

‘For we know, **brothers loved** by God, that he has **chosen** you, because our **gospel** came for you not simply with words, but also with **power**, with the **Holy Spirit** and with **deep conviction**...

...They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead - **Jesus, who rescues us** from the common wrath.’

(1 Thessalonians Chapter 1 verses 4 and 5, 9 and 10.)

“**brothers**” v4

‘I kneel before the Father, from whom his **whole family** in heaven and on earth derives its name’ (Eph 3 v 15)

- **Becoming a Christian** means becoming part of God’s worldwide family- united in Christ

“loved” v4

“How great is the love the Father has lavished (= poured all over) on us that we should be called children of God”
(1 John 3 v 1)

- **Being a Christian** means being loved unconditionally (= whatever we do we are still loved) by God, our Father in Heaven.

“chosen” v4

“from the beginning God chose you to be saved” (2 Thess 2 v 13)

“We love because he first loved us” (1 John 4 v 9)

- We have a choice, but God has **already chosen** us!

“gospel” v5

“the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding his Son” (Romans 1 v 2)

- The **Good News** of Jesus is all the way through the Bible!

“power” v5

“the gospel..is the **power** of God for the salvation of everyone who believes” (Romans 1 v 16)

- The Gospel itself, as written in the Bible, is **dynamite!**

“the Holy Spirit” v5

“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you forever”

“...the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name” (John 14 vs 16 and 22)

- Jesus has **not** left us **alone!**

“**deep conviction**” v5

“the Counsellor... will **convict** the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgement” (John 16 v 8)

- There is no true **conversion** without **conviction** and we can't convict ourselves!

“deep conviction” v5

-is a work of the Holy Spirit

- is central to the gospel

- is something we must all face.

So...

Accused,

Tried,

Found guilty,

Convicted,

Sentenced...

“The Wages of sin is **death**” (Rom 6 v 23)

SINce the Fall (Gen 3) we are all under the sentence of **death**...

- Can anything **save** us from this sentence of death?

YES!

“The **wages of sin** is **death** BUT the **gift of God** is **eternal life** in **Jesus** our Lord” (Rom 6 v 23)

- We can't **save** ourselves but God has given us a way out!

- How can we be **saved**?

- Only through Jesus, the gift of God to the world!

“John saw **Jesus** and said, ‘Look, the **Lamb of God** who **takes away the sin of the world**’ (John 1 v 29)

- Jesus sacrifice of dying in our place **saves us!**

“All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God”
(Rom 3 v 23)

- 1/50 or 49/50? We all fall short/ can never be perfect.

“turned to God from idols” v9

- Our own efforts?
- Our own interests?
- Our own ways?
- Our own understanding?

We need to turn away and repent of anything that is of our-self and not of God .

“to... The Living and True God... and to Jesus... who **rescues** us from the coming wrath” v10

- From false idols to the true God?
- From ourselves to Jesus?
- From death to life?

Only Jesus can **rescue us!**

“Jesus...**rescues** us” v10

- Do you know you need **rescuing**?
- Do you know who can **rescue** you?
- Do you know how **Jesus rescues** you?

Call out to God for his Son **Jesus to be
your rescuer!**