

Walter Cummins

Walter turns 40 on Saturday.

Biblically speaking the number 40 means the end of the abeyance period of your life.  
At 40 Moses quit his job in Egypt and went into the wilderness.  
At 40 Dr. quit the church.

When you turn 40 you look back at your life and wonder if what you have been doing with your life has been the right thing.

---

I Thessalonians 4:1 – Now we are changing. This is a new “40 years” (“Holiness” is a key in vs. 3:11-13 it emphasizes that we will be perfect at the coming) those verses close out chapters 1-3. Chapter 4 verse 1 is a whole new thing.

I Thessalonians 4:1 – loipon – furthermore (Eph 6:10 finally) – Now then, in addition to what has been said before. It takes note of all revelation before and adds onto that, i.e. “I have this to add”.  
Erotao – beseech – ask, request, very imploring almost begging.  
Parakaleo – exhort – encourage to a more worthy endeavor.  
Lord Jesus – emphasis on Lordship

By speaking in tongues you really make Jesus Christ Lord.

There are three Lordships:

1. Jesus Christ as Lord as proved by speaking in tongues
2. Lordship of the Word – rather than you
3. Lordship of love – Love activated and motivates all three of these and ties into this context.

I Thessalonians 3:12 – Love abounds because you have the Word living in your life

I Thessalonians 4:1 – “to walk and to please” – these two words are saying the same thing. If you walk according to the Word you will please God.  
FOS hendiadys – two words given with only one meant. Literally “walk pleasingly”.  
Some texts add another phrase: “Even as you do walk” not in the Stevens or Peshitta text but in older texts.  
They were already doing it, walking pleasingly but Paul wanted them to increase more and more.  
Perisseuo – abound – to increase, or progress where you continue to grow abundantly keep piling it up.

I Thessalonians 4:2 – parangelia – commandments – a charge or command or instruction not so much written rules or laws. (The charge is capsulized in verses 3-7)

by – by means of revelation

The Lordship of Jesus Christ is again emphasized

4:3 – hagasmas – sanctification – holiness, set apart.

Spiritually we are set apart but this deals with getting it into your walk. God wants our holiness to stand out; he wants us to be seen so that we can be the good example.

Abstain – hold yourself

Fornication – porreia – sexual immorality, but also spiritual immorality, whoring around has to do with joining yourself with a bunch of others. Can apply to other things besides sex. When you are not set apart for God alone.

4:4 – possess – exercise self-control

vessel – your own body, FOS hypocatastasis – implied comparison

II Timothy 2:20 – FOS hypocatastasis good comparison

I Timothy 4:4, 5 – sanctify – same as before

We need to exercise self-control to stay set apart.

Honor – time – value, price, and/or honor.

The value of something sets the price.

I Corinthians 6:15-17 – Don'tcha know! You must exercise control.

6:18 – flee fornication – It is a small sexual act in the Bible.

**If you don't keep your own body in good order you will be sinning against the body of Christ.**

I Corinthians 6:19 – Your body is yours to take care of but it is the temple of the Holy Spirit. When it is Christ in you, what do you think that means? It's not just a quaint little saying. The Word means what it says and says what it means remember. We were bought with a price, and the price was very high so we must be valuable. We chose to believe and to make Christ Lord in our life. That means that we also take the responsibility of taking care of our bodies and walking set apart.

Colossians 2:20-23 – “Satisfying the flesh” is neither honorable nor wise nor does it show humility it is in fact neglectful of the body and therefore a sin against the body of Christ.

**In your walk what makes you valuable and worth the price paid is *not* whoring around with the world or things of the flesh.**

II Timothy 2:14-21 – Do not mix with the unbelievers too much, they will taint your outlook and pervert the word, and they will cause you to compromise on the Word. You cannot allow yourself to lose your self-control or your honor.

Hebrews 2:7 – Jesus Christ was crowned with glory and honor.

I Thessalonians 4:5 – lust – pathos – ungoverned

Concupiscence – epithumia – inner mind, desire, passions that are normal in you life. (Lust defines what kind of passion i.e. good or bad)

The Gentiles didn't exercise any self-control in their lives. (We aren't just talking about sexual habits here this is passions of all sorts. Basically any passion can be bad if it means that God is not first in your life because the passion or desire is) know – eidon – didn't acknowledge God

**As long as you keep God first you are not letting you passions go outside of God's rules.**

An athlete must be in control of his body and mind or he will not be a winner.

I Thessalonians 4:6 – Go beyond – cross the boundaries or exceed the proper limits.

If you do this in business you swindle or cheat or take advantage of your brother.

In *any* matter – In any way including sexual.

If you do these things against your own brother (in Christ), then Christ will avenge such. The justice here is whether or not you get your rewards/crowns.

4:7 – uncleanness – akatharsia – uncleanness or impurity of thought, all forms of selfishness, mental, physical and spiritual it is the opposite of hagnosmos.

Holiness – hagnosmos – God has not called us to be mixed up with the world.

4:8 – therefore – toigaroun – inspiration conjunction (here and in Heb 12:1 introduces a conclusion with special emphasis) same here.

Despise – (the charges) reject or disregard

“despiset, despiset” – FOS polyptoton – a repetition of the same word in the same sense, but not in the same form: in this case it is a repetition of a verb in two different moods. Indicating a strong affirmation of the thing in motion will surly come to pass.

Greek literal “His Spirit the Holy” – emphasis on the Spirit that makes you holy.

When you walk by the Spirit then you have holiness in your walk and visa versa.

As we maintain our sanctification we will not swindle those who have made a great investment in our lives.

Self-sacrifice must be your passion.

When we follow the charge given we can handle success.

The lifestyle of a believer is an aspect of service.