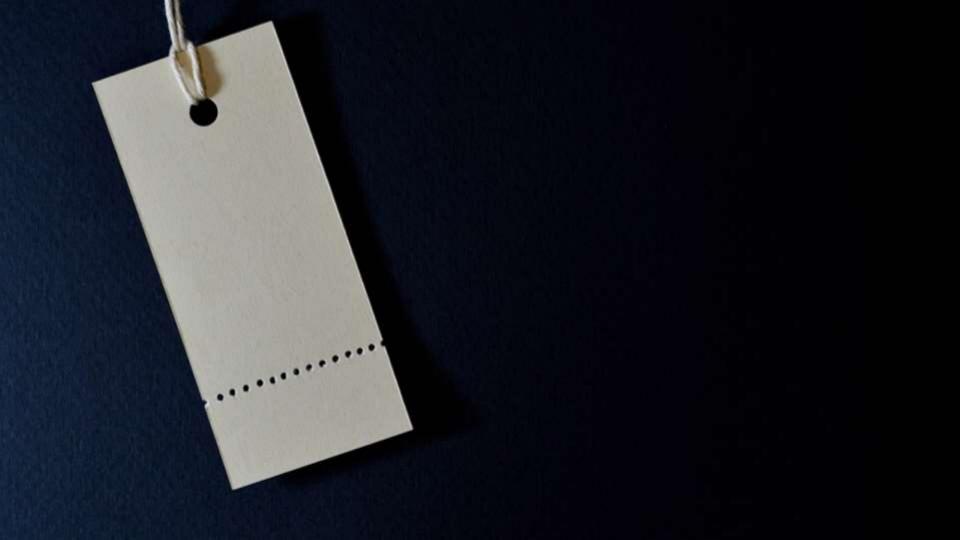
PEOPLE OF HOPE

THESSALONIANS





An Important Turn.

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

1 Paul and Silvanus and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. 2 We give thanks to God always for all of you, making mention of you in our prayers;

3 constantly bearing in mind your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father, 4 knowing, brethren beloved by God, His choice of you; 5 for our

gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. 6 You also became imitators of us and of the

Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit, 7 so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. 8 For the word of the Lord has sounded forth

from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith toward God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything. 9 For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with

you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God, 10 and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.

"exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures."

Romans 1:23 - Idolatry Defined

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1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

A Turn from Something that Shaped Them

15 The idols of the nations are but silver and gold, the work of man's hands. 16 They have mouths, but they do not speak; they have eyes, but they do not see; 17 They have ears, but they do not hear, nor is there any breath at all in their mouths. 18 Those who make them will be like them, yes, everyone who trusts in them.

Psalm 135:15-18

A Turn to Someone Who Shapes Us

A Turn from Something that **Demanded Loyalty**

I swear...that I will support Caesar Augustus, his children and descendants throughout my life in word, deed, and thought...that in whatsoever concerns them I will spare neither body nor soul nor life nor children...that whenever I see or hear of anything being said, planned or done against them I will report it ... and whomsoever they regard as enemies I will attach and pursue with arms and the sword by land and by sea...

-E.A. Judge

A Turn to Someone Who **Deserves Loyalty**

A Turn from What Culture Values

42 Nevertheless many even of the rulers believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they were not confessing Him, for fear that they would be put out of the synagogue; 43 for they loved the glory of men rather than the glory of God.

John 12:42-43

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A Turn to What God Values

Do I Need To Turn?