## "The Ultimate Return on Investment"

Sunday, May 16, 2021, 10:30 a.m.
Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI
Pastor Jonathan DeCou
1 Thessalonians 2:17-20

**BIG IDEA**: I can invest now and gain eternal dividends.

"For who is our...crown of boasting...Is it not you? Indeed you are our glory and joy." 1 Thessalonians 2:19, 20

- Manage your principle assets wisely. (v17, 18a)
  - O What is our most valuable asset?
  - O How do we invest this asset?
- Expect adversarial trends. (v18b)
  - O Who is behind downturns in our investment?
  - O What effect do these downturns have?
- Anticipate a guaranteed high rate of return. (v19, 20)
  - What <u>rate</u> of <u>return</u> can I <u>expect</u>?
  - O When can I expect it?

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READ: 1 Thessalonians 2:17-20

**THINK**: Think on Paul's "investment prospectus" here, then ask yourself these questions: When and where has homesickness struck you? How did you deal with it? What do you think of Paul's use of the words "us" and "we" in this passage? In addition to identifying with the Thessalonians as a "mother" figure (2:7), a "father" figure (2:11), Paul identifies with the Thessalonians as their "brother"; how does that make you feel? How is Satan an adversary to God, His work and His People? How does Satan hinder the Church today? Why did Paul call the Thessalonian Church his "hope"? His "joy"? His "glory"? His "crown"? What does Paul anticipate at the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, good news or bad news?

**DO**: Evaluate your level of investment in people for eternal purposes and goals. Write down in your journal or Bible what reward you expect when you see Jesus.