

I Thessalonians - Lesson 7 - Chapter 3 - Follow Up

Concerns	Standing Firm in Afflictions	Paul's Prayer for the People
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - agony of separation - couldn't bear not knowing how they were doing (1) - Paul stayed in Athens and sent Timothy back to the Thess (2) - Timothy's job was to strengthen and encourage them in their faith (2) - Paul didn't want them disturbed because of the afflictions coming (3-4) - Spiritual well-being - Concerned that the tempter wasn't tempting them (5) - They were greatly comforted because the people were standing firm (6-8) - Brings joy to Paul's heart to know that they are strong (9) - Praying earnestly - day and night - that they could come see them again - he wanted them to continue to grow to be the most effective witness they could be (10) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - need to be strengthened and encouraged in our faith by other believers (2) - We are destined for affliction (3-4) - Mt 10:24-26 - the student isn't above his master - he should strive to be like his master - II Tim 3:12 - those who live godly will be persecuted <p><u>Where does suffering come from?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - man's rebellion against God (Gen 3) - Disobeying God's laws (Dt 28) - Wrong choices made by others (Gen 50:20) - For the gospel (II Tim 1:8-12) - Jealousy and hatred (Act 7:54-60) <p><u>How can suffering be used for good?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - builds faith, increase our knowledge of God (Job) - Testimony to others (He 11) - Cause people to turn to God (Lk 13:1-4) - Conform us into the character of Christ (Ro 8:28-30; James 1:2-4) - We can know Christ better (Phil 1:29; 3:8-11; I Peter 4:13) - Prepares us for His glory (Ro 8:17-18; II Cor 4:17) - Keeps our eyes on Jesus (He 12:1-3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - consistency of prayer (I Thes 1:2-3) - Prayed earnestly for them night and day (I Thes 3:10) - Pray without ceasing (I Thes 5:17) - Pray for Paul and the work (I Thes 5:25) - Constant prayer that God will count you worthy of your calling (II Thes 1:11-12) - Pray that the Word will spread rapidly and God be glorified (II Thes 3:1)