

# Hope in a Hostile World

The message of 1 Thessalonians



# The founding of the church in Thessalonica

“Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, explaining and proving that the Messiah had to suffer and rise from the dead... Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and quite a few prominent women.

But other Jews were jealous; so they rounded up some bad characters from the marketplace, formed a mob and started a riot in the city.” Acts 17:2-5

**1. They lived out the Christian message**  
**(Conversion results in changed lives)**

**“We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.” V2,3**

1. They lived out the Christian message

2. They gave out the Christian message

(Conversion results in passing the good news of Jesus to others)

**How despite severe suffering could they live out and take out the Christian message to others?**

**V1 because they were safe “in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”**

**V2 because they were prayed for**

**V4 because they had been “chosen by God”**

**V5 because of the power of the Holy Spirit at work in them**

**V6 because of the joy given by the Holy Spirit**

**V10 because they were waiting for the return of Jesus**