

END-TIMES HOLINESS:

Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10: God among false gods

INTRODUCTION:

Question: What does *abortion*, the definition of *marriage*, the *break-down of the family*, *pornography*, the phrase “*you can't judge me*”, the notion that *all religions lead to the same truth*, the *U.S. Constitution*, and your favorite *flavor of ice-cream* all have in common?

Answer: The worship of the god of personal freedom.

We live in a day when it will not be enough for us use the gospel to convince people about the afterlife. This does not mean that such questions are not important but rather not *sufficient* for reaching this generation, nor does it accurately reflect what the apostles and Jesus Himself primarily taught. The real issue for the Apostles and the New Testament writers is this: *which god will you worship?*

SERMON NOTES:

- The gospel-question of the New Testament and our day is this: *what _____ do you _____?*
- Paul _____ GOD for the genuine faith of the Thessalonians.
- The ingredients of genuine faith are an _____ gospel and a _____ witness.
- Genuine faith is the product of worshipping the one _____ God.

CONCLUSION: There is only one God, one creator, one judge, one savior. And there is only one, in whose image human beings are made. And there is only one that we are to give our exclusive worship and obedience to. And there is only one, only one, who can put this broken world back together again: *the God who raised our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead!*

End-Times Holiness: *Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians*

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10: God among false gods

Notes

Questions for Reflection:

- 1) The main question the bible poses to us is: which god will you worship? Agree or disagree?
- 2) What was the nature of the conflicts that Paul had in Thessalonica (read Acts 17:1-9)? What does this have to do with worship and false gods?
- 3) What kind of questions do you think you can ask of friends, family, co-workers to find out what the idol of their heart is? How might this help you more effectively share your faith with them?