# 1 Thessalonians Chapter 3

## 3:1-2 Reasons for sending Timothy from Athens to help the Thessalonians Church?

1. Because Timothy could help the believers grow in faith without being conspicuous as Paul or Silas.
**(They were the prominent members of the missionary team, and were well known by the hostile Jews and city officials.)**

**2. He was a trusted brother and minister of God.**

**3. He was a fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ.**

## 3:3-4 That no one should be shaken by these afflictions

Afflictions being:  Pain and or sufferings, persecutions

**How can we avoid being shaken?**
**By spending more time in the word of God. Practice, do, remember, pray.**

**Why can we be shaken?**
**Because we usually think it couldn't happen to us.**

**Always when in trails :**
**If and when we suffer afflictions we should count it all joy.**

**James 1:2-4 NKJV**
2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,

3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.
https://bible.com/bible/114/jas.1.2-4.NKJV

If we never suffer affections, our faith would never be tested. We must understand that the affections we do suffer leads to our spiritual growth.

## Remembering people persecuted Jesus.
## Jesus tells us in:

**John 15:20 NKJV**
Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/JHN.15.20

**John 16:28,33 NKJV**
28 I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father."

33These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/JHN.16.28,33

**We do see thru this that as the Bible tells us:**

**Romans 8:28 NKJV**
And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/ROM.8.28

In Paul's case the persecution kept him moving from city to city, and as a result **MANY** cities were able to hear the gospel from Paul's mouth. In this God allowed persecution to serve as a means of accomplishing His will.

**3:5 The Tempter - The Tempter being another reference to Satan as one who entices people to sin.**

**Matthew 4:1-11 NKJV**
1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

2 And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.

3 Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

4 But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.' "

5 Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple,

6 and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is

written: ‘He shall give His angels charge over you,’ and, ‘In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

7 Jesus said to him, “It is written again, ‘You shall not tempt the Lord your God.’ ”

8 Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

9 And he said to Him, “All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.”

10 Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.’ ”

11 Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/MAT.4.1-11

**We need to always ask ourselves are we doing this for Us or Jesus?**

**II Corinthians 12:9 NKJV**
9 And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/2CO.12.9

**Colossians 3:14 NKJV**
But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/COL.3.14

**Doubts show faith, we all have doubts, because we have faith.**

**We often find ourselves asking why, but we must remember that God has more knowledge than we will ever have, and we like any gold or silver need the pressure and heat to be refined.**

**We can’t let anything come between us and the Love of our Lord.**

**Quote:**
**Don’t be afraid to give yourself away , it will always grow back.**

**3:6-7 Encouraged by Timothy**
Upon Timothys return he put Pauls concerns to rest knowing that he brought the good news of their faith and love, showing that the labor was not in vain.
That they’re (Paul and Silas) affliction and distress we not in vain either.

**3:8-10 Praying exceedingly**

Paul wanted to see the Thessalonians in person in order to help them mature in their faith and grow in their belief.

**3:11-13 Prayer for the Church**

11 Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you.

12 And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you,

13 so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/1TH.3.11-13