

Lesson 5

usual indulgence.

by Living

you have been raised with your hearts on things above, seated at the right hand of minds on things above, not gs. ²For you died, and your dden with Christ in God, who is your life, appears, will appear with him in glory. h, therefore, whatever be- earthly nature: sexual immo- y, lust, evil desires and greed, try. ⁶Because of these, the is coming. ⁷You used to ways, in the life you once w you must rid yourselves of as these: anger, rage, malice, lthy language from your lips. each other, since you have r old self with its practices t on the new self, which is l in knowledge in the image of ¹Here there is no Greek or ised or uncircumcised, bar-

¹⁵ Or them in him
disobedient

¹⁴ Some

an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. ²⁵Any- one who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there is no favoritism.

⁴ Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven.

Further instructions

²Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. ³And pray for us,

and the church in Laodicea, and to every one of you.

¹⁶After this letter has been read to you, see that it is also read in the church of the Laodiceans and that you also read the letter from Laodicea.

¹⁷Tell Archippus: "See to it that you complete the work you have received in the Lord."

¹⁸I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace with you.

1 Thessalonians

¹ Paul, Silas^b and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in

God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace and peace to you.^c

¹⁵ Some manuscripts that he may know about your
early manuscripts you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

¹⁵ Greek Silvanus, a variant of Silas

"Suffering for The Gospel"
(1 Thessalonians 2:14-3:10)

"Suffering For The Gospel"

1 Thessalonians 2:14-3:10 (NKJV)

¹⁴ For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus. For you also suffered the same things from your own countrymen, just as they *did* from the Judeans, ¹⁵ who killed both the Lord Jesus and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they do not please God and are contrary to all men, ¹⁶ forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they may be saved, so as always to fill up *the measure of* their sins; but wrath has come upon them to the uttermost.

"Suffering For The Gospel"

1 Thessalonians 2:14–3:10 (NKJV)

¹⁷ But we, brethren, having been taken away from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavored more eagerly to see your face with great desire. ¹⁸ Therefore we wanted to come to you—even I, Paul, time and again—but Satan hindered us. ¹⁹ For what *is* our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? *Is it* not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? ²⁰ For you are our glory and joy.

"Suffering For The Gospel"

1 Thessalonians 2:14-3:10 (NKJV)

¹ Therefore, when we could no longer endure it, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone, ² and sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith, ³ that no one should be shaken by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we are appointed to this.

"Suffering For The Gospel"

1 Thessalonians 2:14–3:10 (NKJV)

⁴ For, in fact, we told you before when we were with you that we would suffer tribulation, just as it happened, and you know. ⁵ For this reason, when I could no longer endure it, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter had tempted you, and our labor might be in vain. ⁶ But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always have good remembrance of us, greatly desiring to see us, as we also *to see you*—

"Suffering For The Gospel"

1 Thessalonians 2:14-3:10 (NKJV)

⁷ therefore, brethren, in all our affliction and distress we were comforted concerning you by your faith. ⁸ For now we live, if you stand fast in the Lord. ⁹ For what thanks can we render to God for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sake before our God, ¹⁰ night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and perfect what is lacking in your faith?

"Suffering For The Gospel"

Persecuted For Christ - 2:14-16

1 Thessalonians 2:14
(NKJV)

¹⁴ For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus. For you also suffered the same things from your own countrymen, just as they *did* from the Judeans,

- ◆ The Christians In Thessalonica Suffered At The Hand Of Their Own Countrymen - Cf. Ac 17:5-10
- ◆ *sumphuletes* (συμφυλέτης, 4853), lit., “a fellow-tribesman” (*sun*, “with,” *phule*, “a tribe, race, nation, people”), hence, one who is of the same people, — Vines
- ◆ In this they were imitators of the churches in Judea, who were also persecuted by their countrymen - Ac 8:1; 12:1-4; cf. 2 Tim 3:12

"Suffering For The Gospel"

Sins Of The Jews - 2:14-16

1 Thessalonians 2:15-16
(NKJV)

15 who killed both the Lord Jesus and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they do not please God and are contrary to all men, 16 forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they may be saved, ...

- ◆ **Killed The Lord Jesus** — *Mat. 23:29-36; 27:25; Luke 24:20; Ac 2:23,36; 3:14-15; 4:10; 5:30*
- ◆ **Killed Their Own Prophets** — *1Ki 19:10; 2Ch 24:14-21; cf. 2 Chr 36:16; Neh 9:26; Jer 2:30; Ac 7:52*
- ◆ **Persecuted The Apostles** — *Ac 5:40; 12:1-5; 13:50; 14:1-6,19; 17:5-10,13-14*
- ◆ **Did Not Please God** — *Dt 9:7; Eze 2:3*
- ◆ **Contrary To All Men, Forbidding Them To Speak To The Gentiles** — *As Happened At Antioch Of Pisidia - Ac 13:42-51; 22:21-22; 15:5*

"Suffering For The Gospel"

Paul's Eager Desire - 2:17-20

1 Thessalonians 2:19-
20 (NKJV)

19 For what is our hope,
or joy, or crown of
rejoicing? *Is it not even*
you in the presence of
our Lord Jesus Christ
at His coming? 20 For
you are our glory and
joy.

- ◆ **Paul's Desire To See Them Again** — (2:17; *to perfect what may be lacking in their faith, 3:10*)
- ◆ **Satan Hindered Him** — 2:18; cf. Zec. 3:1, 2; Ro. 1:13; 15:22; Ac 14:19; 17:5,13; 2 Cor 12:7-10; 1 Pet 5:8,9; Rev 2:10
- ◆ **Paul's Hope, Glory, & Joy** — 2:19,20;
 - ◆ *Their ultimate salvation* — 19,20; 2 Cor. 1:14; Phili. 2:16; 4:1.
 - ◆ *It is a great joy to see those whom you teach obey the gospel - but greater still will be the joy experienced when you know they endured* — 1 Cor. 3:9-15

"Suffering For The Gospel"

Concern For Their Faith - 3:1-10

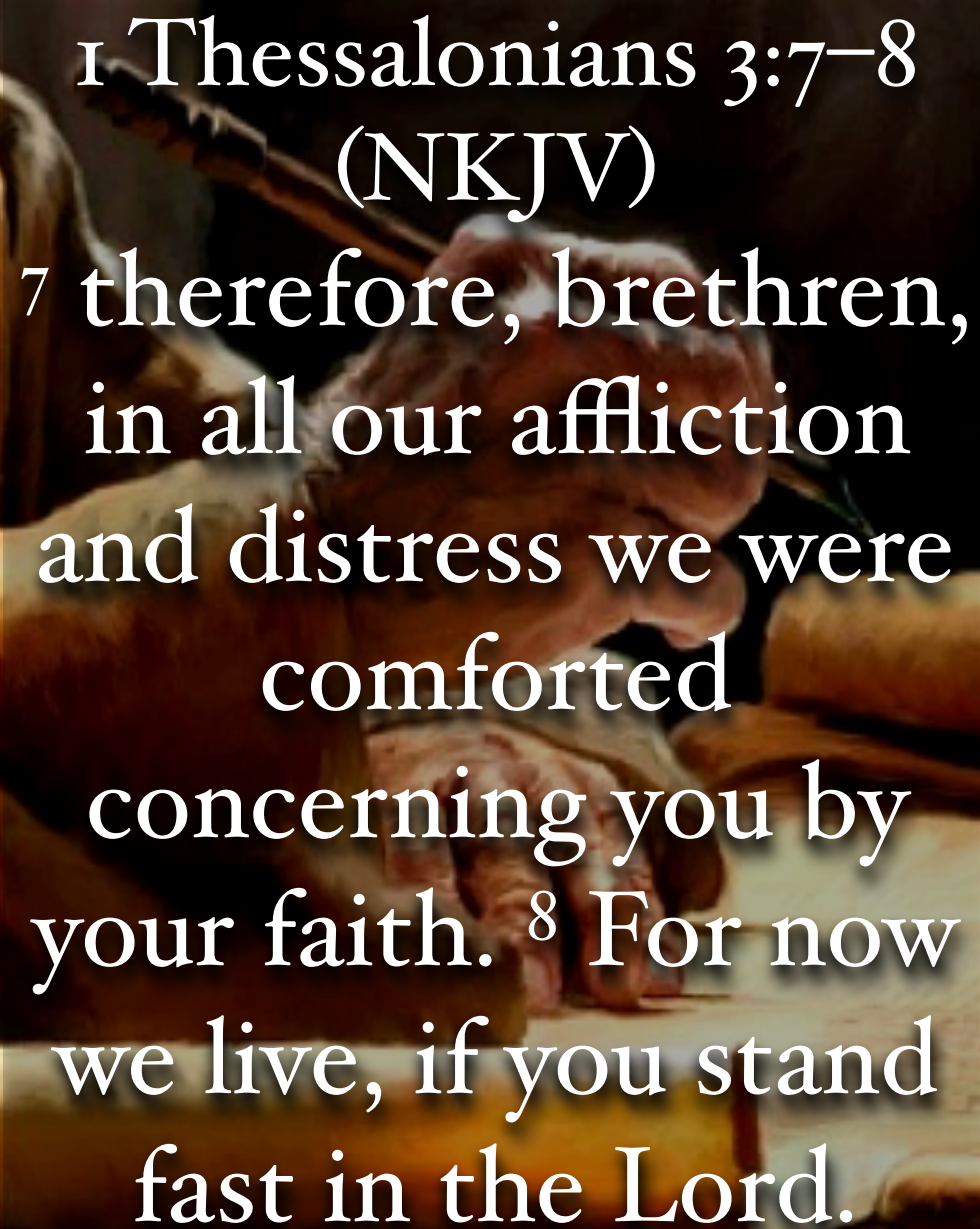
1 Thessalonians 3:2-3
(NKJV)

2 and sent Timothy, our brother ... to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith, 3 that no one should be shaken by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we are appointed to this.

- ♦ *Paul sent Timothy, at expense to himself - 1Th 3:1-2*
- ♦ *He had to know how they were doing, while he remained in Athens alone — vs. 1,5;*
- ♦ *He was concerned about their faith - they needed to be strengthened — vs. 2,5,10; Heb 10:24,25*
- ♦ *He was concerned their faith may be shaken due to persecution — vs. 3-5; Mat 13:21; Phili 1:28*

"Suffering For The Gospel"

Concern For Their Faith - 3:1-10



¹ Thessalonians 3:7-8
(NKJV)
⁷ therefore, brethren,
in all our affliction
and distress we were
comforted
concerning you by
your faith. ⁸ For now
we live, if you stand
fast in the Lord.

- ◆ ***Timothy returned with good news & Paul's reaction - 1Th 3:6-9***
- ◆ *Comforted in his own affliction and distress by their faith — 7*
- ◆ *Made to really live by their steadfastness - (Paul's efforts were worth living for ... Phili 1:21,22)*
- ◆ *Rejoicing with thankfulness for their condition before God — vs. 9*
- ◆ *Prayed for them "night & day" — vs. 10; cf. 2 Tim 1:3; Ep. 1:15-19; etc.*

"Suffering For The Gospel"

Concern For Their Faith - 3:1-10

1 Thessalonians 3:9-10 (NKJV)

⁹ For what thanks can we render to God for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sake before our God,
¹⁰ night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and perfect what is lacking in your faith?



"Suffering For The Gospel"

Lessons / Applications



- ◆ ***The Jews were God's chosen people, yet many of them rejected Christ & persecuted Christians — as did Paul — BUT... (God's wrath should concern us / His mercy should change us!)***
- ◆ ***How important is it to us to see those whom we teach & love in heaven?***
- ◆ ***How strong or deep is our concern & care for one another? — (sacrificing for others? living for others? Praying for others?)***

Lesson 5

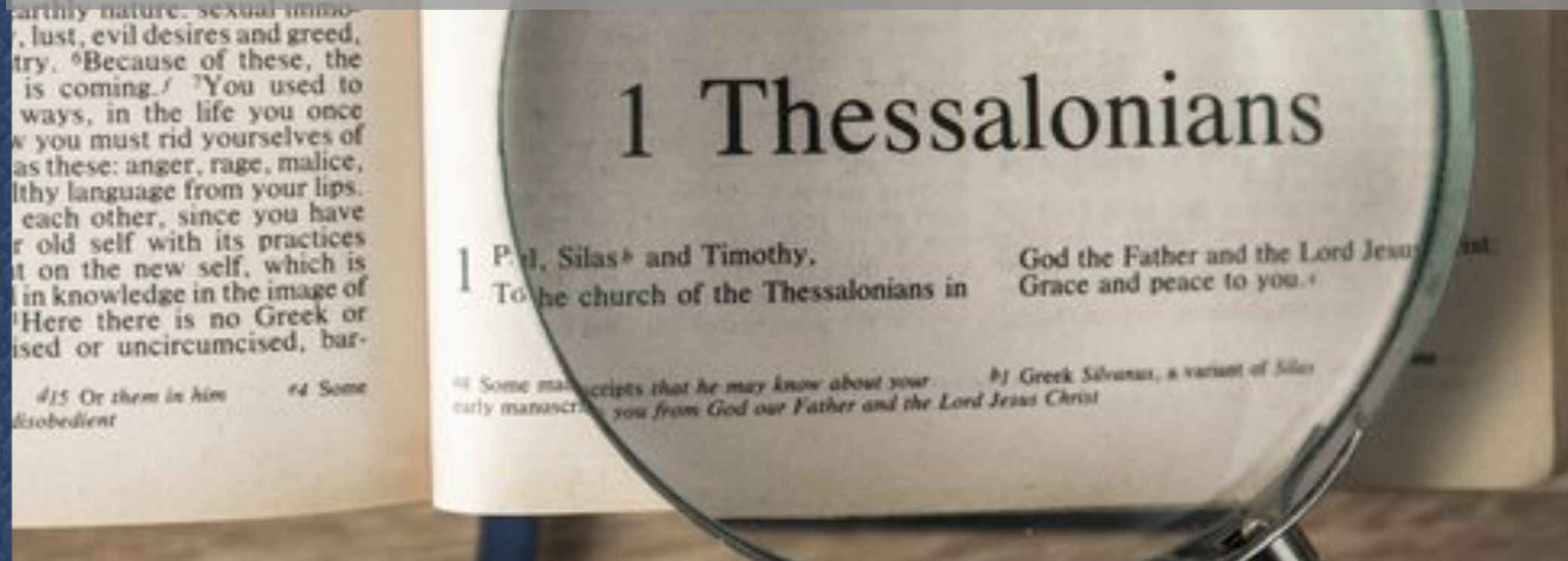
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"Suffering for The Gospel"
(1 Thessalonians 2:14-3:10)

ACTS 14:21-28 (NKJV)

²¹ And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, ²² strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting *them* to continue in the faith, and *saying*, “We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.” ²³ So when they had appointed elders in every church, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

ACTS 14:21-28 (NKJV)

²⁴ And after they had passed through Pisidia, they came to Pamphylia. ²⁵ Now when they had preached the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. ²⁶ From there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work which they had completed. ²⁷ Now when they had come and gathered the church together, they reported all that God had done with them, and that He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles. ²⁸ So they stayed there a long time with the disciples.