## "The Thessalonians Were Exemplary" (1Thessalonians 1:6-10)

- A. As excellent imitators, they became exemplary to others (1Th. 1:6-7).
- B. They were exemplary in sounding forth the word (1Th. 1:8).
- C. Their good example resounded back to Paul (17h. 1:9-10).

- A. As excellent imitators, they became exemplary to others (1Th. 1:6-7).
  - 1. (vs. 6) The difference in their lives: They "became imitators of us and of the Lord," &
    - it happened in difficult times; "having received the word in much tribulation," but notice that it was still "with the joy of the Holy Spirit,"

- 2. (vs. 7) The result of proper imitation was that they, "became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia."
  - > It is extremely important whom we imitate.
  - > We all share that concern re: our children!



- B. They were exemplary in sounding forth the word (1Th. 1:8).
  - 1. Paul here is confirming the wide influence of the testimony of the Thessalonians: "For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia," locations relatively nearby,
  - 2. "but also in every place your faith toward God has gone forth" more remote areas.

- 3. People most everywhere had heard of their faith;
  - Paul didn't need to give a missionary report on this church.

- C. Their good example resounded back to Paul (1Th. 1:9-10).
  - 1. (vs. 9a) Paul can verify what he said in vs. 8 from the reports from other areas; "For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, meaning that they let the Word have its full effect, not only in salvation, but beyond in Christian living;
  - 2. (vs. 9b) "and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God,"

- 3. (vs. 10a) While they were serving, they were also waiting, "for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus," and it is He,
- 4. (vs. 10b) "who rescues us from the wrath to come," that is, the tribulation period.