

First Thessalonians 2:9-12
The Shepherd's Integrity—part 2
Paul's Reminiscences—1:2-2:16
Personal Comments—1:1-3:13

Introduction: Don't forget the 4-fold use of "know" in 2:1-12

- 1) Paul reminds the believers of the strenuous nature of his work—2:9 ⁹ *For you^{pl} remember, brothers,*
 - a) The spheres of his work
 - i) In both his business and his church related activity
 - b) The difficulties of his work
 - i) Emphasis on fatigue—*our exhausting labor* [*kopos*]
 - ii) Emphasis on external difficulties—*and hardship* [*mochthos*].
 - iii) Cf. 2nd Corinthians 11:27; 2nd Thessalonians 3:8
 - c) The description of his work—*For ...*
 - i) What was done? *we preached* [*kerusso*] *to you^{pl} the gospel of God.*
 - (1) Cf. Matthew 26:13; Mark 13:10; 14:9; 16:15; Galatians 2:2; Colossians 1:23
 - ii) How was this done? *by working night and day*
 - (1) While maintaining a side job to support himself financially
 - iii) Why was this done? *so that we might not be a (financial) burden to any of you^{pl},*
- 2) Paul reminds the believers of the consistent nature of his ministry—2:10-12
 - a) Two or more necessary witnesses—¹⁰ *You^{pl} are witnesses* [*martus*], *and so is God,*
 - b) Paul's behavior was above reproach—*how ... we behaved toward you^{pl} who believe* [pres. act. ptc.];
 - i) Positively
 - (1) *Devoutly* [*hosios*]—with superior moral qualities before God
 - (2) *and uprightly* [*dikaios*]—in accordance with God's standard, with integrity
 - ii) Negatively
 - (1) *and blamelessly* [*amemptos*]—faultless, without guilt
 - c) Paul's paternal behavior—¹¹ *just as you^{pl} know* ④ *how we treated ...*
 - i) Individually and collectively—*each one of you^{pl}*
 - ii) Paternally—*like a father with his own children* [*teknon*] (cf. mother in 2:7)
 - iii) Lovingly and authoritatively
 - (1) *exhorting* [*parakaleo*] *you^{pl}*—to come alongside and say what needs to be said
 - (2) *and encouraging* [*paramutheomai*],—to rouse, to console or cheer up
 - (3) ¹² *and imploring* [*marturomai*] *you^{pl}*—to make demands, to urge concerning a matter of great importance
 - iv) Godwardly—*to walk* [*peripateo*] *in a manner worthy* (appropriate to the dignity and standards) *of the God who calls you^{pl} into His own kingdom and glory.*
 - (1) The kingdom will be the unhindered visible display of the radiance of His glory.
- 3) Application
 - a) The pastor ought to live so that his life will bear close inspection. (A. T. Robertson)
 - b) To demean or tear down such a ministry as this meant the accusers were either ignorant or lying.