

**Outline of
the Messages for the Full-time Training
in the Spring Term of 2026**

**GENERAL SUBJECT:
THE CRUCIAL POINTS OF THE TRUTH IN PAUL'S EPISTLES—
FIRST AND SECOND THESSALONIANS**

Message Eleven

Our Heart to Be Established Blameless in Holiness

Scripture Reading: 1 Thes. 3:13; Mark 4:1-20

I. In order to live a holy life for the church life, we need the Lord to establish our heart blameless in holiness—1 Thes. 3:13:

- A. God is the unchanging One, but according to our natural birth, our heart is changeable, both in our relationship with others and with the Lord—Matt. 13:3-9, 18-23.
- B. There is no one who, according to his natural, human life, is steadfast in his heart; because our heart changes so easily, it is not at all trustworthy—Jer. 17:9-10; 13:23.
- C. Our heart is blamable because it is changeable; an unchanging heart is a blameless heart—Psa. 57:7; 108:1; 112:7; cf. 2 Tim. 4:10a; Col. 4:14; Philem. 24.
- D. In God's salvation the renewing of the heart is once for all; however, in our experience our heart is renewed continually because it is changeable—Ezek. 36:26; 2 Cor. 4:16.
- E. Because our heart is changeable, it needs to be renewed continually by the sanctifying Spirit so that our heart can be established, built up, in the state of being holy, the state of being separated unto God, occupied by God, possessed by God, and saturated with God—Titus 3:5; Eph. 4:23; 5:26; 2 Cor. 4:10-12, 16; Rom. 6:19, 22; cf. Matt. 15:7-8.

II. There are two major signs of a renewed heart that is established blameless in holiness—a renewed heart is a heart that turns to God, and a renewed heart seeks purity:

- A. "Whenever Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart; but whenever their heart turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away...But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit"—2 Cor. 3:15-16, 18.
- B. The intrinsic significance of repentance is to have a change of mind issuing in regret, to have a turn in purpose; it is to turn our hearts from all things other than God and from the things outside of God to God Himself; it is a "repentance unto God" (Acts 20:21), a turning in reality from all things to God; repentance is a divine requirement of God's New Testament economy (17:30):
 - 1. Repentance is the result of the Spirit's seeking sanctification; it is a gift given by the exalted Christ (5:31); "then to the Gentiles also God has given repentance unto life" (11:18); *life* here is *zoe* (Gk.), referring to the life of God (Eph. 4:18), the eternal life (1 John 1:2), the uncreated, indestructible life (Heb. 7:16), which is Christ Himself (John 14:6; 11:25; Col. 3:4) as the life-giving Spirit (1 Cor. 15:45).
 - 2. The New Testament indicates that not only the unbelievers but also the seeking, spiritual believers always need to repent; in the epistles in Revelation 2 and 3, the Lord commands most of the seven churches to repent—2:5, 16, 21; 3:3, 19.
- C. Hebrews 3:7-19 is a solemn warning to us concerning the danger of hardening our hearts and of having an evil heart of unbelief—"The Holy Spirit says, 'Today if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts'...Beware, brothers, lest perhaps there be in any one of

you an evil heart of unbelief in falling away from the living God. But exhort one another each day, as long as it is called 'today,' lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin" (vv. 7-8, 12-13); *falling away* means "turning away."

- D. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God"; a pure heart is a single heart without mixture, a heart that seeks only the Lord and takes the Lord as the unique goal—Matt. 5:8; 1 Tim. 5:22b; 2 Tim. 2:22; cf. John 17:15; Jude 24:
1. The more a person is in the word of God, the purer he becomes; when we read the Lord's word again and again, all the worldly matters in us are removed, and we are cleansed and sanctified:
 - a. The word of reality sanctifies us from the mixed-up world, turning us back to the purity in God; the Lord has given the believers two kind of words: the constant word (John 17:14, 17) and the instant words (v. 8).
 - b. God's living word works in the believers to separate them from the world and its usurpation unto God and His purpose, not only positionally (Matt. 23:17, 19) but also dispositionally (Eph. 5:26; 1 Thes. 5:23; Rom. 6:19, 22).
 2. Psalm 12:6—"The words of Jehovah are pure words, / Silver refined in a furnace on the earth, / Purified seven times."
 3. Psalm 119:9—"With what should a young man keep his way pure? / By guarding it according to Your word."
 4. Psalm 119:11—"In my heart I have treasured up Your word / That I might not sin against You."
 5. Psalm 119:72—"The law of Your mouth is better to me / Than thousands of pieces of gold and silver."
 6. Psalm 119:127—"Therefore I love Your commandments / More than gold, indeed, more than fine gold."
 7. Psalm 119:130—"The opening of Your words gives light / Imparting understanding to the simple."
 8. Psalm 119:133—"Establish my footsteps in Your word, / And do not let any iniquity have dominion over me."
 9. Psalm 119:140—"Your word is very pure, / And Your servant loves it."
 10. Matthew 12:34-35—"Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. The good man, out of his good treasure, brings forth good things, and the evil man, out of his evil treasure, brings forth evil things."

III. In order to live a life that is fully according to and for God's New Testament economy with an established heart, we must allow the indwelling Christ as the seed of life in His word to grow in the soil of our entire heart that He might live in us and be expressed from within us, thus making our heart His home and a duplication of God's heart—Mark 4:1-20; 12:30; Eph. 3:16-17:

- A. We must deal with the condition of our heart to make our heart the good earth for the full growth of Christ in us; the good earth signifies a heart that gives every inch of its ground to receive the word that the word may grow, bear fruit, and produce even a hundredfold—Mark 4:8-9, 20, 26-29; Luke 8:15; Isa. 37:31.
- B. The wayside signifies the heart that is hardened by worldly traffic and cannot open to understand, to comprehend, the word of the kingdom; the birds signify the evil one, Satan, who comes and snatches away the word of the kingdom sown in the hardened heart—Mark 4:3-4, 15.
- C. The thorns signify the anxieties of the age, the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts for other things, which utterly choke the word, preventing it from growing in the heart and causing it to become unfruitful—vv. 7, 18-19.

IV. “Other seed fell on the rocky place, where it did not have much earth, and immediately it sprang up because it had no depth of earth. And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and because it had no root, it withered”—vv. 5-6:

- A. The Lord gave us three main reasons why the seed sown on the rocky place grows so fast yet dries up so soon:
1. The first reason is that “it did not have much earth”; a person with this kind of heart is standing in a shallow place; he is a person living according to and controlled by his environment and his emotions; this is to live by our feelings without any inner knowledge of the Lord; the rocky places that do not have much earth signify the heart that is shallow in receiving the Lord’s word—vv. 5-6, 16-17.
 2. The second reason for barrenness is having “no root”; the roots refer to the *hidden life*; the roots are the parts that cannot be seen, that are hidden, and that are in secret; our spiritual life depends very much on our hidden life before the Lord:
 - a. The Lord said in Matthew 6:6 that when we pray, we should enter into our private room, shut our door, and pray to our Father who is in secret, and the Father who sees in secret will repay us; the Lord said that the Father would *see* us in secret; we have always thought that prayer is something that can merely be heard; however, the Lord said here that prayers are seen.
 - b. How much of our lives can be seen by God alone and no one else? How much of our lives are spiritual before God and have never been told to men? How many of our precious experiences are kept exclusively for God’s enjoyment?—S. S. 4:12, 16.
 - c. The sun with its scorching heat signifies affliction or persecution; the heat of the sun is for the growth and ripening of the crop, which take place once the seed has been deeply rooted, but because of the seed’s lack of root, the sun’s heat, which should cause growth and ripening, becomes a deathblow to the seed.
 3. The third reason is the rocky place; the rocky place is the hardened heart; only one kind of people will go all the way down to the depths; they are the ones who are as soft and feeble as a child, and they are the ones who fear and tremble at God’s word (Luke 18:17; Isa. 66:1-2); if we have not dealt thoroughly with rocks (such as hidden sins, personal desires, self-seeking, and self-pity) and if the stubborn self is not thoroughly dealt with and broken by the Lord, our roots will never be deep (Psa. 92:12; Hosea 14:5; Isa. 37:31).
- B. In order to have Christ as the seed of life deeply rooted in us, we need to be deeply rooted in Him by having a secret life and secret history with Him—Col. 2:7; S. S. 4:12; Psa. 31:20; 32:7; 83:3; 91:1; 119:114.
- C. We must take time in secret to absorb the Lord, setting aside time every morning to have direct and intimate fellowship with Him in pray-reading and musing upon His Word and interceding for the interests of God’s economy—Mark 1:35; Matt. 6:6; Psa. 5:3; 27:4; 46:5; 59:16; 88:13; 90:14; 119:15, 147-148; 143:8; 1 Kings 8:48.
- D. Day by day and morning and evening, we must keep our heart open to the Lord by talking to Him personally and intimately and by repenting and confessing all our sins to Him; this is the way to deal with our heart to make it the good earth for the growth of Christ as the seed of life—Psa. 102, title; v. 7; 142, title; vv. 2, 7; 139:23-24; 2 Cor. 3:16; 1 John 1:9.
- E. Giving the Lord the full way to grow in our heart will make our heart the duplicate of God’s heart, and we will live a life fully according to and for God’s New Testament economy to carry out His heart’s desire—*Hymns*, #395, #1132.