



2 THESSALONIANS SERIES – 16
PREPARING FOR THE END TIMES – Pt 7
“STANDING FIRM IN THE FAITH IN TRIALS”
2 Thessalonians 3:1-5

INTRODUCTION

1. THE REASONS FOR THIS EXHORTATION - 13-17

2. THE RESPONSE TO THIS EXHORTATION - 3:1-5

Note several other things about Paul’s request.

1) The gospel is not a message that Paul or others made up.

It is *“the word of the Lord.”*

2) In whatever culture people respond to the gospel, their lives are demonstrably changed. - *“as happened among you”*

3) Paul asks for prayer that the word of the Lord will *“speed ahead and be honored.”*

4) Paul saw no contradiction between election and the need for evangelism and prayer for the success of the gospel.

5) For the word of the Lord to spread and be glorified, the word that is spread must be the true gospel, not a perversion.

Remember...

Your responsibility, by God’s enabling, is to constantly apply the divine principles and truths you have heard (Phil. 2:12-13; 1 Tim. 4:7-9; Jam 1:22-27).

As you meditate on this message, ask yourself these questions:

How does God want my beliefs/actions to change?

How can I accomplish this change?

What is the first step toward bringing about this change?

2. THE RESPONSE TO THIS EXHORTATION - 3:1-5

A. To PRAY for God's servants - 1-2

"Finally" – *loipos* - literally "for the rest," or "besides that"

"pray" - *proseuchomai* - present tense "continually pray"

- For the Spread of God's Word – 1

Acts 12:24; 13:49; 19:20; 2 Tim. 2:9; 1 Thess. 1:5; 2:13

"speed ahead" - *trechō* - "to speed on" "to make progress"

"be honored" – *doxazō* - exalted

- For the Safety of God's workers – 2

1 Cor. 16:9; 2 Cor. 1:8-10; 2 Tim. 4:17-18

"wicked" – *atopos* - "out of place"

"evil" – *ponēros* - "malignant" or "aggressively wicked"

B. To TRUST in God's faithfulness – 3

1 Cor. 1:9; 10:13; 1 Thess. 5:24

- For personal Stability

2 Thess. 2:17

- For spiritual Security

Psalm 121:7; Matt. 6:13; John 17:15; Jude 24

C. To OBEY God's commandments - 4

Romans 1:5; 15:18; 16:26; 2 Cor. 2:9; Philippians 2:13; 1 Thess. 4:1-2

D. To PURSUE God's love - 5a

1 Cor. 14:1

E. To WAIT patiently for His return - 5b

1 Thess. 1:10 and Romans 8:24-25