

New Testament - Lesson 11

1 & 2 Thessalonians

Theme: Jesus Is Coming Back

Key Verse: For the LORD Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the archangel's voice and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

1 Thess. 4:16

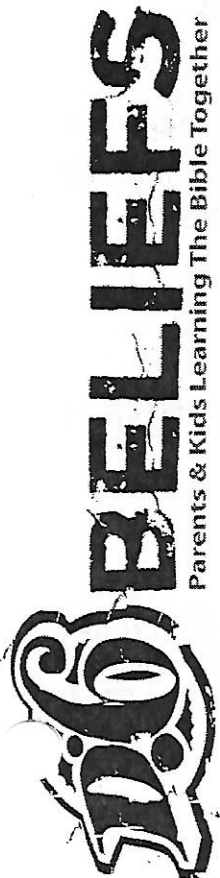
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Paul, Silas and Timothy visited Thessalonica on Paul's second journey, staying there only three weeks before being chased out by an angry mob. Later, Paul sent Timothy back to strengthen and encourage the young church (1 Thess 3:1-2). When Timothy returned, Paul was overjoyed to hear his report that the Thessalonians were standing firm in the Lord (1 Thess. 3:8). One way the church seemed to cope with persecution was to keep their eyes fixed on the fact that Jesus is Coming Back! Paul assured them that this was true, and he told them they didn't need to worry about those believers who had already died. When Jesus returns from heaven "with a shout, with the archangel's voice and with the trumpet of God, the dead in Christ will rise first!" (1 Thess. 4:16) Paul's second letter to the Thessalonians encouraged them to keep living in view of this Day of the Lord and to not grow weary in doing good (2 Thess. 3:13). Even though no one knows when this Day will come, they could know for sure that it Jesus is coming back!

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This Week

Read I Thessalonians 4:13-18.

1. Why do you think Paul uses the word "asleep" instead of "dead" when talking about those who have passed away already?
2. What do you think is the coolest part of this passage?
3. Verse 18 says, "Therefore encourage one another with these words." How can this passage be a source of hope to you when you feel discouraged?

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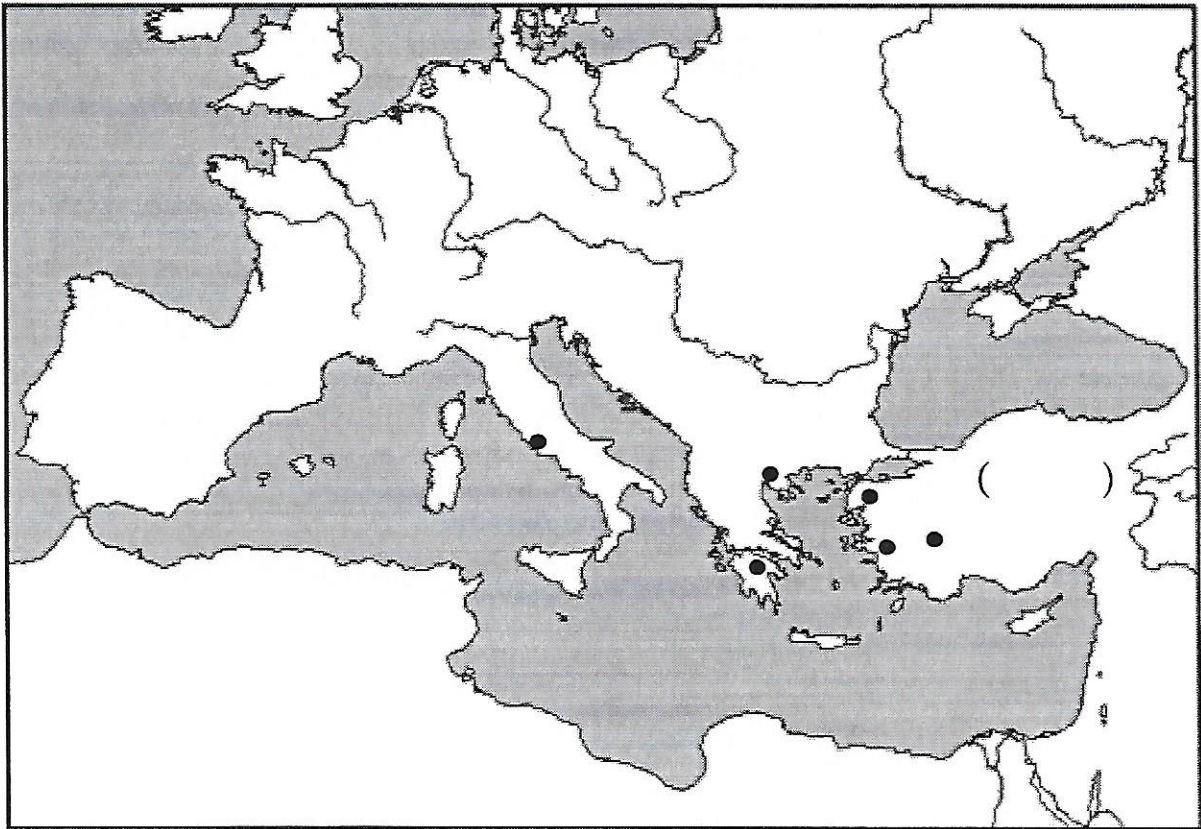
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BELIEFS

Parents & Kids Learning The Bible Together



Label the cities or areas on the map that received letters from Paul.
What was the theme of each letter?

CITY	NAME OF BOOK	THEME
Rome	_____	_____
Corinth	_____	_____
Galatia	_____	_____
Ephesus	_____	_____
Pilippi	_____	_____
Colossae	_____	_____
Thessalonica	_____	_____