

I Thessalonians

(3) Preaching the Gospel, God's way

1 Thess 2:1-9

1 You know, brothers, that our visit to you was not a failure. 2 We had previously suffered and been insulted in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in spite of strong opposition. 3 For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. 4 On the contrary, we speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts. 5 You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed – God is our witness. 6 We were not looking for praise from men, not from you or anyone else.

As apostles of Christ we could have been a burden to you, 7 but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children. 8 We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us. 9 Surely you remember, brothers, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you. NIV

Having a pure motive...2:1-6

Of what does Paul remind them regarding his experience before coming to Thessalonica? 2:1-2a

In spite of all that, *plus* strong opposition, what had they accomplished? 2:2b; Eph.6:19-20

What does Paul assert next? 2:3 Why?? ICor.9:15-18

Fully aware of God's calling, what *foundational motive* did Paul have? 2:4 ; ITim.6:20

How was this motive demonstrated to the Thessalonians? 2:5-6a see IICor.2:17

Why is this method/motive so 'counter cultural' even today? Comment?? IIPet.2:1-3

Having a pure ministry...2:7-12

What's his reminder to them regarding the presentation of the Gospel? 2:6b-7; IIThess.3:8-9

Far from the 'greedy...' accusations, what accompanied his ministry? 2:8 Why?? IICor.12:15

In stark contrast to 'hucksters', then and now, what was Paul's ministry like? 2:9; **ICor.9:1-18**

Paul now calls them as witnesses. Of what? 2:10 see IICor.6:3

How was this demonstrated? 2:11-12; Acts 5:40-42; ICor.4:14-15; Eph.4:1; Col.1:10

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Having a pure motive...2:1-6

Of what does Paul remind them regarding his experience before coming to Thessalonica? 2:1-2a

We (Paul and company) had suffered (physical beatings), insulting's (public humiliation).

In spite of all that, *plus* strong opposition, what had they accomplished? 2:2b; Eph.6:19-20

With God's help, they dared to tell them of His gospel. He realized this was from God!

What does Paul assert next? 2:3 Why?? ICor.9:15-18

The Gospel message was not a mistake nor in any way manipulative! His enemies charged.

Fully aware of God's calling, what *foundational motive* did Paul have? 2:4 ; ITim.6:20

He was not trying to please men, but rather please God. This is not 'normal' for us...

How was this motive demonstrated to the Thessalonians? 2:5-6a see IICor.2:17

No flattery, no greed (money), not looking for praise from them or anyone else!

Why is this method/motive so 'counter cultural' even today? Comment?? IIPet.2:1-3

Having a pure ministry...2:7-12

What's his reminder to them regarding the presentation of the Gospel? 2:6b-7; IIThess.3:8-9

Paul had Apostolic 'rights' to be supported, but he was gentle, giving rather than taking.

Far from the 'greedy...' accusations, what accompanied his ministry? 2:8 Why?? IICor.12:15

Paul was delighted to share (give away) not only the Gospel of God but their lives as well.

In stark contrast to 'hucksters', then and now, what was Paul's ministry like? 2:9; **ICor.9:1-18**

He worked nights and days in order to not taint the Gospel w/requests for support.

Paul now calls them as witnesses. Of what? 2:10 see IICor.6:3

To witness (recall) how holy, righteous and blameless they were among those believers.

How was this demonstrated? 2:11-12; Acts 5:40-42; ICor.4:14-15; Eph.4:1; Col.1:10

He dealt w/ them as a father, encouraging, comforting, urging to live lives worthy of God.
