



1. Who is the writer and/or speaker ?
2. When was it written and/or said ?
3. To whom was it written and/or spoken ?
4. What are the major natural divisions ?
5. What is the repeated key word ?
6. What simple sentence sums it all up ?
7. What is an application to my life today ?

Study questions for 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

(Remember to find the answers in the verses under consideration !)

Vs 12-13a The Greek word "But," is a good "sign post" of a new division in the text. The rest of this letter is a list of exhortations to the brothers, not more revelation on future events. **Who** are the first men about whom Paul writes ? Are they to be "esteemed" because of their rank or official title ?

Vs 13b-14a **What** kind of relationship must Christian brothers have ?

V 14b **Why** must we be extra patient with some brothers in the Lord ?

V 15 **How** can Christian brothers overcome the temptation of vengeance ?

V 16 **When** is it okay to be depressed or have a "pity party" for yourself ? Is joy the same as happiness ?

V 17 **Where** is it inappropriate to pray ? Can an employer or a government tell us not to pray ?

V 18a **What** is the third habit to cultivate in this trilogy of vs16-17 ?

V 18b Correctly preceded by a semi-colon, this phrase encompasses vs16-17. **For whom** is this the will of God ? Notice the expression "you in Christ Jesus".

Vs 19-20 These two verses have been wrongly used to defend "open revelation" by trying to make them into one sentence with a semi-colon (NASB), but they are two separate commands (ESV). For example, just **how** can we "quench the Spirit" ? Notice the definite article "the" which means it is THE Spirit (of God). It is not "a" spirit of a fellow believer (cf. 1Cor14v32) who might have to be told to keep quiet (cf. 1Cor14v30). So here quenching THE Spirit is telling God to keep quiet when He convicts you. So, **how** can we "quench the Spirit" ?

Vs 20-21 These two verses are correctly translated as one sentence because the Greek word "but" links them. Notice that "prophecies" is the correct translation of the NOUN in Greek. It is NOT a verb as KJV and even NASB translations give the impression. We are not to avoid the study of Biblical prophesy as many churches do. **When** should we not "hold fast" to some interpretations of Biblical prophecies ?

V 22 The KJV is accurate ! **Why** is the Greek word "appearance" is important ?

Vs 23-24 While we are only ONE person, **how many** components do we all have ? This is a key verse to understand Genesis 1v26, showing how our God can be ONE God with three members. Is God concerned about our body as much as our soul according to theses verses?

Vs 25-28 **To whom** was this letter written ? Does this say something about who is responsible to communicate God's Word in a local church ?