

# **1 Thessalonians**

## **Lesson #10, Chapter 3:6-13**

Ask the Lord for His help and insight as you study His Word.

1. Verse 6 begins with the contrasting word *but*. What is being contrasted here in verse 6 from what occurred in the previous verses?
2. Timothy's report has 3 elements to it. What are they?
3. Paul says Timothy brought us "good news" (*euangelisomai*). With the exception of this verse, Paul always uses this word in his writings to refer to the good news of the gospel that God sent His Son to die for men's sins. Yet here Paul is not referring to the good news of the gospel message but to Timothy's happy report. What did Paul want to convey to the Thessalonians by using the word (*euangelisomai*) "good news" in this way?
4. How does Timothy's report encourage Paul and Silas (verses 7-8)?
5. What distress and affliction is Paul referring to in verse 7? See 2:2 and 3:1-5.
6. Review the previous chapters and list the pressures and trials that the young Thessalonian believers were under.

7. What does Paul mean when he says, “while you are standing firm we are happy?” Look up 1 Corinthians 16:13; Philippians 4:1; and 2 Thessalonians 2:15 to help formulate your answer.
  
8. How does God’s word cause you to stand firm in the Lord?
  
9. What does the knowledge that the Thessalonians are standing firm in the Lord produce in Paul (verses 9-10)?
  
10. What 2 elements of Paul’s prayer life are seen in verse 10?
  
11. What does *earnestly* [Strong’s #5228 and 4057 (*exceedingly* NKJV)] mean?
  
12. Are the elements of regular, frequent, earnest prayer a part of your daily habits? What part of Paul’s example do you think you need to work on in your life? What are some ways you can begin to implement your ideas?
  
13. What does Paul mean when he says complete what is lacking in your faith? See also Romans 1:11; Philippians 1:25; and Colossians 1:28.

14. In verses 11-13 Paul prays as he writes to the Thessalonians. What is his first request (verse 11)? What are the other times when Paul mentions this desire in the book?
  
15. What is Paul's next petition for the Thessalonians (verse 12)? How did God answer that prayer (2 Thessalonians 1:3)?
  
16. Though the Thessalonians were standing firm in the Lord, Paul knew some of the areas they needed to grow in. He prays that they will grow in love. How might that love for others be manifest? See 4:9-12; Romans 12:10-21; Titus 3:1-2.
  
17. Paul prays that the Thessalonians will increase and abound in love for one another for what purpose (verse 13)?
  
18. Paul uses a similar progression of thought in Philippians 1:9-10 and Colossians 1:21-23. What similarities do you find between verses 12-13 and those texts?
  
19. The Scriptures frequently refer to standing blameless before God. See 1 Corinthians 1:7-8; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; 1 Peter 5:10; Jude 24. How do those verses give you encouragement as you think about the day when you will stand before God?

20. When will we stand before God blameless in holiness (verse 13)?
21. The *parousia* or *coming of Jesus* is not a single event, but a term that includes the end times events of the coming of Jesus to snatch away the church in the rapture, as well as His coming back to earth a second time when Christ will set up His earthly kingdom. In the rapture all believers go to be with Him. In the second coming whom does He bring with Him when He returns to earth (verse 13)? For a *mere* sampling of verses to back up that thought see: Ephesians 5:3; Colossians 1:2; 2 Thessalonians 1:10; 1 Timothy 5:10; Philemon 7.
22. After completing this lesson read verses 6-13 again. Paul's great joy comes from seeing believers *stand firm* so that someday they will appear before God, blameless with great joy. At this point in your life, would Paul rejoice that you are standing firm in faith? What are some ways you can continue to grow in your walk so that Paul could rejoice at your progress in the faith?

IT IS NOT OUR HOLDING TO GOD,  
BUT HIS HOLDING TO US THAT PRESERVES US.  
A LITTLE BOAT TIED TO A ROCK IS SAFE,  
AND SO ARE WE,  
WHEN WE ARE TIED TO THE ROCK OF AGES.  
— THOMAS WATSON