

A People to be Glad for, A People to be Sad for, Part 2

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: 1 Thessalonians 2:13-16.

B. There is a contrast between the believing church and the unbelieving Jews.

II. Thankfulness for the Thessalonians.

A. They received the Word.

B. They received the saints.

III. Sadness for the Jews.

A. Paul was in constant conflict with the Jews. (2 Corinthians 11:24, Romans 9:4, Genesis 32:28)

B. Nevertheless, he was heartbroken over the Jews.

C. They turned away from spiritual privilege relying on works for salvation. (Romans 10; Matthew 21:32; 23:37)

D. The church was replacing the Jews. (Matthew 22; Romans 11)

IV. Contrasting characteristics between the two.

A. The Jews rejected the Word. They killed Jesus and the prophets. (Matthew 21:33; Acts 2:22; 7, 1 Kings 19:10, Hebrews 11, Deuteronomy 28:1)

B. The Jews hindered the saints instead of honoring and imitating them. (Matthew 10)

C. The Jews were punished in suffering instead of persevered. The Jews would receive full judgment. (Matthew 22:32, Genesis 15:16, John 3:36)

V. There is hope that the present turning of the Jews would be reversed.

Application Questions:

1. How can we imitate spiritual leadership like the Thessalonians?

2. What role does the Word of God play in your life? How can you maximize your intake?

3. How can a person's response to suffering reveal character?
