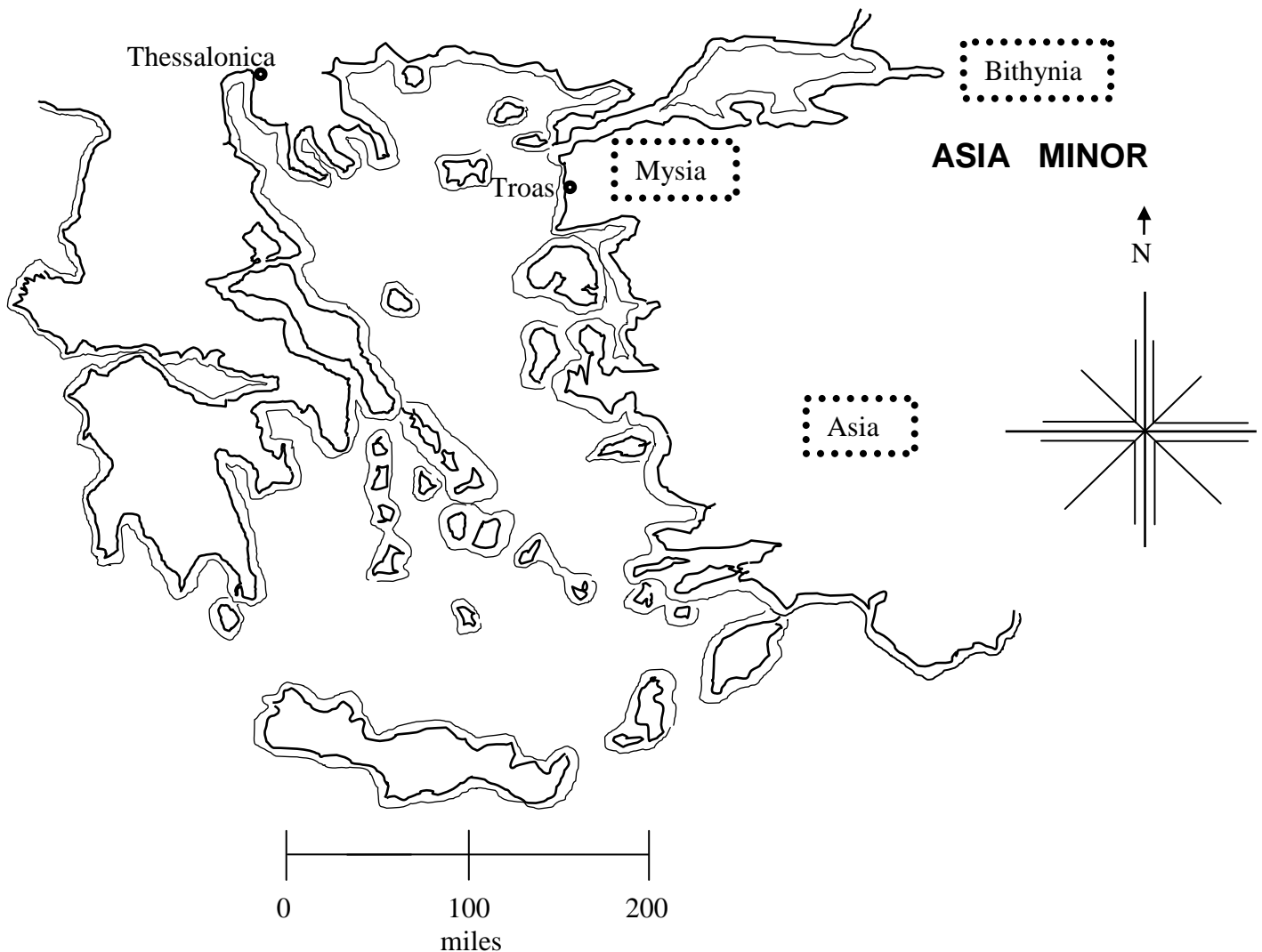


## *letters to Thessalonica*

#1, images, I Thess 1:1-10

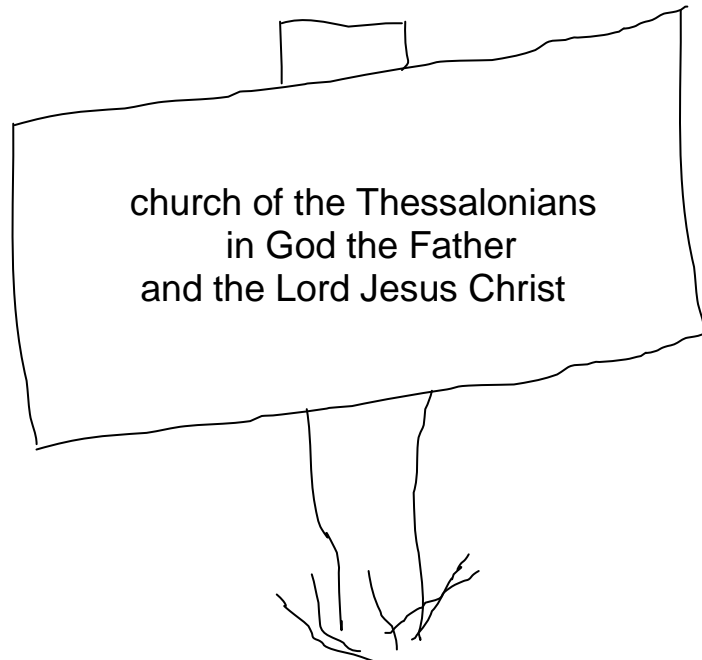
By reading Acts chapter 16 and looking at a map, one could conclude that Paul initially planned to confine his missionary effort in Asia Minor. We read in Acts 16:6, that after ministering some five or six-hundred miles across the continent, Paul was forbidden by the Holy Spirit to work in Asia. Therefore, at Mysia, (v:7) he decided to swing North and go back ministering through Bithynia. Again the Holy Spirit stopped Him. So, the small party went West to the coast at Troas where Paul had a vision. Acts 16:9-10, A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10 When he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

God's plan was to send the gospel to the people across the Aegean Sea. Being obedient to the call, the gospel was spoken in Macedonia. One of the cities, where it was spoken, was Thessalonica.



## *letters to Thessalonica*

#1, images, I Thess 1:1-10



1 Paul and Silvanus (**Silas**) and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

2 We give thanks to God always for all of you, making mention of you in our prayers; 3 constantly bearing in mind your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father,

[1.] v:1, the church, **If the true Thessalonian believers put up a sign like this (above) in front of their church building, why might those who cling to the old covenant consider it offensive?**

[2.] v:2-3, bearing in mind, **During his prayers what three things did Paul remember that characterized the Thessalonians?**

[3.] question [2.], work and labor, **In you own words, write down, what you feel is the difference between work of faith and labor of love.**

*letters to Thessalonica*

#1, images, I Thess 1:1-10

4 knowing, brethren beloved by God, *His* choice of you;

[4.] question [3.] , In your congregation, which best describes the labor of a deaconess?

[5.] v:2-3 again, The job of S.S. teacher can be very thankless. Under which of the three characteristics would you put this task?

[6.] v:4, *His* choice, When were these Thessalonian brethren chosen?

[7.] question [6.], When were you chosen?

[8.] question [6.] again, Which Bible doctrine is this?

.....  
• Before we look at verses 5-10, let's review Rom 8:29, For those whom He foreknew, He also  
• predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn  
• among many brethren;  
• .....

[9.] Rom 8:29, For those whom He foreknew, Recalling questions [6.] & [7.], identify these people.

[10.] v:29 again, predestined to become conformed. Conformed to whom?

## *letters to Thessalonica*

#1, images, I Thess 1:1-10

5 for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. 6 You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit,

[11.] Rom 8:29 again, many brethren, Choose the description that best describes who these are.

a) Republicans

b) Americans

c) Those of the new covenant.

d) Baptists

e) Only Paul and the brethren at Thessalonica.

[12.] v:29 again, Yes, I know we are not supposed to judge, but what would you conclude about someone who professed Christianity all their life but was never conformed to Christ?

[13.] v:5-6, imitators of us, Along with Paul, of who else did the Thessalonians become imitators?

[14.] v:5-6 again, Why was it important for Paul to always be an example of Christ to others?

[15.] question [14.], How much sin was acceptable in Paul's imitation of Christ?

## *letters to Thessalonica*

#1, images, I Thess 1:1-10

7 so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. 8 For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith toward God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything. 9 For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God, 10 and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.

[16.] v:7-10, you became an example, List some things that were the result of the Thessalonian's Christianity?

[17.] v:7-10 again, Achaia, On your map (pg#1) locate and identify Achaia as well as Macedonia.

[18.] v:10, wait for His Son, In obeying this instruction, what are we supposed to do?

[19.] v:10 again, *that is* Jesus, Along with conforming us (Rom 8:29), what else does Christ do?

[20.] Something to think about. Considering the concept of images (Rom 8:29), if God has a will and purpose for your life, what is it?

*letters to Thessalonica*

#1, images, I Thess 1:1-10

**NOTES**