2Thess #161

The endurance and love needed is from Christ.

Please open back up into our anchor study of 2Thessalonians chapter 3 RF.

I am hopeful you all had a pleasant and peaceful Christmas with family and friends. I know I did.

I am grateful for the time off, thank you for that and all the cards and comments as well as the support for the ministry.

2Thes 3:1 Finally, brothers *and sisters,* pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and be glorified, just as *it was* also with you;

[2Th 3:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/2/s_1119002) and that we will be rescued from troublesome and evil people; for not all have the faith.

There will always be negative Bels and Unbels in our path. That is a portion of our own testing, as well as the spiritual warfare we are called to fight.

[2Th 3:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/3/s_1119003) But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

We actually are saved from the full wrath of satanic evil which will be unleashed sometime after the Rapture of the church.

We noted this in…2Thes 2:6 - the Apostle Paul refers to a restraint which is directly related to the power of GOD the HS on earth right now, and the remnant of positive Bels who stand in the gap.

That is removed at the Rapture.

[2Th 3:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/4/s_1119004) We have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you are doing, and will do, what we command.

The Apostle Paul is about to close this letter with the core discipline of the lesson he wants to get across.

He uses the words like command and disorderly or undisciplined in a very strong fashion.

/[2Th 3:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/5/s_1119005) May the Lord direct your hearts to the **love of God** and to the **perseverance of Christ**.\

[2Th 3:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/6/s_1119006) Now we command you, brothers *and sisters,* in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from every brother *or sister* who leadsa disorderly life and not one in accordance with the tradition which you received from us.

[2Th 3:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/7/s_1119007) For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example, because we did not act in an undisciplined way among you,

In verse five is a very subtle reference to the Trinity, as it speaks to GOD the Father, God the SON and the need for the power through God the HS.

/2Thes 3:5 – *the love (agape’) of God* - *perseverance (hypomonē) of Christ*

When the Bel is obedient and walking in the plan of God the Father, they will apply and fully understand virtue love. This will lead them into maturity which ensures a steadfast nature reflecting Christ.\

HOOP-ALM-MAY-NAYO, it is taken from a Greek root word that describes suffering with endurance – discomfort and yet you stand your ground.

This is an attitude of long suffering.

TLJC handle everyone HE met with impersonal, unconditional, godly love.

That includes the times that HE displayed righteous indignation toward the religious crowd.

There is a misconception that when you are strong in your stance and even display righteous indignation, or harsh rebukes toward someone, that you are not operating in virtue love.

That is not accurate!

In fact, telling someone the truth and correcting them in a time when they are far removed from the truth is a great act of love.

It truly depends upon the situation and the motivation behind your rebuke or righteous indignation.

 REPEAT

Most people simply want to be busybodies – or, they are filled with pride when they correct or stand strong against someone. They are allowing arrogance to rear its ugly head, to prove they know better, or that they are right and someone else is wrong.

 REPEAT

Jesus never operated in that fashion... ever! He was sinless perfection, even when HE made a whip and chased out the moneychangers at the temple.

Even when Jesus publicly rebuked the Pharisees in a harsh fashion, it was all from a place of virtue love.

Until you reach higher levels of maturity this is a skill set and application of AGAPE’ love, that is elusive for most Christians.

Now in verse 5 - God the Father is mentioned here in terms of His perfection, HIS perfect grace plan. The Greek verb, “direct” is the aorist active optative of (KART-TO-THOU-NO).

/*2Thes 3:5* *May the LORD direct (kateuthynō) your hearts;*

The word means to make straight according to norms or standards. In this case the norms and standards are related to God’s plan. The aorist tense, points backward, to a full completion - already done. The optative mood is a strong desire (4th class condition).\

This condition is a desire yet it may not be fulfilled – because there is an absolute standard to gain momentum and SM in the plan of GOD.

This Greek, 4th class condition, was rarely used - but it points to a wish or a strong desire. Yet knowing it may not be fulfilled because there is a higher expectation or standard.

/In other words, it is God’s perfect will to move you to a higher level of maturity, namely super-grace. God knows everything from eternity past, yet HIS perfect will was always in place. Meaning HE truly desires all mankind to be saved and come to maturity, yet HE can not infringe upon free will. GOD also can never lower HIS standards or compromise HIS justice system.\

With that in mind, the command is that Bible doctrine moves you toward that objective. Once again, reminding us, we are all given everything we need for success in the plan of GOD!

Also… HE is truly desiring for us to take advantage and grow in HIS grace and knowledge. REPEAT

/Rom 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? **If God *is* for us, who is against us?**

Act 17:27 that they would seek God, if perhaps they might feel around for Him and find *Him,* though **He is not far from each one of us;**\

Learning and truly understanding the grace plan of God. Then learning and knowing the very essence of our Triune God will open a great deal of power and knowledge in this lifetime.

Most Christians lack real knowledge of God’s word and HIS plan.

They are clueless of HIS very nature, therefore, most of them are on an emotional roller-coaster.

/Deu 6:25 “And it will be righteousness for us **if we are careful to follow** all this commandment before the LORD our God, just as **He commanded us**.

Psa 84:11 For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The **LORD gives grace and glory**; **He withholds no good thing** from those **who walk with integrity**.\

God cannot be viewed as only love and mercy – you can never ignore the righteousness and justice of GOD.

HIS perfect purity and divine integrity are never compromised.

There are some things GOD cannot do.

Most Bels never fully digest that and most do not understand God has 3 will’s HE operates from – HIS perfect unobstructed will, HIS permissive will and HIS overriding will.

GOD also has created and resolved everything in eternity past. NOTHING will shock or trick GOD at any given moment on any given day.

75% of what we see in our daily life is from the permissive will of God.

With that estimate I am probably being very conservative!

Go over to 2Peter chapter 3 RF.

/2Thes 3:5 *-“GOD will move you to the objective of HIS desire.”*

HE does so by HIS word (mind of Christ) through the power of GOD the HS working within the heart (soul structure). This is in conjunction with your free will; Therefore, you are part of the equation. Not human power or human I.Q. – a positive, SPIRIT filled Bel, completely reliant upon their union with Christ.\

Every Christian is not going to reach SM – that would be a lie to teach that.

There are choices and effort that goes into the plan of GOD. Therefore, there will be losers and winners.

The heart is the mentality of the soul, this means your core beliefs and norms and standards all have to align with the mind of Christ.

God’s plan involves the objective for doctrine in the soul to reach super-grace status.

/2Thes 3:5 – the ultimate goal is to be willingly led “*into the love of God”* — the love of God here refers to a love relationship with the Triune GOD and most importantly, occupation with the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. If we are going to respond to the love of God then we must have maximum doctrine circulating within our soul. BD consistency with the filling power of God the HS, which is the singular pathway into a super-grace status.\

The result of this leads to a calm assurance, an attitude of long suffering…it brings out the fruit of the SPIRIT into the true application stage of our spiritual walk.

The more a Bel grows the more they reflect Jesus Christ – HE most increase and I must decrease – that happens at a natural pace, nothing forced or faked.

/2Pet 3:7 But by His word the present heavens and earth **are being reserved** for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly people.

The nature of Christ (GOD) is very patience and endures beyond human comprehension. God is willing for the whole angelic conflict play out.\

We saw this when the whole world was intermingling and worshipping fallen angels before the flood – God was longsuffering.

We saw this with the Exodus generation wandering in the wilderness for 40 years…God was long suffering.

The many times Israel rebelled and followed the false gods of the BAAL system…God was long suffering.

As the majority of humanity reject HIM and instead reflect the nature of Satan, God is longsuffering.

[2Pe 3:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2pe/3/8/s_1159008) But do not let this one *fact* escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day.

This longsuffering is seen throughout human history, throughout the bible.

**/**[2Pe 3:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2pe/3/9/s_1159009) The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but **is patient toward you, not willing for any to perish**, but for all to come to repentance.

 Written in a present tense, GOD is always this way toward HIS creation. HIS desire is for an intimate relationship, yet HE can never infringe upon free will.\

God waits patiently.

This is only achieved in Christians - as we grow up spiritually – we have the examples not only in CHRIST, but the apostles and many leaders we see in the OT and in the NT.

/Eph 4:1 Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, urge you to **walk in a manner worthy of the calling** with which you have been called, 2 with all **humility** and **gentleness**, with **patience**, **bearing with one another in love,**

The Apostle Paul dealt with a great deal of negativity directed at him. Often times he dealt with verbal and physical attacks wherever he traveled.\

There is no way Bels can sustain this type of virtue love and long suffering in their flesh.

/Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, **patience**, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, **self-control**; against such things there is no law.

Patience and self-control often flow together because self-control is the ability to be mature enough to have a control over your temperament.\

This speaks to having conquered certain lust patterns in the soul – the ones that cause you to fumble into the flesh easily.

If you begin to have victories over the OSN, this will happen slowly, over a period of time. This in turn will extend your tolerance and patience’s toward other people and difficult environments.

/This is part of our spiritual journey; we begin to have greater victories over the flesh and the cosmic system. Which means patient endurance, maximum faith-rest technique which comes under the super-grace lifestyle, maximum utilization of problem-solving devices. A comfort and peace of inner tranquility no matter the circumstance or person in front of you.\

You can not put a price tag on SM and all the benefits it gives you in time, that will carry over into eternal crowns and rewards.

Spiritual growth can be seen within difficulties, tests and challenges from people and circumstances. You recognize that years ago you didn’t handle it as well and now it is much easier for you.

/2Thes 3:5 May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the perseverance of Christ.

The Apostle Paul is requesting and hopeful that all his congregations stay on course and grow to this level of maturity. To grow into intimacy with GOD, to reflect and walk in the Christ-like nature. So as to have real, virtue love and longsuffering become a staple in their lives.\

This comes down to our free will and the time, talent and treasure God has so graciously given us.

/Jhn 3:30 “He must increase, but I must decrease.

This is a mental attitude that becomes a lifestyle.\