

## SHARPENING YOUR SWORD

### 1 THESSALONIANS 3:6-13 — AN INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY

Session 6 Homework — Jan 19, 2022

#### BY WAY OF REVIEW

In 1 Thessalonians 3:1-5, Paul continues to express his love and deep concern for the faithfulness of the believers in the newly planted church. Driven from Thessalonica to Berea and then Athens, Paul is fearful that their afflictions (and his own) might have given Satan an opportunity to tempt them to faithlessness causing his labor to be in vain. He decides to send Timothy back to Thessalonica to strengthen the believers and then return to Athens with a report for Paul (vv 6-10).

#### 1 THESSALONIANS 3:6-13    Encouraged by Timothy, Paul Prays for the Church

1 Read 1 Thessalonians chapter 3 daily to prepare for your study. Remembering the whole of the chapter, how does 1 Thessalonians 3:6 connect with 3:1-5? What is being contrasted with words "But now..."?

2 In verse 6, what are the 3 elements of the "good news" Timothy brought back to Paul?

3 In verses 7-9, how did this news comfort Paul?

4 What does Paul mean when he says, “For now we live, if you are standing fast in the Lord” (v 8)? Look up 1 Corinthians 16:13; Philippians 4:1; and 2 Thessalonians 2:15 to help formulate your answer.

5 Does God’s word cause you to stand firm in faith? How?

6 Can you appreciate how your own endurance under pressure and genuine love toward those who have taught you in the faith could be a tremendous source of joy and comfort to them?

7 For what did Paul pray night and day?

8 In verse 10, what does Paul mean when he says “perfect what is lacking in your faith?” See also Romans 1:11; Philippians 1:25; Colossians 1:28.

9 Are the elements of regular, frequent, and earnest prayer a part of your daily habits? What part of Paul’s example do you think you need to work on in your life? What are some ways you can begin implement your ideas?

10 In verse 11, for what did Paul pray concerning himself?

11 In verses 12-13, for what did Paul pray concerning the Thessalonians?

12 The Scriptures frequently refer to standing blameless before God. Read the following verses and state how they give you encouragement as you think about the day you will stand before God:

> 1 Corinthians 1:7-8 “So that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

> 1 Thessalonians 5:23 “Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

> 1 Peter 5:10 “And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.”

> Jude 24 “Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy,”

13 The parousia or coming of Jesus is not a single event, but a term that includes the end times events of the coming of Jesus to snatch away the church in the rapture, as well as His coming back to earth a second time when Christ will set up His earthly kingdom. In the rapture all

believers go to be with Him. In the second coming whom does He bring with Him when He returns to earth (v. 13)?