



**“The turn of events could be interpreted as providing an opportunity for the founders of the church at Thessalonica to indulge in some self-congratulation. They had built well, and their handiwork had survived a severe test. But Paul's satisfaction is not in any way self-satisfaction; it is satisfaction in what God has wrought, he knew—none better—that it is not of human beings to do a spiritual work. That is only done by the grace of God”**

**– Leon Morris**

**“There is simply no way that these believers can thoughtfully listen to what Paul says and then smugly pat themselves on the back: God and God alone is to be praised for signs of grace in their lives.” – D.A.**

**Carson**

**“How much would our churches be transformed if each of us made it a practice to thank God for others and then tell these others what it is we thank God for?” – D.A. Carson**

**“Life is not a straight line leading from one blessing to the next and then finally back to heaven. Life is a winding and troubled road. Switchback after switchback. And the point of biblical stories like Joseph and Job and Esther and Ruth is to help us feel in our bones**

**(not just know in our heads) that God is for us in all these strange turns. God is not just showing up after the trouble and cleaning it up. He is plotting the course and managing troubles with far-reaching purposes for our good and for the glory of Christ Jesus.” – John Piper**

**“Has not the Lord delivered you from the horrible pit before? Can he not do it again? Do you remember when light first broke in at St. Albans? When you look back, can you not trace the footsteps of mercy? Has not the Lord supported you thus far? Why then should you fear He will forsake you at last?” – John Newton**

**“Though your feelings change, your redeemer is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He will not cast away His own work. He who began a good work in you will see it to completion. I trust the Lord will yet enable you to praise Him in the great congregation—and even now, in secret, you may whisper hope, if not joy” – John Newton**