Death Encounter *(4:13–18)*

C. The Day of the Lord *(5:1–11)*

D. Life in the Local Church *(5:12–22)*

E. Conclusion *(5:23–28)*

LIFE BEFORE GOD AND MAN

(1 Thessalonians 4:1–12)

A God–Pleasing Life (vv 1–8)

1 Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God; **2** for you know what commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus. **3** For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; **4** that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor.

LIFE BEFORE GOD AND MAN

(1 Thessalonians 4:1–12)

A God–Pleasing Life (vv 1–8)

5 Not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; **6** that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. **7** For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. **8** Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.

LIFE BEFORE GOD AND MAN

(1 Thessalonians 4:1–12)

A Brotherly and Orderly Life

9 But concerning brotherly love you have no need that I should write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; **10** 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; **11** that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, **12** that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing.

**1. Before God:
“Pleasing”
(4:1–8)**

1 ... we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound (*excel*) more and more ... *to walk and to please God;*

“please” – “in moral agreement”

Having God’s Favour – His Approval and Affection

**1. Before God:
“Pleasing”
(4:1–8)**

3 For this is the will of God, your *sanctification*: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; **4** that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in *sanctification* and honor ... **7** For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in *holiness*.

“Holiness”

**2. Before Man:
“Proper”
(4:9–12)**

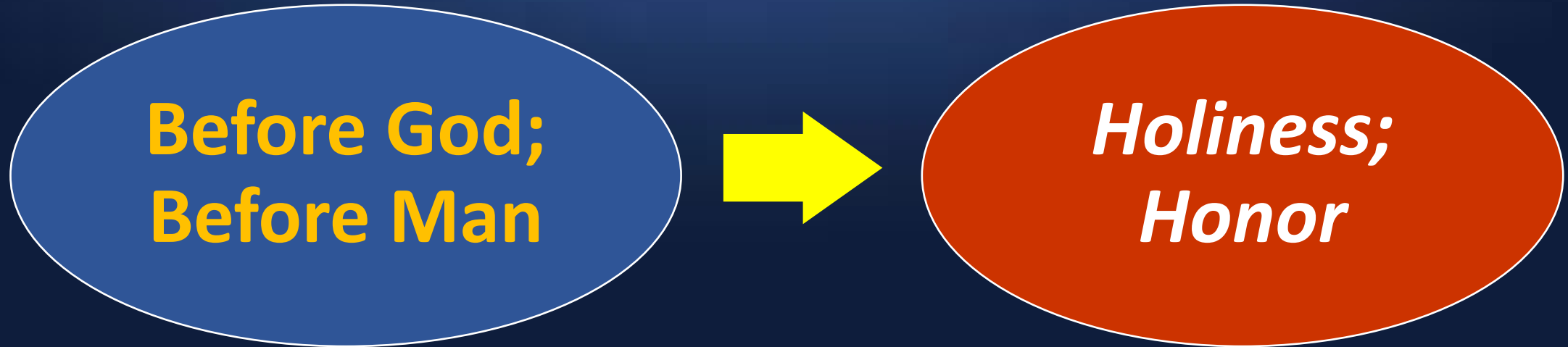
9 But concerning brotherly love ... **10** we urge you (*to*) increase (*excel*) more and more; **11** ... aspire to lead a quiet life, mind your own business, work with your own hands ... **12** *walk properly* toward those who are outside ...

“properly” – “decorously, becomingly”

“Honor”

II. A. Life Before God and Man

1 Thessalonians 4:1–12



“Be holy, for I am holy... you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart.”

(1 Peter 1:16,22)

“Not sinless perfection, but sincere progression”