**Thessalonians Background**

**Writer:**

Paul

**To:**

Church at Thessalonica - This city was founded towards the end of the century after Alexander’s death in 332 BC. The city was at the junction of the northern trade route. The church was founded on Paul’s 2nd missionary Journey.

**I Thessalonians - Date:** 50 or 51 AD

**Themes:**

To settle questions of the young church

* Lax morally in pagan culture – 4:3-7
* Some had died and there were questions – 4:13
* Some had given up work waiting for the second coming – 4:9-12
* Paul defends himself – 2:1-6,10,14-16

**II Thessalonians – Date:**  51 AD – Shortly after I Thessalonians

**Themes:**

* Persecution - 2:2
* Last days – 2:2
* Idle and disorderly 3:6-12