

# The Fire of the Spirit

Exploring St Paul

*Experience as foundational*



Scripture Summer School 2016

# Welcome

- ★ Contexts
- ★ **Experience (1 Thess and Gal 3 and 4)**
- ★ Experience (Gal 5)
- ★ Belonging (1 Cor 12)
- ★ Spirituality (Rom 8)
- ★ Spirituality (Rom 8)



# Experience (1)

- ★ 1 Thessalonians
- ★ Context / outline
- ★ Teaching on the Spirit
- ★ Galatians
- ★ Context / outline
- ★ Teaching on the Spirit (to be continued)



# 1 Thessalonians

- ★ Earliest Christian document
- ★ Still, based on extensive missionary experiences
- ★ Crisis and challenge to Paul





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## Verses

1:1

1:2-10

2:1-3:13

4:1-12

4:13-5:11

5:12-27

5:28



**Verses**

**Words**

**1:1**

**Greeting**

**1:2-10**

**Thanksgiving**

**2:1-3:13**

**Relationships**

**4:1-12**

**Holiness**

**4:13-5:11**

**Apocalyptic**

**5:12-27**

**Exhortation**

**5:28**

**Greeting**



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Verses	Words	Letter
1:1	Greeting	Prescript
1:2-10	Thanksgiving	Thanksgiving
2:1-3:13	Relationships	Body
4:1-12	Holiness	
4:13-5:11	Apocalyptic	
5:12-27	Exhortation	Conclusion
5:28	Greeting	Postscript



**Verses****Words****Letter****Speech****1:1****Greeting****Prescript****1:2-10****Thanksgiving****Thanksgiving****Introduction (exordium)  
(Thesis: 1:9-10)****2:1-3:13****Relationships****Body****Proof 1 (probatio)****4:1-12****Holiness****Proof 2 (probatio)****4:13-5:11****Apocalyptic****Proof 3 (probatio)****5:12-27****Exhortation****Conclusion****Conclusion (peroratio)****5:28****Greeting****Postscript**

# Teaching

1 Thess 1:4 We know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 in that our gospel did not come to you merely in words, but in power and in the **Holy Spirit** and with deep conviction (surely you recall the character we displayed when we came among you to help you).

1 Thess 1:6 And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, when you received the message with joy that comes from the **Holy Spirit**, despite great affliction.

1 Thess 4:8 Consequently the one who rejects this is not rejecting human authority but God, who gives his **Holy Spirit** to you.

19 Do not extinguish the **Spirit**. 20 Do not treat prophecies with contempt. 21 But examine all things; hold fast to what is good.

1 Thess 5:23 Now may the God of peace himself make you completely holy and may your **spirit** and soul and body be kept entirely blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.



**1 Thess 1:1** From Paul and Silvanus and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace and peace to you!

**1 Thess 1:2** We thank God always for all of you as we mention you constantly in our prayers, **3** because we recall in the presence of our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and endurance of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

**4** We know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has **chosen** you, **5** in that our **gospel** did not come to you **merely** in words, but in **power** and in the **Holy Spirit** and with **deep conviction** (surely you recall the character we displayed when we came among you to help you).

**1 Thess 1:6** And you became **imitators** of us and of the Lord, **when** you received the message with **joy** that comes from the **Holy Spirit**, despite great **affliction**. **7** As a result you became an **example** to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

**8** For from you the message of the Lord has echoed forth not just in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place reports of your faith in God have spread, so that we do not need to say anything.

**1 Thess 4:1** Finally then, brothers and sisters, we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received instruction from us about how you must live and please God (as you are in fact living) that you do so more and more. **2**

For you know what commands we gave you through the Lord Jesus. **3** For this is God's will: that you become holy, that you keep away from sexual immorality, **4** that each of you know how to possess his own body in holiness and honour, **5** not in lustful passion like the Gentiles who do not know God.

**6** In this matter no one should violate the rights of his brother or take advantage of him, because the Lord is the avenger in all these cases, as we also told you earlier and warned you solemnly. **7** For God did not call us to impurity but in holiness.

**8** Consequently the one who rejects this is not rejecting human authority but God, who gives his **Holy Spirit** to you.

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**“The one who listens to you listens to me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects the one who sent me.”**

**(Luke 10:16 NET)**

from sexual immorality, **4** that each of you know how to possess his own body in holiness and honour, **5** not in lustful passion like the Gentiles who do not know God.

**Holy Spirit** to you.

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**1 Thess 5:12** Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who labour among you and preside over you in the Lord and admonish you, 13 and to esteem them most highly in love because of their work.

Be at peace among yourselves. **14** And we urge you, brothers and sisters, admonish the undisciplined, comfort the discouraged, help the weak, be patient toward all.

**15** See that no one pays back evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good for one another and for all. **16** Always rejoice, **17** constantly pray, **18** in everything give thanks. For this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

**19** Do not extinguish the **Spirit**. **20** Do not treat **prophecies** with contempt. **21** But examine all things; hold fast to what is good. **22** Stay away from every form of evil.

# Teaching

1 Thess 1:4 We know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 in that our gospel did not come to you merely in words, but in power and in the **Holy Spirit** and with deep conviction (surely you recall the character we displayed when we came among you to help you).

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# Galatians

- ★ Galatians and Romans: the two great letters
- ★ Complex, with different levels of discussion: narrative, biographical, appeal to experience, technical argument and so forth.
- ★ Context: Galatia mission and intruders



# Layout

<i>Verses</i>	<i>Words</i>	<i>Letter</i>	<i>Speech</i>
1:1-5	Greeting	Prescript	
1:6-10	Attack on the intruders		Introduction (exordium)
1:11-12	Topic		Thesis
1:13-2:21	History	Body	Proof 1
3:1-4:7	Covenant fulfilment		Proof 2
4:8-5:12	Law v. freedom		Proof 3
5:13-6:10	Freedom in the Spirit		Proof 4
6:11-17	Boasting in the cross	Conclusion	Peroration
6:18	Greeting	Postscript	



★ spirit (2)

★ Gal 6:1 restore such a person in a **spirit** of gentleness.

★ Gal 6:18 of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your **spirit**,

★ Spirit (16)

★ Gal 3:2 Did you receive the **Spirit** by doing the works of

★ Gal 3:3 Although you began with the **Spirit**, are you now

★ Gal 3:5 God then give you the **Spirit** and work miracles

★ Gal 3:14 could receive the promise of the **Spirit** by faith.

★ Gal 4:6 God sent the **Spirit** of his Son into our hearts

★ Gal 4:29 persecuted the one born according to the **Spirit**,

★ Gal 5:5 For through the **Spirit**, by faith, we wait

★ Gal 5:16 live by the **Spirit** and you will not carry out the

★ Gal 5:17 flesh has desires that are opposed to the **Spirit**, the **Spirit** has desires that are opposed to

★ Gal 5:18 But if you are led by the **Spirit**, you are not under

★ Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the **Spirit** is love, joy, peace

★ Gal 5:25 If we live by the **Spirit**, let us also behave in let us also behave in accordance with the **Spirit**.

★ Gal 6:8 one who sows to the **Spirit** will reap eternal life to the **Spirit** will reap eternal life from the **Spirit**.



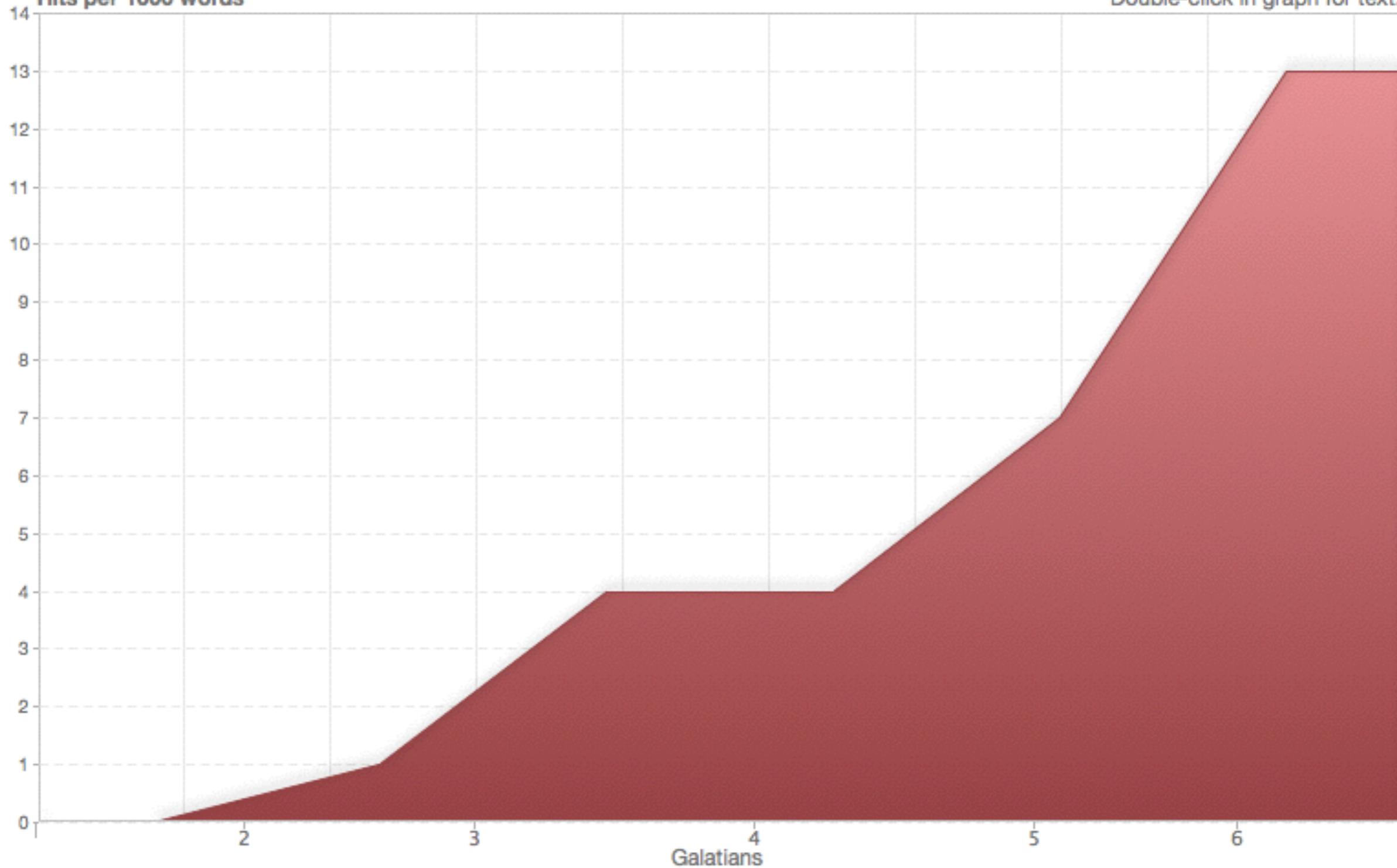
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● πνεῦμα



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# Teaching

- ★ God's faithfulness
- ★ Centrality of the Cross
- ★ Priority of the Spirit



# Teaching

- ★ Faithfulness of God through the faithfulness of Jesus
- ★ Faith of the believer built on the faithfulness of Jesus
- ★ Given to each believer through the Holy Spirit
- ★ We look at the key passages in 3 and 4



# Teaching

Gal 3:1 You foolish Galatians! Who has cast a spell on you? Before your eyes Jesus Christ was **vividly portrayed** as crucified! 2 The only thing I want to learn from you is this: Did you **receive** the **Spirit** by doing the works of the law or **by believing what you heard**? 3 Are you so foolish? Although you

began with the **Spirit**, are you now trying to finish by human effort (lit. **flesh**)? 4 Have you **suffered/experienced** so many things for nothing?—*if indeed it was for nothing*. 5 Does God then give you the **Spirit** and work **miracles** among you by your doing the works of the law or **by your believing what you heard**?



# Teaching

Gal 3:1 You foolish began with the **Spirit**, are you Galatians! Who has cast a now trying to finish by human

**For I am sure of this very thing, that the one who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.**

**(Philippians 1:6 NET)**

what you heard? 3 Are you works of the law or **by your** so foolish? Although you **believing what you heard?**



# Teaching

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# Teaching

Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as if it were coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God, who made us adequate to be servants of a new covenant not based on the letter but on the Spirit, for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

(2Corinthians 3:5-6 NET)



# Teaching

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# Teaching

Gal 4:1 Now I mean that the **heir**, as long as he is a **minor**, is no different from a **slave**, though he is the owner of everything. 2 But he is under **guardians and managers** until the **date** set by his father. 3 So also **we**, when we were minors, were enslaved under the basic forces of the world. 4 But when the **appropriate time had come**, God sent out his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we may be **adopted** as sons with full rights. 6 And because you are sons, God sent the **Spirit** of his Son into our **hearts**, who calls "**Abba! Father!**" 7 So you are no longer a slave but a **son**, and if you are a son, then you are also an heir through God.



# Teaching

Gal 4:1 Now I mean that the heir, as long as he is a minor, is

## Sending of the Son

1. God sent forth his Son,
2. born of a woman, born under the Law
3. that we might receive our instatement as sons.

## Seeing of the Spirit

1. Now, because you are sons,
2. God has sent forth the Spirit . . .
3. crying 'Abba, Father!'

and if you are a son, then you are also an heir through God.



# Teaching

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# Teaching

Rom 5:1 Therefore, since we have been declared righteous by **faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in the **hope** of God's glory. 3 Not only this, but we also rejoice in sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance, character, and character, hope. 5 And hope does not disappoint, because the **love** of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.



# Teaching

- ★ Trust your experience
- ★ The intruders added nothing
- ★ Notice: faith and the Spirit were fully active *before* the ritual law was imposed
- ★ Interiorised by the Holy Spirit in each believer



# Teaching

- ★ Holy Spirit as power and joy
- ★ Holy Spirit as gift
- ★ Holy Spirit experienced through *the* gifts, which are not to be extinguished
- ★ Holy Spirit independent of the Law and its regulations
- ★ Poured into the heart of all believers
- ★ Registered in prayer: Abba, father



# And so...

- ★ Does this teaching speak to me?
- ★ Does this teaching speak to us as a community of faith?

