

# **“Hearts Without Blame”**

## **(1Thessalonians 3:11-4:2)**

- A. Prayer for reunion and increased love (1Th. 3:11-13)**
- B. Excel still more (1Th. 4:1-2)**

## A. Prayer for reunion and increased love (1Th. 3:11-13)

1. (vs. 11) This is a simple request reflecting a very real wish in the heart of Paul.
  - a. The appeal is to both, “our God and Father Himself and Jesus our Lord.”
  - b. The *content* of the appeal is that God would “direct our way to you”

2. (vs. 12) More appeals follow: “may the Lord cause you”
  - a. “to increase”
  - b. “and abound in love”
    - “for one another,”
    - “and for all men”
      - “just as we also do for you”

3. (vs. 13) Here is the purpose for the requested reunion and love:

a. “so that He may establish your hearts”

➤ “without blame in holiness”

■ “before our God and Father”

■ “at the coming of our Lord Jesus”

○ “with all His saints.”

## B. Excel still more (1Th. 4:1-2)

1. (vs. 1) “Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus”
  - “that as you received from us instruction as to how you ought to walk and please God”
    - “just as you actually do walk,”
  - But there is still room for improvement: “that you excel still more.”

**1. (vs. 2) The Thessalonians are not unaware of how to excel still more:**

- **“For you know what commandments we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.”**