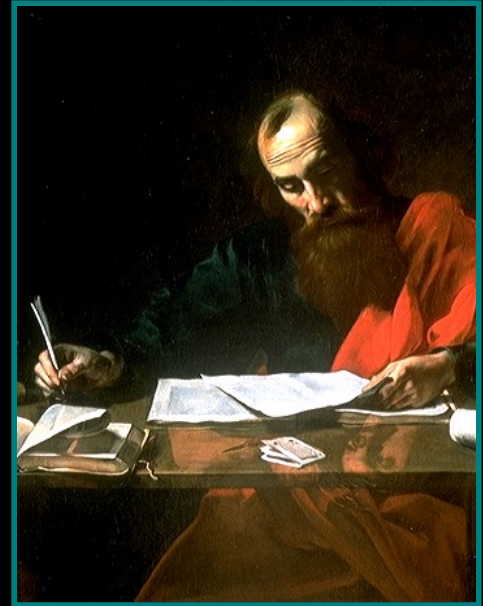


# Reading Paul's Letters



# Paul and His Letters

- Letter-writing in antiquity
  - An oral message
  - Carried by a representative
  - Personal presence

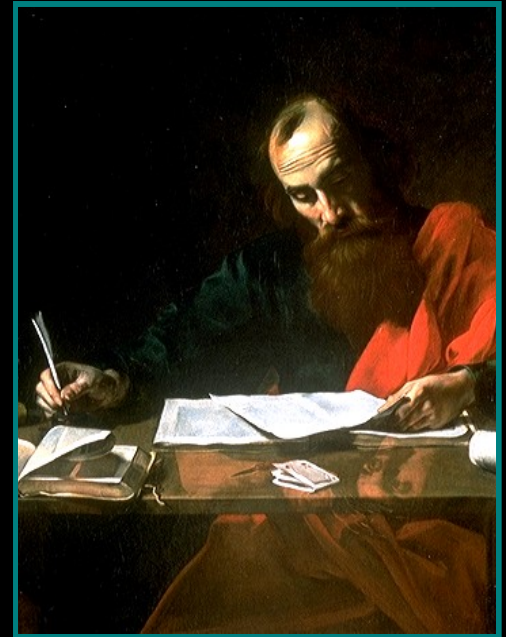


# The Writing Process



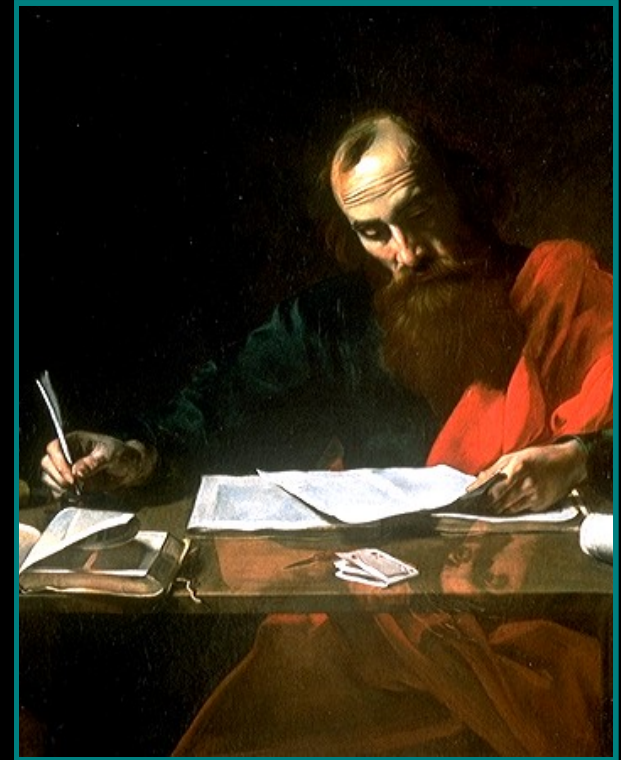
# Paul and His Letters

- Letter-writing in antiquity
  - An oral message
  - Carried by a representative
  - Personal presence
- Pastoring long-distance
  - Young, vulnerable communities
  - Little structured authority
  - Traveling teachers
  - Old assumptions (Pagan or Jewish)



# Interpreting a Letter: 1 Thessalonians

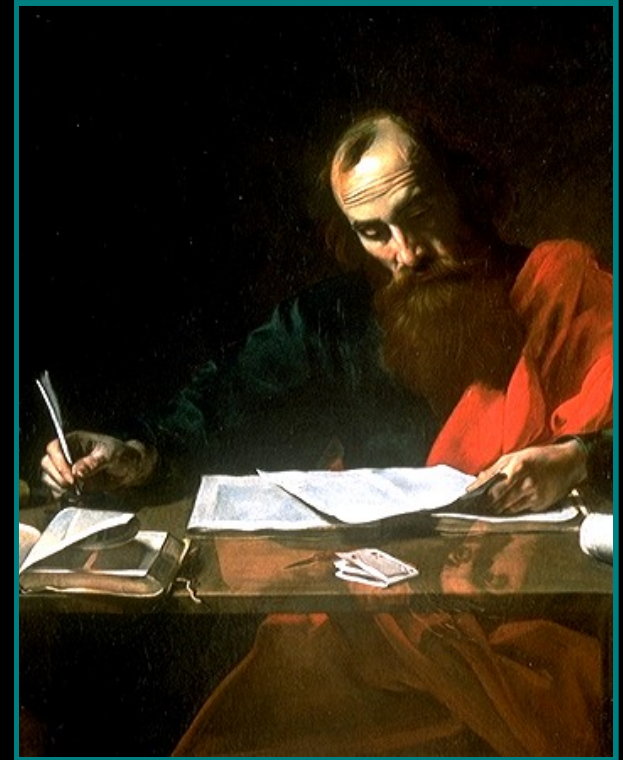
- What is the situation?
  - Mirror reading
  - Historical imagination





# Interpreting a Letter: 1 Thessalonians

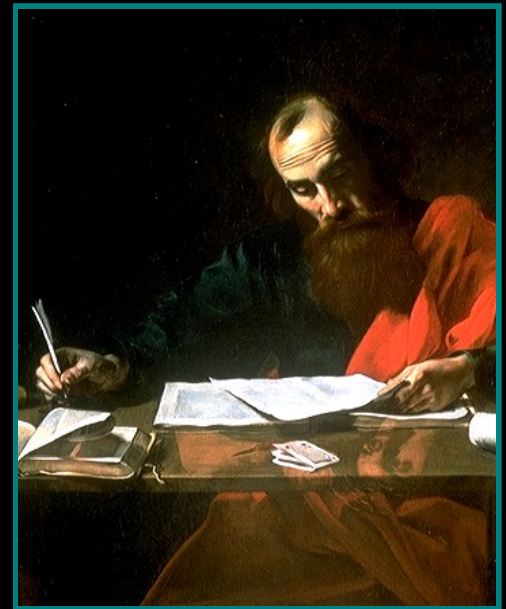
- What is the situation?
- What is Paul's goal?
  - Influencing action
  - Influencing belief
  - Influencing attitudes



# Interpreting a Letter:

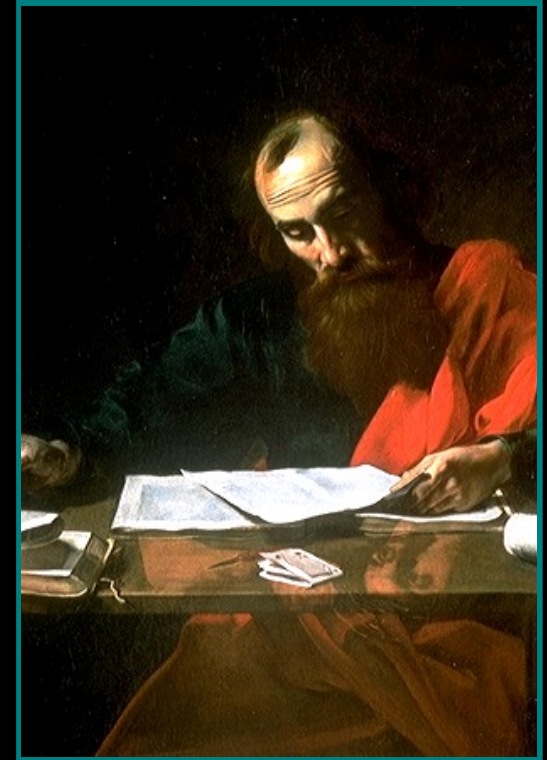
## 1 Thessalonians

- What is the situation?
- What is Paul's goal?
- What is Paul's strategy?
  - *How* is he exerting influence?
  - Rhetoric: Logos, Ethos, Pathos
  - Narrative at the core



# Interpreting a Letter: 1 Thessalonians

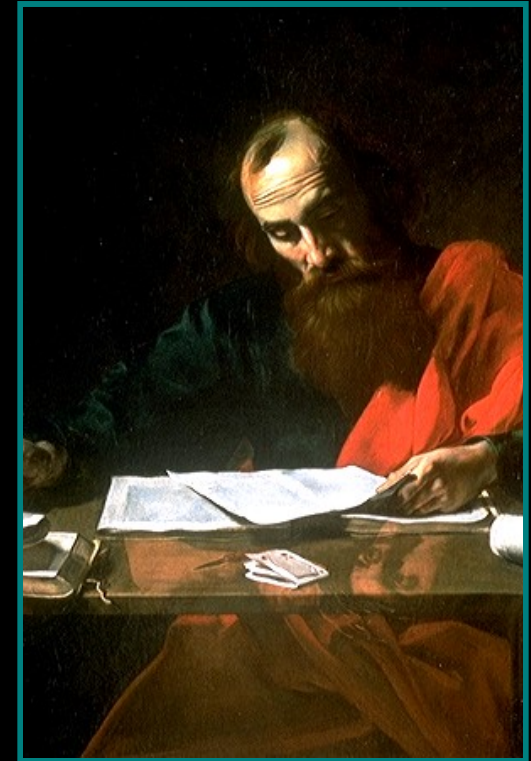
- What is the situation?
- What is Paul's goal?
- What is Paul's strategy?
- A passage in this context
  - Narrative focus?
  - Contribution to overall goal?
  - Contribution to overall strategy?
  - 1 Thess 5:4-9





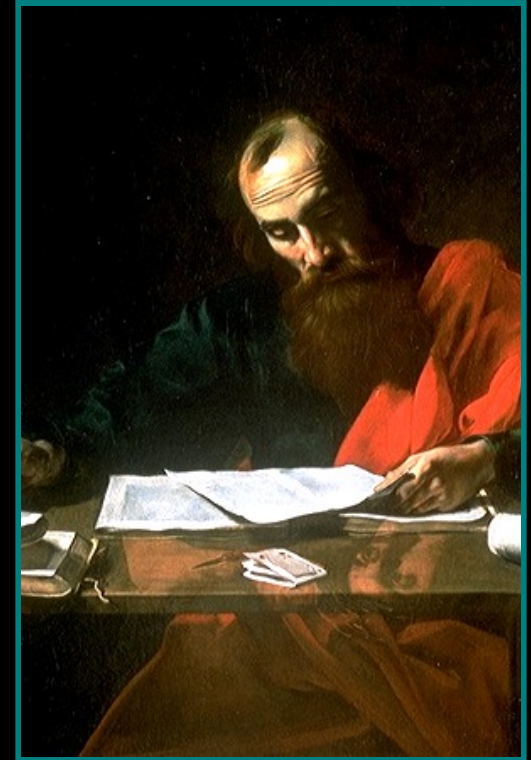
# Interpreting a Letter: 1 Thessalonians

- What is the situation?
- What is Paul's goal?
- What is Paul's strategy?
- A passage in this context
- Moving to our context
  - Are we like the audience?
    - Analogy: What would Paul say to us?
  - Are we different?
    - New implications from the

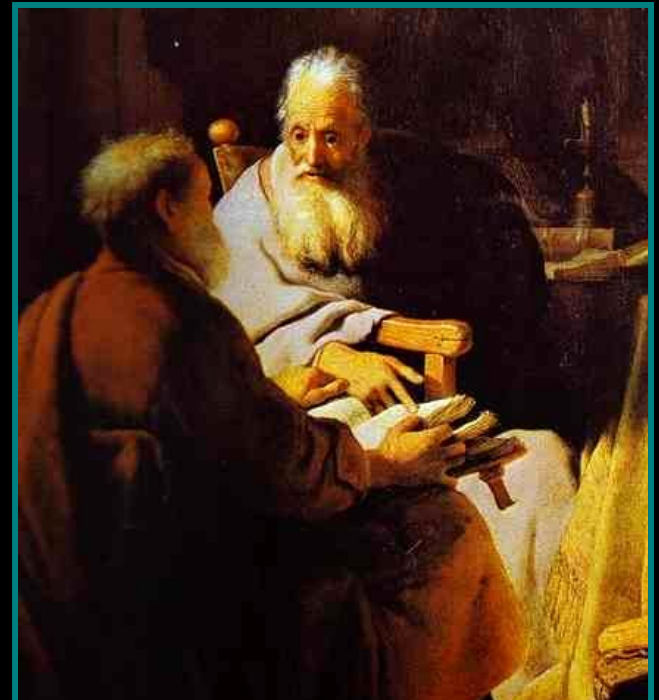


# Interpreting a Letter: 1 Corinthians

- What is the situation?
- What is Paul's goal?
- What is Paul's strategy?
- A passage in this context
  - 1 Cor 13:1-3
- Moving to our context



# Paul's Early Journeys





# Paul's First Journey





# Paul's Second Journey





# Paul's Third Journey





# Paul's Journey to Rome

