

A Heart Ready for Christ's Return

1 Thes. 3:11–13 (Daniel Gibson)

Desperate Times Call for Strong Hearts

Paul's Journey through Thessalonica (Acts 16 – 17:15)

- Visions of Macedonia (Acts 16:6–10)
- Blessings and beatings in Philippi (Acts 16:11–40)
- Evangelism in Thessalonica (Acts 17:1–4)
- Chased out of town (and the next town too) (Acts 17:5–15)

Paul's Motivation for Writing to the Thessalonians

Engaged in spiritual conflict (1 Thes. 2:18)

Necessary encouragement for young believers (1 Thes. 4:18; 5:11, 27)

The Heart of the Letter

Paul's heart for the Thessalonian believers (1 Thes. 2:6–8, 11–12, 17)

The prayer at the center of Paul's desire for the Thessalonian believers:

Now may the God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. — 1 Thes. 3:11–13

Established in the Work of God

What he has done (1 Thes. 1:2–10)

What he is doing (1 Thes. 2:13–14)

What he will do (1 Thes. 4:13–18; 5:23–24)