

An aerial photograph of a zebra crossing on a city street. The crossing consists of alternating black and white horizontal stripes. Several pedestrians are walking across the crossing. In the top left, the lower legs and feet of two people are visible. In the top right, a man in a striped shirt and khaki pants is walking, looking down at his phone. In the middle left, a person in a light green shirt and dark pants is walking, carrying a white bag. In the middle right, a person in a black t-shirt and dark shorts is walking, carrying a brown bag. In the bottom left, a person in a white t-shirt and dark shorts is walking. In the bottom middle, a person in a plaid shirt and light pants is walking, carrying a bag. In the bottom right, a person is walking, holding a blue and white checkered umbrella. The shadows of the pedestrians are cast onto the white stripes of the crossing, indicating a bright, sunny day.

# LAST DAYS LIVING

A STUDY IN I & II THESSALONIANS

**“Pleasing God with How We Relate to One Another”  
Part VI**

**I THESSALONIANS 5:22**

- a. On Sexual Purity (4:3-8)
- b. On Loving the Brethren (4:9-12)
- c. On the Reality of Future Events (4:13-18)
- d. On the Day of the Lord (5:1-11)

## **Ways We Please God**

**e. On How We Relate to One Another (12-22)**

1. On How We Recognize Leaders (5:12-13)
2. On Shepherding Others (5:14)
3. On Nonretaliation (5:15)
4. On Rejoicing (5:16)
5. On Regular Prayer (5:17)
6. On Gratitude (5:18)
7. On Testing the Spirits (5:19-21)
- 8. On Responding to Evil (5:22)**

**Ways We Please God**

## KEY POINT:

We please God by shunning what is evil.

*Repay no one evil for evil,  
but give thought to do what is honorable  
in the sight of all.*

**Romans 12:17**

*for we aim at what is honorable not only in the  
Lord's sight but also in the sight of man.*

**II Corinthians 8:21**

- a. from a Greek word that can mean
  - 1) “to receive” (Matt 6:2, 5, 16)
  - 2) “to be away, to be distant” – how Paul is using it here
  
- b. Other usages – Matthew 14:24; 15:8; Mark 7:6;  
Luke 15:20

## The Word “*Abstain*”



*For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh.*

*Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist. Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward.*

*Everyone who goes on ahead and does not ...*

**II John 7-11**

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*Everyone who goes on ahead and does not ...*

**II John 7-11**

*... abide in the teaching of Christ,  
does not have God. Whoever abides in the  
teaching has both the Father and the Son.  
If anyone comes to you and does not bring this  
teaching, do not receive him into your house or  
give him any greeting, for whoever greets  
him takes part in his wicked works.*

**II John 7-11**

## **KEY POINT:**

**We please God by shunning what is evil.**

- From Greek word meaning “visible form, appearance”
- Only appears 4x in the N.T. - Luke 3:22; 9:29; John 5:37

**The Word “*Form*”**

“The things we are taught to seek or avoid in prayer, we should equally pursue or avoid in action. We should with sincerity avoid temptation, seeking to walk so guardedly in the path of obedience that we may never tempt the devil to tempt us. We are not to enter the jungle in search of the lion. We might pay dearly for such presumption. This lion may ...”



**Charles Spurgeon**

“... cross our path or leap upon us from the jungle, but we have nothing to do with hunting him.

He that meets with him, even though he wins the day, will find it a tough struggle.

Let the Christian pray that he may be spared the encounter. Our Savior, who had experience of what temptation meant, thus earnestly ...”



**Charles Spurgeon**

“... admonished His disciples, “Pray that you do not enter into temptation.”

But let us do as we will, we shall be tempted; hence the prayer, “deliver us from evil.” God had one Son without sin; but He has no son without temptation. The natural man is born to trouble as the sparks fly upward, and just as certain the Christian man is born to temptation. We must be ...”



**Charles Spurgeon**



“... always on our watch against Satan because, like a thief, he gives no intimation of his approach.

Believers who have had experience of the ways of Satan know that there are certain seasons when he will most probably make an attack, just as at certain seasons bleak winds may be expected; thus the Christian is put on a double guard ...”



**Charles Spurgeon**

“... by fear of danger,  
and the danger is averted by  
preparing to meet it.  
Prevention is better than  
cure: It is better to be so well  
armed that the devil will not  
attack you than to endure  
the perils of the fight even  
though you come off a  
conqueror. Pray this evening  
first that you may not be ...”



**Charles Spurgeon**

“... tempted, and then if temptation be permitted, pray that you may be delivered from the evil one.”



**Charles Spurgeon**

*“I have made a covenant with my eyes;  
how then could I gaze at a virgin?”*

**Job 31:1**



*“Beware of false prophets,  
who come to you in sheep’s clothing but  
inwardly are ravenous wolves.*

**Matthew 7:15**

**Discernment is “the ability to  
make correct judgments”  
(Ps 119:125).**

*Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths.  
Rather train yourself for godliness;*

**I Timothy 4:7**



- a. By being humble (Prov 1:7)
- b. By knowing the importance of truth  
(John 14:6; Ps 19; 119; II Tim 4:3)
- c. By immersing yourself in Scripture (Ps 119:97; 19:7)
- d. By learning to interpret Scripture correctly (II Tim 2:15)
- e. By asking for it (Jas 1:5-6)
- f. By investing time with others who are discerning  
(Prov 13:20)

## **How to Build Discernment**

## **KEY POINT:**

**We please God by shunning what is evil.**

*Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more.*

**I Thessalonians 4:1**