

1 Thessalonians

Chapter 3

Introduction

- Chapter 2 largely dealt with Paul's ministry among the Thessalonians when he first visited Thessalonica and started that local assembly.
- Chapter 3 deals with the events that transpired after Paul arrived in Athens.
- This chapter reveals the deep love and affection Paul had for the Thessalonians. He truly cared about them and their spiritual welfare.

Verse 1

1. While Paul was at Athens, he couldn't get the Thessalonians off of his mind. He kept waiting, hoping to receive some word as to how they were doing.
2. Paul received no word and decided it was time to take _____. He could no longer "*forbear.*"

Verse 2

1. What did Paul decide to do? This verse reveals that Paul sent _____ to Thessalonica to check on these new believers.
2. Timothy was a huge help to Paul in the daily duties of ministry, yet Paul was willing to sacrifice the service of Timothy so that he could go and _____ in Thessalonica.

Verse 3

1. The Thessalonians had encountered some _____ since believing the gospel of Christ.
2. Paul did not want to see these believers "moved" by these afflictions, but rather he wanted to see them standing _____ against these pressures. vs. 8
3. Timothy was to remind them that afflictions, persecution, and suffering are a part of life, and the _____ is not exempt. 2 Timothy 3:12; Philippians 1:29

Verse 4

1. In the initial discipleship of these believers, Paul _____ them that suffering and tribulation would come.
2. Sure enough, it came to pass, and Paul said, "Now you know firsthand what we were talking about."
3. He loved these people dearly and desired for them to know the truth so they could be _____ for the problems and afflictions of life.