

DELIVERANCE  
Part 6e  
“Instruments of Deliverance”  
(Deliverance From Wrath)  
1st Thess. 1:10

## INTRODUCTION

Scripture teaches that there is a wrath coming upon the earth in the which God will pour out His wrath upon mankind. John prophesied in the book of Revelation that God is coming to smite the nations:

“ And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?” Rev. 6:15-17

“And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.” -- Rev. 19:15

The wrath described by John will be so challenging that Dr. Luke describes that men’s hearts will fail them for “fear fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth.” -- Lk. 21:26 The apostle Paul wrote to the Thessalonians to encourage them that they were not of those who will experience that wrath. The apostle revealed the reason those saints would not experience it is that Jesus which delivered us from the wrath to come“. -- 1st Thess. 1:10. Today we will examine the Lord’s deliverance of believers from the wrath to come.

- I. THE APOSTLE PAUL AFFIRMED THAT IT WAS THE BELIEF OF THE THESSALONIANS THAT WAS THE BASIS OF HOPE FOR DELIVERANCE FROM THE WRATH TO COME. 1st Thess. 1:9-10
  - A. The Thessalonians turned to God at salvation. Vs. 9
    1. The word “turned” is *epistrephō* (aor. Act. ind.) which is used in Scripture of a pivot from heading in one direction to head in a different direction.
      - a) *Epistrepho* is used to note a physical turn. Cf. Rev. 1:12 (of John turning to see the voice he heard)
      - b) *Epistrepho* is used figuratively to note a change in behavior. Ja. 5:19-20 (of turning a believer back to “the truth”); 2 Pet. 2:20-21; Gal. 4:9 (of those turning back to the pollutions of the world)
      - c) *Epistrepho* is used of salvation in Scripture. Acts 28:27 (translated “converted”- of the Jews being turned)
      - d) *Epistrepho* accompanies repentance. Cf. Acts 26:20

2. The Thessalonian believers had turned “towards God”. cf. Acts 4:24 (of the disciples lifting up their voice towards God in response to persecution); Acts 12:5 (of communication being made towards God for Peter)
3. The origin of the Thessalonians position that they turned from was “from idols.” vs. 9
  - a) The “apo” preposition translated “from” notes the source of the origin of the Thessalonians.
  - b) Idols is articular noting the object of Thessalonians focus before salvation.
    - (1) Serving idols was characteristic of the Gentiles. Acts 15:20; 2 Co. 6:16 (believers warned against being yoked with unbelievers due to their idolatry)
    - (2) Demons are associated with idols. 1st Co. 10:19-20; Rev. 9:20
    - (3) Idols are identified as things in the world system. Rev. 9:20

B. A result of the Thessalonians turn to God was to serve Him as a slave.

1. The apostle Paul uses a “result” infinitive to note the result of the Thessalonians belief. Vs. 9
2. “To serve” is the Greek word douleuo which means “to be a bond servant -- “This word was used in the first century world as a designation of a class of slaves that represented a most abject, servile condition.” Kenneth Wuest cf. Matt. 6:24 (of serving masters); Acts 20:19 (of the service of the apostle Paul); Eph. 6:7 (of the believer do as to the Lord)
3. The Thessalonians turned from serving idols to serving the “living and true” God. vs. 9

C. A result of the Thessalonians turn to God was to await His Son from heaven. vs. 10

1. The word “await” is a compound word made up of:
  - a) The preposition “ana” which commonly means “up”
  - b) The second part of the word is “meno” which means to abide or feel at ease in.
  - c) The definition of anamenein in composition is “**to remain in a place and/or state, with expectancy concerning a future event.**” -- Louw-Nida lexicon
  - d) The use of the present infinitive notes continuous action -- “keep on waiting”
2. The Thessalonians were awaiting for the return of the Father’s Son.
  - a) He is expected “from heaven”
    - (1) “Heaven” is articular noting the third heaven. Cf. Matt. 3:17 (of the voice of the Father from the third heaven)

(2) "From" is the ek preposition noting the origin of His departure.

- b) The Father raised Him out from the dead. Cf. Acts 3:15; 4:10; 13:30
- c) The use of the name Jesus notes the humanity of the Son. cf. Matt. 4:1,7,10 (He could only be tempted in the realm of His humanity)

II. PAUL ASSERTED THAT IT WAS JESUS WHO WAS THE BASIS OF WHY THE THESSALONIANS COULD HOPE TO ESCAPE THE COMING WRATH. 1st Thess. 1:10

A. The phrase "which delivered" is an articular participle of rhuomai.

- 1. Rhuomai is defined as "**to rescue from danger, with the implication that the danger in question is severe and acute.**" Cf. Matt. 27:43 (of the Father rescuing the Son from the cross); Rom. 7:24 (Paul uses of rescue from the sin nature)
- 2. Rhuomai occurs in the present middle participle noting the that
  - a) Jesus is the One delivering believers for Himself. Cf. 1st Thess. 4:16 (the Lord Himself shall descend out from heaven)
  - b) The verb "come" is the erchomai --"**to come from one place to another, and used both of persons arriving; to appear, make one's appearance, come before the public.**" -- Louw-Nida lexicon Rev. 1:4 (of end time events); 2 Thess. 2:1 (the believers will be gathered together to HIm)

B. The use of the word "wrath" is the the Greek word orge.

- 1. There are two words used for wrath in Scripture.
  - a) Thumos -- "**passion, angry, heat, anger forthwith boiling up and soon subsiding again.**" -- Joseph Thayer cf. Lk. 4:28 (of Jews being filled with concerning the Lord); Acts 19:28 (of those in Ephesus being filled with);
  - b) Orge is "**the divine reaction against evil, bringing judgment and punishment both historically and in the future.**" -- Friberg lexicon
- 2. The two words are used together in describing the wrath of God during the Tribulation Period. Rev. 14:10
- 3. Thumos is used in other places in Revelation to describe the wrath of God. cf. Rev. 14:19; 15:1, 7; 16:1; 16:19
- 4. Orge is used with the Greek article to indicate the outward manifestation of God's wrath as meted out in the Tribulation Period
  - a) Justification by Christ's blood results in the believer being saved from "the wrath". Rom. 5:9

- b) Men will attempt to hide from it during the Tribulation Period. Rev. 6:16, 17
- c) His actions in judgment will be from orgee. Rev. 19:15
- d) It will be experienced by those who worship the beast and his image and receive his mark. Rev. 14:9-10

## CONCLUSION