

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible

Scripture(s) for Today: 1 Thessalonians 3:1-13 – every believer must be established in the faith

Today's Message:

“Rooted and Established”



INTRODUCTION

Last week, we learned how the Thessalonians had to grow up in Christ very quickly. They had received Christ and then were thrust into sufferings. And we know the Bible says *all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution*. Today, we will learn of Paul's concern for the new Christians – they must learn to **STAND!** Before a child can walk, he must learn to stand. Paul was like a spiritual father to them, and he was forced to leave them as we have learned. All trees and plants need to be **ROOTED** and planted properly to grow and bear fruit. This chapter was intended to teach the Thessalonians their next step in spiritual maturity – how to stand in the trials of life. Paul will explain **3** ministries that he and the missionary team performed to help these new Christians become firmly planted in the faith.

LEARNING TOGETHER

A. The Text 1 Thessalonians 3:1-13

#1. The Minister – Timothy was sent to ESTABLISH and comfort them. (1-5)

TIMOTHEUS (TIMOTHY)

- ✓ He was a **BROTHER**. *Acts 16:1* (a certain disciple... well reported of by the brethren)
- ✓ He was a **MINISTER** of God. *1Cor 4:17; 16:10* (my beloved son... faithful in the Lord)
- ✓ He was a fellow **LABOURER** in the gospel of Christ. *Rom 16:21* (my workfellow)

NOTE Remember that Timothy was one of the brethren, faithful, and doing God's work!

TO ESTABLISH YOU

W1828: "Stablish"

To set and fix;
to settle in a state
for permanence;
to make firm.

W1828: "Establish"
Now used for stablish.

- ✓ There are 2 forms of the word in KJB – "establish" and "stablish" – to **SET** unalterably!
- ✓ "Establish" – *Mt 18:16; Acts 16:5; Rom 1:11; 2 Cor 13:1; Heb 13:9; 2 Pet 1:12*
- ✓ "Stablish" – *Rom 16:25; 2 Cor 1:21; Col 2:7; 2 Ths 2:17; 3:3; Jas 5:8; 1 Pet 5:10*
- ✓ Parable of the Sower – *Mt 13; Mk 4; Lk 8* – the seed is the word; the soil is the **HEART!**
- ✓ Not moved – *3:5; Acts 20:24; 1Cor 15:58; Eph 4:14; Php 1:28; Col 1:23; Rev 2:10,13*

NOTE Every Christian needs to be rooted and grounded in Jesus Christ and His truth! It is important to know that God has the power to stablish you and will do it! Amen.

2022 VISION: *This is our time!*
Making disciples and caring for souls!

TO COMFORT YOU

W1828:
 "Comfort"
 To encourage;
 to invigorate;
 to strengthen the
 mind when depressed
 or enfeebled.

- ✓ God knows that His people **NEED** comforted. **3:2; 1 Cor 10:13; Joshua 1:6-9**
- ✓ The context is *afflictions* and **SUFFERING** for the Gospel. **3:3-4; 2 Tim 3:12; 1 Pet 4:12**
- ✓ God fills believers with the **HOLY GHOST** – called *the Comforter*. **Jn14:16,26;15:26;16:7**
- ✓ God gives His people **MINISTERS** and brethren to provide *comfort*. **1Ths 4:18 (Rapture)**
- ✓ Faithful saints **BECOME** *the comforters* after being *comforted* by God. **2 Cor 1:3-7**

NOTE God knows His people need comforted! We are all the same; comfort one another!

#2. The Words – a letter was written with God’s WORDS to help them. (6-8)**COMPARING SCRIPTURES**

- ✓ Timothy returned with good news of their *faith, charity, and remembrance*. **2Cor12:18**
- ✓ Paul wrote them a **LETTER** – words from God – to encourage them. **2Tim 3:16-17**
- ✓ Paul wrote that their faith **COMFORTED** the missionaries in *afflictions and distress*.
- ✓ The 4 goals of **Biblical Discipleship** are to **ESTABLISH** the believer in:
 - 1) *The word of God and Prayer* – **John 8:31; Lk 18:1-8; Col 4:2**
 - 2) *Fellowship with Other Believers* – **John 13:35; 1 John 1:3, 7**
 - 3) *In the Local Church* – **1Cor 12:1-27; Eph 4:11-16; 1Tim 3:15**
 - 4) *In the Work of the Lord* – **1Cor 15:58; John 15:1-16; 17:6**

NOTE Paul said, “For now **we live**, **IF ye stand fast in the Lord.**” It is that important! Amen.

#3. The Prayers – prayers were OFFERED to God night and day for them. (9-13)**COMPARING SCRIPTURES**

- ✓ After giving the believers a minister and words from God, Paul **PRAYED** for them.
- ✓ The key ministries of the church and believers are *the word and prayer*. **Acts 6:1-7**
- ✓ Jesus gave His **EXAMPLE** in this *most important* ministry. **Mk 1:35; Lk11:1; Jn17; Heb5:7**
- ✓ Paul prayed for three specific requests:
 - 1) **Their faith to mature** (*perfect that which is lacking*) – **3:10; Rom 1:17; 2Ths 1:3**
 - 2) **Their love to abound** (*make you to increase*) – **3:12; 1Ths 4:9; 2Ths 1:3; Rom 9:1-3**
 - 3) **Their hearts to be stablished in holiness of life** (*in holiness before God*) – **3:13; Col 1:28**

NOTE The end goal was holiness **AT the coming of our Lord**–the *Judgment Seat of Christ!*

B. The Application (How will you apply this truth to your life?)

1. You must be **ESTABLISHED** in your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and the Bible.
2. You must not be **MOVED** by your afflictions to stop the work of the Lord.
3. The ministry of **PRAYER** is one of your most important ministries to believers.

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