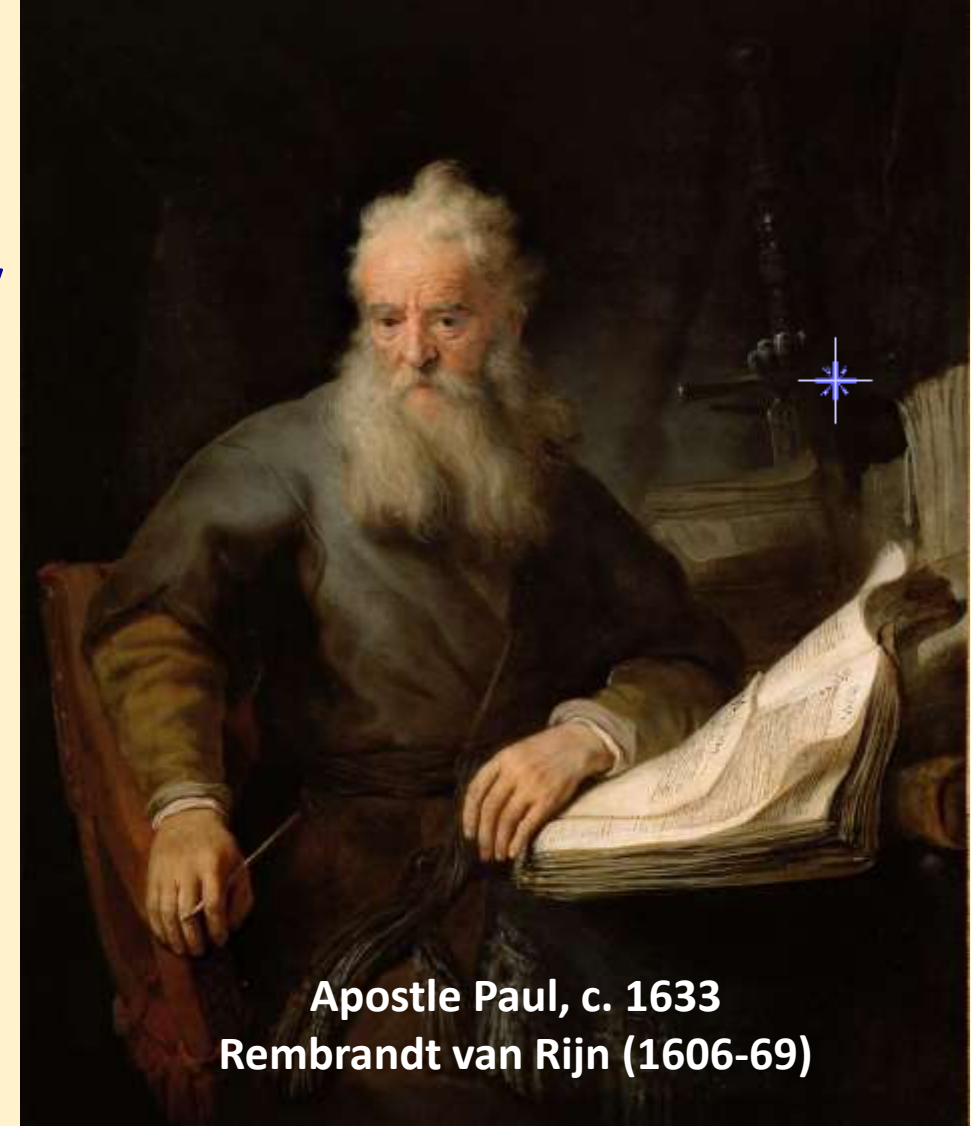


1st Thessalonians 5-1-22

5:23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Commended – 1 Thess 1:1-10
Shared – 1 Thess 2:1-12
Confronted – 1 Thess 2:13-20
Encouraged – 1 Thess 3:1-14
Demonstrated – 1 Thess 4:1-12
Promised – 1 Thess 4:13-18
Returning – 1 Thess 5:1-11
✦ Waiting – 1 Thess 5:12-24



Apostle Paul, c. 1633
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)

FBC Woodville
Sunday School Class

Michael G. Maness
PreciousHeart.net/SS
... [Click Here](#)



The background of the image is a scenic landscape at sunrise. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow over the scene. The sky is a mix of blue and orange. Below the sun, there are rolling hills and a valley filled with a thick layer of white fog. The trees in the valley are dark green and brown. On the left side of the image, there is a large, classical stone column, partially visible, with intricate carvings. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

Alternate Title

Blameless
at
His Coming

**Blameless?
How about a
good
CLEANING?**





Alternate Title #2

9 Verses of Wisdom

**Golden List of
Urgencies**



Paul wraps up his letter in 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through.

May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

24 The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

9 Verses of Wisdom PRECEDE those sagacious words ... then

After **9 Verses of Wisdom**—3 verses close this exquisite book

25 Brothers and sisters, pray for us. **26** Greet all God's people with a holy kiss. **27** I charge you before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers and sisters.

28 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

I hope to show ... or set up ... or craft ... or BUILD a case
That this dear letter of love ... unlike any other ...
Pursues the Thessalonians' hearts ... and our hearts ...



9 Verses of Wisdom ... Golden List of Urgencies

Might seem banal, dry, overdone ... even tedious to us
But to former PAGANS ... used to idolatry & prostitution
Former PAGANS who were new Christians when Paul arrived
To THEM ... these were FRESH words

New Thoughts ... New ... New Wisdom

Hope to set up ... to craft ... to rejuvenate ... to RE-FRESH

Golden List of Urgencies

In preparation to CLOSE Paul gives a gift ...

1 Thess 5:14-22 – **9 Verses of Wisdom**

Nearly poetic ... are a **Golden List of Urgencies**

Almost every organization has a List of Virtues ...

In later letters, Paul gave several Lists of Virtues:

1 Corinthians 12 and Roman 12 Combined		
1. Wisdom	7. Discerning of Spirits	13. Administration
2. Knowledge	8. Tongues	14. Leadership/Ruleth
3. Faith	9. Interpretation Tongues	15. Exhortation
4. Healing	10. Apostleship	16. Giving
5. Miracles	11. Teaching	17. Mercy
6. Prophecy	12. Helping	18. Love w/out Dissimulation ²¹
Add 1 Corinthians 13—Faith, Hope, Love, and Love is the Greatest		





In preparation for my book, *Character Counts*
I compiled a 31 Lists of **LISTS of Virtues** from 31 orgs

Thomas Aquinas' 4 Cardinal Virtues:

Wisdom, Courage, Temperance, Justice

Navy Core Values: **Honor, Courage, Commitment**

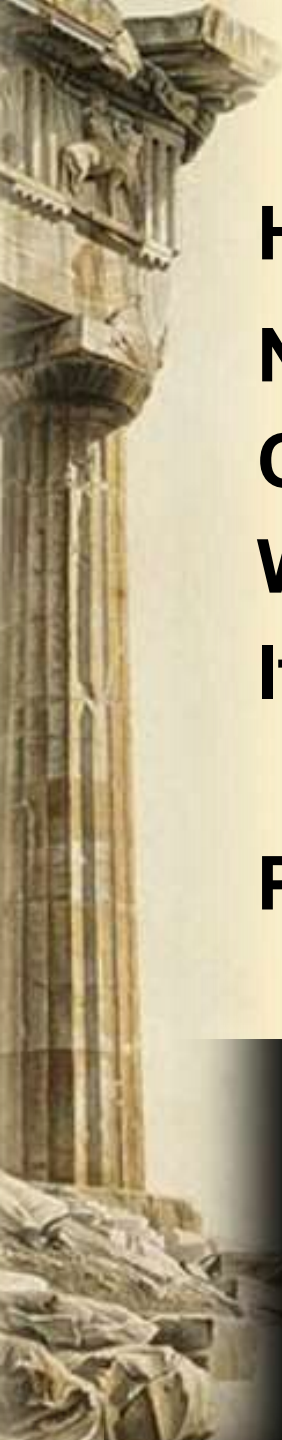
Ben Franklin's 13 Virtues

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Temperance | 6. Industry | 10. Cleanliness |
| 2. Silence | 7. Sincerity | 11. Tranquility |
| 3. Order | 8. Justice | 12. Chastity |
| 4. Resolution | 9. Moderation | 13. Humility |

MANY MORE LISTS OF VIRTUES

www.PreciousHeart.net/fm/Character.pdf





In preparation to CLOSE with the **9 Verses of Wisdom**
Handouts w poem **IF** & the poem of **Tecumseh ... 9 verses**
Not going to labor on the **9 Verses** ... just close with them
Closing of this lesson will be a simple reading of the **9 verses**
What I hope to do HERE ... is prepare you for that reading
If I succeed ... then ... perhaps ... hopefully ... prayerfully
You will have a **GREATER** appreciation
Perhaps ... you will see them **FRESHLY** ... as perhaps the
Thessalonians did in circa A.D. 45

9 Verses of Wisdom

Golden List of Urgencies



Introducing the **9 Verses of Wisdom** is this charge:

1 Thess 5:12-13 ... the “Charge to See” the Helpers

This “Charge to See” fosters THEIR Love for Each Other

¹² Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to **ACKNOWLEDGE** those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you.

¹³ Hold them in the **highest regard in LOVE** because of their work.
Live in peace with each other.

The 9 Verses of Wisdom follow this obvious injunction

Writing from Athens, Paul refers to those who remain

Often 10% of the church does 90% of the Work

Rudyard Kipling wrote a poem **IF** to his son
IF became famous in Britain, even the world
Tribute to Leander Starr Jameson's character
IF is 13th of 23 poems woven in a fantasy book
on contemporary English life ... Here is **IF**:



IF you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,

IF you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;

IF you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,

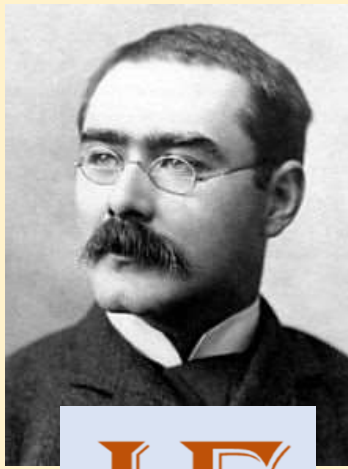
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good,
nor talk too wise:

IF you can dream—
and not make dreams your master;

IF you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;

IF you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;

IF you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,



IF

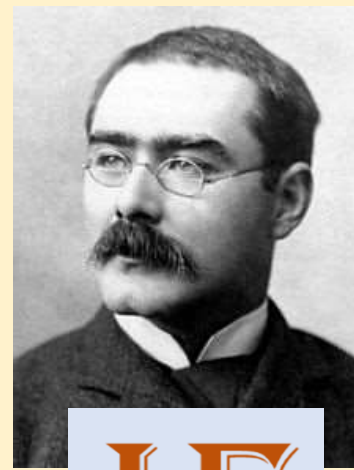


Or watch the things you gave your life to,
broken, And stoop and build 'em up
with worn-out tools:

IF you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;

IF you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,

And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: '***HOLD ON!***'



IF

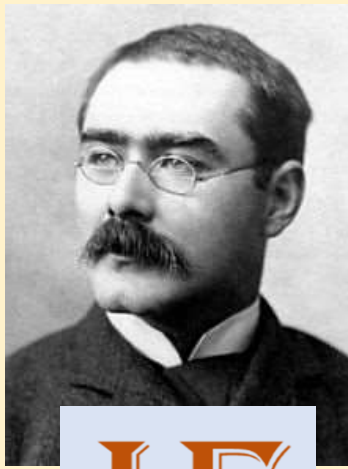
IF you can talk with crowds
and keep your virtue,

Or walk with Kings—
nor lose the common touch,

IF neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;

IF you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,

Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And—which is more—**you'll be a Man, MY SON!**



IF

In preparation to CLOSE with the **9 Verses of Wisdom**
Lest those come off as DRY ... Dead Branches ... Fruitless
Lest **9** come off as superfluous ... like “Blue Sky”
Lest **9** come off as dreary ... “clean your face”
Or “STOP at Stop Signs” ... or ... “Don’t stick your
FINGER in the Electrical Outlet!”
If I succeed ... perhaps ... hopefully ... prayerfully
You will have a **GREAT**ER appreciation ...
Perhaps ... you will see them **FRESHLY** ... as perhaps the
Thessalonians did in circa A.D. 45



9 Verses of Wisdom



What has gone before ...

- 1:1-10 – **Escape the Coming Wrath**
- 2:1-12 – **How Paul Loved, pt 1**
- 2:13-20 – **How Paul Loved, pt 2**
- 3:1-14 – **Your Pastor's Heart**
- 4:1-12 – **How Holy Can You Be?**
- 4:13-18 – **Our Heavenly Rest**
- 5:1-11 – **Day of the Lord ... Are You Woke?**
- 5:12-24 – **Blameless at His Coming**

I'm fairly certain Paul would have been disappointed to see our focus upon **Rapture OVER the Love** in his letter

**Pretty sure Paul
would've PREFERRED
WE had fell
head-over-heels
over the
9 Verses of Wisdom**

What has gone before ...

1:1-10 – **Escape the Coming Wrath**

History & Geography of Cosmopolitan Thessalonica

Paul opened with **Faith, Hope, Love** ...

1:10 **wait for his Son from heaven ... Jesus, who
rescues us from the coming wrath.**

2:1-12 – **How Paul Loved, pt 1** – as nursing mother

2:13-20 – **How Paul Loved, pt 2** – as a brother

though Satan obstructed ...

2:17 **Brothers, although we were torn away from you
for a short time—in person, not in heart**



What has gone before ...

3:1-14 – **Your Pastor's Heart** – THEIR Life was His Life

3:8 For now we really live, since you are
standing firm in the Lord.



4:1-12 – **How Holy Can You Be?** – former Pagans & more

4:13-18 – **Our Heavenly Rest** – Dead in Christ Rise First
We shall be with Him Forever

5:1-11 – **Day of the Lord ... Are You Woke?** – THE Day
Rapture Is 2nd Coming – *Faith, Hope Love*

5:12-24 – **Blameless at His Coming** – gentle reminders
Former Pagans were doing so well ...



Paul wraps up his letter in 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

¹² Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you.

¹³ Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work.

Live in peace with each other.

I suspect Paul is encouraging them to **CONTINUE TO DO**

- ✓ What he believes they are **TRYING** to do ...**
- ✓ What **YOU** are **TRYING** to do ...**
- ✓ What all sincere Christians are **TRYING** to do ...**



Paul prepares to close with

9 Verses of Wisdom

Golden List of Urgencies

If you were here for most of the lessons thus far ...

MUCH more than the Rapture ... *not just* the Rapture

Not even the Rapture alone ... by itself ...

Read closely ... again and again ... **THIS BOOK** is about

LOVING & LIVING in the **LIGHT** of the 2nd Coming

THIS BOOK is about ... Paul encouraging them to

LOVE in the **LIGHT** of the 2nd Coming



That is ... truly ... from beginning to end ...

9 Verses of Wisdom

**Close on HOW to LOVE in the
LIGHT of the 2nd Coming**

Many ways in so many cultures ... even millenniums ...

There is so much encouragement ...

The best have been tireless in giving odes to wisdom

Especially Fathers to Sons

Especially Mothers to Daughters

2012 movie Act of Valor

Based on ACTUAL Acts of Valor

Used active & retired Navy SEALs
Began with rescue of lady CIA Agent

She was tortured ... held by terrorists

BRUTAL movie ... began with
Navy Seal leaving home ...

Detailed LIVES of these VERY, VERY

FEW asked to **FACE KILLERS**

SEAL gives a POEM to another SEAL

He threw himself on a GRENADE

Movie ends at the funeral, then the
POEM read to the SEAL's infant son

THE ONLY EASY DAY WAS YESTERDAY



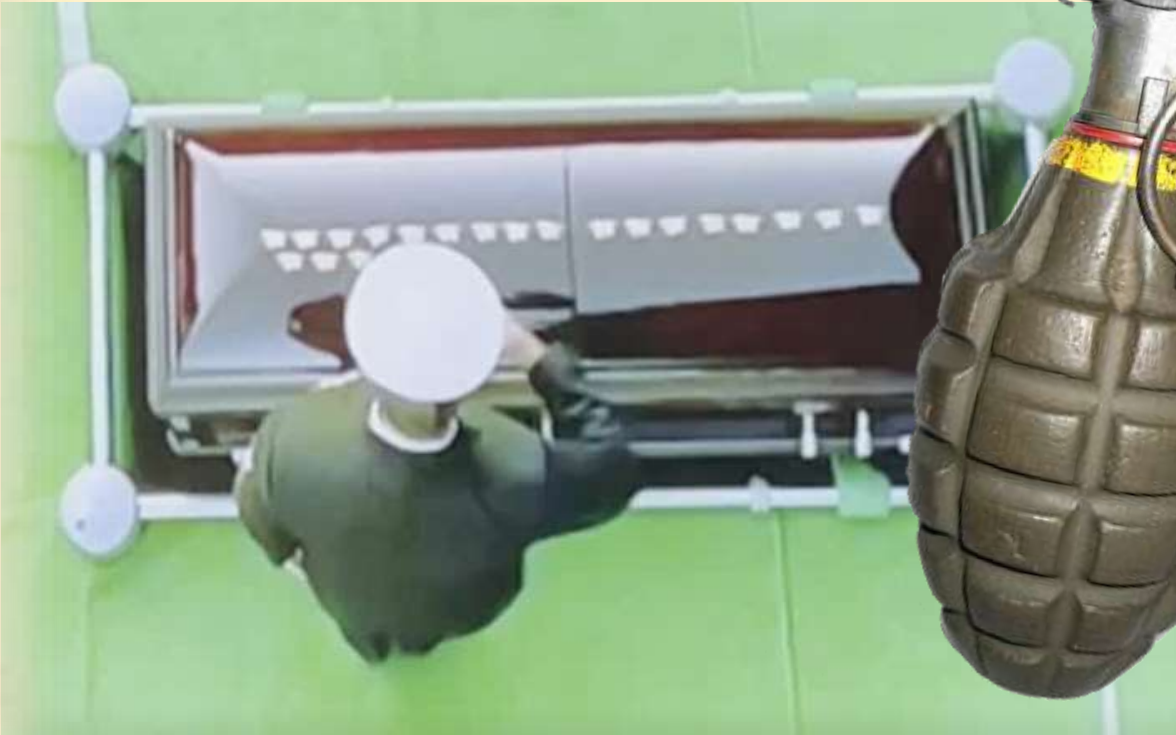
VERY Brave Men



VALOR

At funerals, Navy SEALs push their Tridents **into** coffin

THE ONLY EASY DAY WAS YESTERDAY



This SEAL through himself on a **GRENAD**E to save his brothers

He asks **Poem of Tecumseh** be read



VERY Brave Men

be read to his SON



Poem of Shawnee Chief Tecumseh (1768-1813)

Tecumseh trans. "shooting star" or "blazing comet"

Poem read to
SEAL's son

He fought settlement of America

Formed a Confederacy around Great Lakes

Gifted speaker, strong voice, an eloquent,
strong convictions and unyielding courage.

Fighting with the British in the War of 1812

Tecumseh was killed in the Battle of Thames.

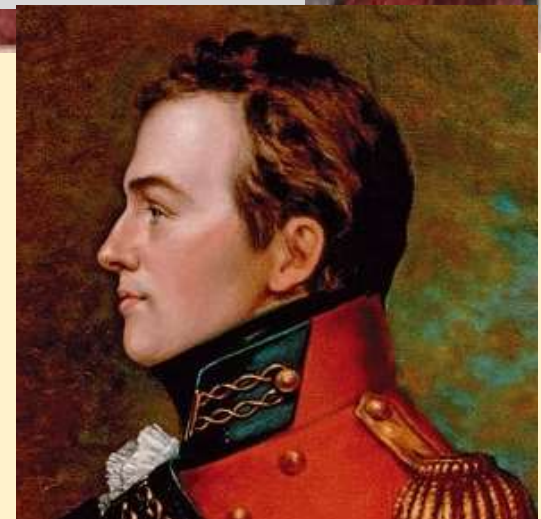
His Confederacy died after him ...

British General Isaac Brock described Tecumseh,

**A more sagacious or a gallant warrior
does not, I believe, exist.**



Painting based on
Benson John Lossing's
1868 engraving.



Tecumseh's poem read to SEAL's Son

**So live your life that the fear of death
can never enter your heart.**

**Trouble no one about their religion;
respect others in their view,
and demand that they respect yours.**

**Love your life, perfect your life,
beautify all things in your life.**

**Seek to make your life long
and its purpose in the service of your people.**

**Prepare a noble death song for the day when
you go over the great divide.**



Painting based on
Benson John Lossing's
1868 engraving.

Chief Tecumseh's poem ...

Always give a word or a sign of salute
when meeting or passing a friend,
even a stranger, when in a lonely place.
Show respect to all people ... grovel to none.
When you arise in the morning give thanks
for the food and for the joy of living.
If you see no reason for giving thanks,
the fault lies only in yourself.
Abuse no one and no thing, for abuse turns the
wise ones to fools and robs the spirit of its vision.
When it comes your time to die, be not like those
whose hearts are filled with the fear of death,



Painting based on
Benson John Lossing's
1868 engraving.

Chief Tecumseh's poem ...

**so that when their time comes
they weep and pray for a little more time
to live their lives over again in a different way.**

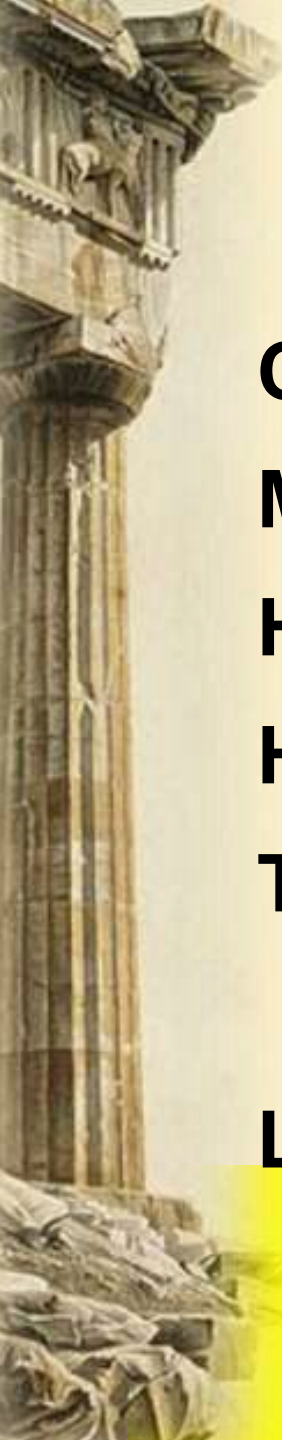
**Sing your death song
and die like a hero going home.**



**Painting based on
Benson John Lossing's
1868 engraving.**



His ***Brother* SEAL**
at the funeral of the
SEAL who through
Himself on a **GRENADE**



1 Thessalonians 5:14-19 – 9 Verses of Wisdom

Golden List of Urgencies

Closes Paul's 1st Letter of **LOVE** to the Thessalonians

More than any other letter, chapters 1-3 ... look closely

How much they **LOVED** him ... and Paul **LOVED** them

He said he was as a “nursing mother” and a “brother”

This was a LETTER of LOVE to encourage ... with

2nd Coming as a Motivation

Love Letter to Encourage them to **CONTINUE** to

LOVE in the **Light** of His Coming

1 Thessalonians 5:14-19 – 9 Verses of Wisdom

Golden List of Urgencies ... like a Poem to his

Sons & Daughters in Thessalonica

Former Pagans ... New Christians ... perhaps, perhaps

They had been struggling Christians for only a few

MONTHS or a YEAR before his 3-Week visit

But HOW VERY MUCH they grew close, close, close

They had become his HEART

We saw the Pastor's Heart ...

Now ... like dear ... precious ... loved family





closes his letter as a Father to his Dearly Loved Child

9 Verses of Wisdom ... Golden List of Urgencies

- ¹⁴ And we urge you, brothers and sisters,
Warn those who are idle and disruptive,
Encourage the disheartened, Help the weak,
Be patient with everyone.**
- ¹⁵ Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but
Always pursue what is good for each other
and for everyone else.**
- ¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ Pray continually,**



closes his letter as a Father to his Dearly Loved Child

**18 Give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.**

19 Do not quench the Spirit.

20 Do not treat prophecies with contempt, but

21 Test them all; Hold on to what is good,

22 Reject every kind of evil.

Golden List of Urgencies