



SERMON NOTES

September 15, 2019

Scripture: I Thessalonians 1:8-10 (NAS)

“The Witness of the Church”

Rev. Bruce Gardner

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| 8 | For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith toward God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything. |
| 9 | For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God, |
| 10 | and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come. |

I. THE THRIVING CHURCH

- A. Their Work Of Faith
- B. Their Labor Of Love
- C. Their Steadfast Hope In The Lord Jesus
- D. They Were Children Of God, Beloved Of God, Called Of God
- E. The Word Of God Had Penetrated Their Hearts
- F. They Were I. E. Christians
 - 1. They imitated faithful believers and the Lord
 - 2. They had become an example to others

II. THEIR WITNESS - EXAMPLE

- A. The Word Of The Lord Going Forth
 - 1. First it is God’s Word
 - 2. Like the blast of a trumpet
 - 3. It spread for 100’s of miles and beyond
 - 4. Not the witness of the gospel per se *Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8*

B. It Was The Message Of Transformed Lives

- 1. It was not some feel good faith
- 2. It was a faith rooted in truth
- 3. Their joy was in the Lord *Nehemiah 8:10b, Philippians 4:4; Matthew 6:21*
- 4. Their idols were being cast aside
- 5. They were looking for the return of Jesus