

1 Thessalonians
Lesson 7

Women of Grace

Fall 2020

A Pastor's Heart
1 THESSALONIANS 2:19-3:5

1. What is Paul's threefold question to the Thessalonians?

a. What is his answer to this question?

2. We think of a crown as something worn to signify authority, but in Paul's context a crown was given to signify the victor of a contest. How does this change your understanding of verse 19?

3. What was Paul going to boast about?

4. What should we be boast about?

5. What is Paul referencing when he speaks of the “Lord Jesus at His coming”?

6. How did Paul describe the Thessalonians in verse 20. Why so you think he described them this way?

1. What is the “therefore” there for? What does this point back to?

2. What could Paul not endure any longer? What was his concern?

3. How does Acts 17:14-15 relate to verse 1?

4. The city of Athens was a depraved pagan city. The word “left behind” notes abandonment or forsaking. What does this tell us about Paul’s sacrifice of being separated from Silas and Timothy?

a. Whose trials was Paul most concerned about, his own or the Thessalonians?

b. Are you most concerned about your own trials or what others are facing? How is Paul an example to us? See 2 Corinthians 12:15.

5. Paul's sacrifice of Timothy for the sake of the Thessalonians is great. See 1 Corinthians 4:17, Philippians 2:19-23, 1 Timothy 1:2 and Philemon 1. Is there a sacrifice God is calling you to make for the good of another?

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1. What is Paul's commendation of Timothy? Why would Paul choose Timothy?

2. Identify and define two things Paul sent Timothy to do. Why would the church need this from Timothy?

3. In regards to encouragement what is Paul's emphasis in verse 2?

4. Paul had confidence in sending Timothy because he was a brother and a fellow worker in the gospel of Christ. What does this teach us about the dangers of the current ecumenical movement?

5. What are specific ways we can strengthen and encourage another as to their faith? Is there someone you can strengthen and encourage? Write out their names, pray, and act.



1. What is Paul's concern in verse 3?

2. In verse 3b, what reminder does Paul give them? How would he have known this? See Acts 9:15-16 and Acts 14:22.

a. What does this tell us about who is in ultimate control of affliction?

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3. Paul knew God was in ultimate control of affliction. Does this in any way dull his concern or affection for the Thessalonians? How is Paul's deep concern an example to you?

a. What does Paul's concern teach you regarding the burden your leaders carry for you?

4. What kind of affliction did Paul face in ministry? See 2 Corinthians 11:23-29.

a. What kind of affliction did the Thessalonians face?



5. What have we been destined for? How is this different from what popular evangelicals peddle today?

6. Are you caught off guard by affliction? Read 1 Peter 4:12-19. What should your thinking be when you're faced with affliction?

7. At the end of verse 4, what does Paul tell the Thessalonians? Was he right?



1. What could Paul not endure any longer? What was his fear?

2. Who did Paul acknowledge was negatively at work?

3. The enemy's design is to hinder good fruit from growing and affect the preaching of the gospel. Reading Mathew 13:1-8 and 18-23, what do the seeds represent?

a. What is the meaning of the seeds along the path?

b. What is the meaning of the seeds on rocky ground?

c. What is the meaning of the seeds among the thorns?

d. What is the meaning of the seeds on good soil?

4. Define vain. What does Paul mean by the statement, “our labor would be in vain?”



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Dig Deeper

1. The enemy can never steal our faith but he can seek to render us useless. Read the following passages and note how the enemy seeks to do his work.
 - a. 1 Corinthians 7:5

- b. 2 Corinthians 2:10-11

- c. 2 Corinthians 11:3

2. What obligations do believers have towards those they lead to Christ? Is it enough to have them pray a prayer, or even to get them to come to church?

3. Read Hebrews 3:12-13. Does this passage help you better understand why Timothy was sent to encourage them?

4. Pray often for your leaders using 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.

5. Paul previously refuted the accusation that he ministered among them for selfish gain. How does this lesson further demonstrate Paul's true motives?





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