

# 1Thessalonians 3

written and compiled by Gary Kukis

## 1Thessalonians 3:1–13 A Report: the Thessalonians are Strong in Faith and Love

These studies are designed for believers in Jesus Christ only. If you have exercised faith in Christ, then you are in the right place. If you have not, then you need to heed the words of our Lord, Who said, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten [or, uniquely-born] Son, so that every [one] believing [or, trusting] in Him shall not perish, but shall be have eternal life! For God did not send His Son into the world so that He should judge the world, but so that the world shall be saved through Him. The one believing [or, trusting] in Him is not judged, but the one not believing has already been judged, because he has not believed in the Name of the only-begotten [or, uniquely-born] Son of God.” (John 3:16–18). “I am the Way and the Truth and the Life! No one comes to the Father except through [or, by means of] Me!” (John 14:6).

Every study of the Word of God ought to be preceded by a naming of your sins to God. This restores you to fellowship with God (1John 1:8–10).

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These exegetical studies are *not* designed for you to read each and every word. For instance, the Greek exegesis is put into lightly colored tables, so that if you want to skip over them, that is fine. If you question a translation, you can always refer back to the appropriate Greek tables to sort it all out. These tables provide all of the words their meanings and morphology for each and every verse. The intent is to make this particular study the most complete and most accurate examination of 1Thessalonians 3 which is available in writing. The idea is to make every phrase, verse and passage understandable and to make correct application of all that is studied.

Besides teaching you the doctrinal principles related to this chapter, this commentary is also to help bring this narrative to life, so that you can understand the various characters, their motivations, and the choices that they make. Ideally, you will be able to visualize the peoples, their temporal and spiritual leaders, and their armies as they move across the landscape of the Land of Promise. I hope to provide not only an accurate exegesis of the chapter in view, but to also quote many of the great insights that past commentators have offered us.

Although the bulk of this chapter is based upon narrative from the book of 1Thessalonians, I will make every attempt possible to provide enough historical information and theological context so that you will have a sufficient background to understand what is going on.

**Preface:** Paul notes that there were serious persecutions and afflictions occurring in Thessalonica, so he sent Timothy to check out the situation and to do some teaching. By the time of this letter, Timothy had returned to Paul. It was clear from Timothy’s report that this young church was dealing well with these pressures. Paul indicates his desire to return to Thessalonica.

*Bible Summary: We sent Timothy to strengthen you. We warned you that persecution would come. We are encouraged by your faith. May you grow in love.<sup>1</sup>*

This should be the most extensive examination of 1Thessalonians 3 available, where you will be able to examine in depth every word of the original text.

**Brief Overview:**

Date	Acts	Events	Historical Events	Rome
49–51 A.D.	Acts 18	Paul is in Corinth for 18 months during his 2 <sup>nd</sup> missionary journey	Claudius expels the Jews from Rome 51–52 A.D.	Claudius (41–54 AD)

**Quotations:**

**Outline of Chapter 3:**

**Preface**  
**Introduction**

- v. 1–
- v.
- v.
- v.
- v.
- v.
- v.
- v.
- v.
- v.
- v.

**Chapter Summary**  
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**Charts, Graphics and Short Doctrines:**

- Preface **Preface**
- Preface **Brief Overview**
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- Introduction **Titles and/or Brief Descriptions of 1Thessalonians 3** (by Various Commentators)
- Introduction **Brief, but insightful observations of 1Thessalonians 3** (various commentators)

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<sup>1</sup> From <https://biblesummary.info/1-thessalonians> accessed July 20, 2022.





Many who read and study this chapter are 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> generation students of R. B. Thieme, Jr., so that much of this vocabulary is second nature. One of Bob's contributions to theology is a fresh vocabulary along with a number of concepts which are theologically new or reworked, yet still orthodox. Therefore, if you are unfamiliar with his work, the definitions below will help you to fully understand all that is being said. Also included are various technical terms from Christian theology along with a few new terms and concepts which I have developed.

Sometimes the terms in the exegesis of this chapter are simply alluded to, without any in-depth explanation of them. Sometimes, these terms are explained in detail and illustrated. A collection of all these terms is found here: ([HTML](#)) ([PDF](#)) ([WPD](#)). Often, the terms below are linked to complete doctrines.

### Definition of Terms

#### Rebound (Restoration to fellowship with God)

In the New Testament, this is naming your sins to God, so that you are both restored to temporal fellowship with God and are then filled with the Spirit of God. In the Old Testament, naming your sins to God would result in a restoration of fellowship and, in some cases, the empowerment of the Holy Spirit once again (the Holy Spirit was not given to all Old Testament believers). The **Doctrine of Rebound** ([HTML](#)) ([PDF](#)).

Some of these definitions are taken from

<https://www.gotquestions.org/>

<http://rickhughesministries.org/content/Biblical-Terms.pdf>

<http://www.gbible.org/index.php?proc=d4d>

<http://www.wordoftruthministries.org/terms-and-definitions/>

<http://www.theopedia.com/>

[Chapter Outline](#)

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## An Introduction to 1Thessalonians 3

**Introduction:** 1Thessalonians 3 is one of the shortest chapters in the Bible (it is a scant 13 verses long); and, just as we have previously studied, there is much personal interaction recorded in this chapter. Paul alludes to Timothy having been sent to Thessalonica to check out the circumstances, and Paul's letter appears to be written as a result of Timothy's report.

Paul is clearly worried about this new church holding up under all of the pressures and opposition that they are facing, but having heard Timothy's report, he is quite hopeful, that the Thessalonians are progressing well despite the problems which they are facing.

Paul indicates that he would really like to return to them and teach them face to face.

A title or one or two sentences which describe 1Thessalonians 3.

### Titles and/or Brief Descriptions of 1Thessalonians 3 (by Various Commentators)

[Chapter Outline](#)

[Charts, Maps and Short Doctrines](#)

Sometimes, a commentator will begin with a good observation of this chapter of the Bible.

**Brief, but insightful observations of 1Thessalonians 3 (various commentators)**

[Chapter Outline](#)

[Charts, Maps and Short Doctrines](#)

As I study a chapter, questions will occur to me—some of them important and many of them minor. Not all of these questions will be satisfactorily answered.

**Fundamental Questions About 1Thessalonians 3**

Some of these questions may not make sense unless you have read 1Thessalonians 3. There are **two translations** at the very end of this chapter if you wanted to do that before proceeding any further in this study.

[Chapter Outline](#)

[Charts, Graphics and Short Doctrines](#)

It is important to understand what has gone before.

**The Prequel to 1Thessalonians 3**

[Chapter Outline](#)

[Charts, Graphics and Short Doctrines](#)

We need to know who the people are who populate this chapter.

**The Principals of 1Thessalonians 3**

**Characters**

**Biographical Material**

[Chapter Outline](#)

[Charts, Graphics and Short Doctrines](#)

We need to know where this chapter takes place. I may need to eliminate this one.

### The Places of 1Thessalonians 3

Place	Description

[Chapter Outline](#)

[Charts, Graphics and Short Doctrines](#)

### By the Numbers

Item	Date; duration; size; number

[Chapter Outline](#)

[Charts, Graphics and Short Doctrines](#)

At this point, we begin to gather up more details on this chapter.

### A Synopsis of 1Thessalonians 3


[Chapter Outline](#)

[Charts, Graphics and Short Doctrines](#)

The ESV (capitalized) is used below:

### Outlines and Summaries of 1Thessalonians 3 (Various Commentators)

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## Outlines and Summaries of 1Thessalonians 3 (Various Commentators)

[Chapter Outline](#)

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The text of the verses was added in, using the ESV (capitalized).

## A Synopsis of 1Thessalonians 3 from the Summarized Bible

Keith L. Brooks, *Summarized Bible; Complete Summary of the Bible*; ©1919; from e-Sword, 1Thessalonians 3 (edited).

[Chapter Outline](#)

[Charts, Graphics and Short Doctrines](#)

It is helpful to see what came before and what follows in a brief summary.

### The Big Picture (1Thessalonians 1–24)

Scripture	Text/Commentary
1Thessalonians 1	
1Thessalonians 2	
1Thessalonians 3A	
1Thessalonians 3B	
1Thessalonians 4A	
1Thessalonians 4B	
1Thessalonians 5A	
1Thessalonians 5B	

[Chapter Outline](#)

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#### Changes—additions and subtractions:

For a very short time, I tested the Hebrew Names Version (which is equivalent to the World English Bible—Messianic Edition). It really did not provide any alternate approach beyond the translations I was using, so I stopped using it partway through this chapter. Similarly, I decided to stop referencing the Numeric New Testament.

I added in the *Brief Overview* with chapter 20, and will go back and place that into every chapter.



I continue to avoid using corrections or clarifications in the literal translation, preferring instead to insert words which are not there in order to coincide with good English sense. So, instead of *they came to...*, I might instead write, *[Paul and Silas] came to...* In the past, I would have written, *they [that is, Paul and Silas] came to...* I believe that this provides a better flow for the reader.

It has been my custom, for the past few years, to provide a translation of each verse from my mostly literal translation at the end of each verse. For a passage of two or more verses, at the end of this passage, I also provide my paraphrase (for those two or more verses). Starting with vv. 32–34, I will also include my mostly literal translation at the end of a passage for those two or more verses. So, at the end of v. 34, there will be the mostly literal translation of v. 34, followed by the mostly literal translation of vv. 32–34, followed by the paraphrase of vv. 32–34.

I drew from hundreds of sources for this chapter. I literally stand on the shoulders of thousands of men in order to put this document together.

## Chapter Outline

## Charts, Graphics and Short Doctrines

As always, 3 separate translations will be produced for each verse. The slavishly literal translation attempts to preserve word order and number, making it more literal than Young's translation (however, I do not preserve the consistency of the translation that Young does). The moderately literal translation may add or delete a definite article, change the number of a noun to correspond with the English sense of thinking, and the order is often changed in order to better represent our English sentence structure. The paraphrase is an attempt to give a thought-for-thought interpretation of what each verse tells us.

Kukis slavishly literal:

**Consequently, no longer are [we] bearing up (under suffering), we were willing to be forsaken in Athens alone, and we sent Timotheos, the brother of us and a servant of the God in the declaration of the Christ, to the stabilizing of you (all) and to console [you] for the sake of the faith of yours, that no (man) keep on agitating you (all) in the pressures—these, for you [your] selves have seen that to this (thing) we have been appointed.**

1Thessalonians  
3:1–3

Kukis nearly literal:

**Consequently, we are no longer enduring [this circumstance] patiently, [so] we were willing to be left behind in Athens alone, and [accordingly] we sent Timothy, our brother, a servant of God and our co-worker in the proclamation of Christ, to strengthen you (all) and to [exhort and] console you (all) regarding your faith. [It is important] that no one keeps on agitating you (all) with such [undue] pressures. You (all) know [your] selves that [it is] to this thing [that] we have been appointed.**

Kukis paraphrase

**Consequently, we decided not to wait this thing out—your difficulties and pressures—and so we sent Timothy while we remained in Athens without his assistance. Timothy is our brother, he is a servant of God, and he is our coworker here in the declaration of the gospel of the Messiah (Christ). He is coming to strengthen all of you and to exhort you regarding the faith that we share. It is important that you do not allow any person or circumstance to throw you off your game, despite the undue pressures that you are under. It is clear that this is the life to which we all have been assigned.**

Here is how others have translated this verse:

**Ancient texts:**

I will use the Westcott-Hort Greek text as the basis for my English translation. I use that text primarily because e-sword has a nice module by Rob Wolfram which has the interlinear English text, Strong's #'s, and the Greek morphology. The e-sword tab is IWH+P. I do not use their English text for my translation. Also, throughout, I take in consideration alternate readings.

As a young Christian, I was quite interested in the alternative readings. After many decades of study, I have found that, as with the Hebrew text, disputed readings rarely have any affect on the interpretation of a text (apart from perhaps a half-dozen fairly well-known alternate readings, like the end of the book of Mark).

I will compare the Greek text to English translations of the Latin and Syriac (= Aramaic) texts, using the Douay-Rheims translation<sup>2</sup> and George Lamsa's translation from the Syriac. I often update these texts with non-substantive changes (e.g., *you* for *thou*, etc.).

In general, the Latin text is an outstanding translation from the Hebrew text into Latin and very trustworthy (I say this as a non-Catholic). Unfortunately, I do not read Latin—apart from some very obvious words—so I am dependent upon the English translation of the Latin (principally, the Douay-Rheims translation).

The Septuagint and the Dead Sea Scrolls are irrelevant, as they preceded the writing of the New Testament by over 200 years.

Underlined words indicate differences in the text.

**Ancient texts:**

Westcott-Hort Text (Greek)	Consequently, no longer are [we] bearing up (under suffering), we were willing to be forsaken in Athens alone, and we sent Timotheos, the brother of us and a servant of the God in the declaration of the Christ, to the stabilizing of you (all) and to console [you] for the sake of the faith of yours, that no (man) keep on agitating you (all) in the pressures—these, for you [your] selves have seen that to this (thing) we have been appointed.
Complete Apostles' Bible	Therefore, when we could no longer endure it, we were well pleased to be left behind in Athens alone, and sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, in order to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith, that no one should be disturbed by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we are appointed unto this.
Revised Douay-Rheims Douay-Rheims 1899 (Amer.)	. For which cause, forbearing no longer, we thought it good to remain at Athens alone. And we sent Timothy, our brother and the minister of God in the gospel of Christ, to confirm you and exhort you concerning your faith: That no man should be moved in these tribulations: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto.
V. Alexander's Aramaic T. Eastern Aramaic Mnscrip <sup>3</sup> James Murdock's Syriac NT	. . And, because we could no longer endure it, we were willing to be left alone at Athens,

<sup>2</sup> I have begun to doubt my e-sword Douay-Rheims version, so I now use [www.latinvulgate.com](http://www.latinvulgate.com).

<sup>3</sup> From <https://www.thearamaicscriptures.com/>

and to send to you Timothy our brother, a servant of God, and our assistant in the announcement of the Messiah; that he might strengthen you, and inquire of you respecting your faith:

lest any of you should be disheartened by these afflictions; for ye know, that we are appointed thereto.

Original Aramaic NT<sup>4</sup>

And because we did not resist, we chose to remain in Athens by ourselves, And we sent Timotheaus our brother to you, a Minister of God and our helper in The Good News\* of The Messiah, that he might strengthen you and inquire\* of you concerning your faith,

Lest any of you should lose hope by such sufferings, for you are aware that we are appointed to this.

Plain English Aramaic Bible .

Lamsa Peshitta (Syriac) .

Significant differences:

**English Translations:**

I have included translations which I disagree with and footnotes that I do not necessarily agree with. If I believe that the author is too far from the truth, I may even address that at the footnote. However, nearly all of the correct commentary will be found following the Greek text box and the translation of each phrase.

**Limited Vocabulary Translations:**

Bible in Basic English

At last our desire to have news of you was so strong that, while we ourselves were waiting at Athens, We sent Timothy, our brother and God's servant in the good news of Christ, to give you strength and comfort in your faith; So that no man might be moved by these troubles; because you see that these things are part of God's purpose for us.

Bible in Worldwide English

We felt we could not wait any longer. So we thought it best to stay at the city of Athens alone.

And we sent our brother Timothy to you. He works for God by telling the good news about Christ. We sent him to help you be strong and to encourage you in what you believe.

We do not want anyone to give up because of the trouble. You yourselves know that we all will surely have trouble.

Easy English

Easy-to-Read Version–2008

We could not come to you, but it was very hard to wait any longer. So we decided to send Timothy to you and stay in Athens alone. Timothy is our brother. He works with us for God to tell people the Good News about Christ. We sent Timothy to strengthen and encourage you in your faith. We sent him so that none of you would be upset by the troubles we have now. You yourselves know that we must have these troubles.

God's Word™

We thought it best to remain in Athens by ourselves. But, because we couldn't wait any longer for news about you, we sent our brother Timothy to you. He serves God by spreading the Good News about Christ. His mission was to strengthen and encourage you in your faith so that these troubles don't disturb any of you. You know that we're destined to suffer persecution.

Good News Bible (TEV)

Finally, we could not bear it any longer. So we decided to stay on alone in Athens while we sent Timothy, our brother who works with us for God in preaching the Good News about Christ. We sent him to strengthen you and help your faith, so that none of you should turn back because of these persecutions. You yourselves know that such persecutions are part of God's will for us.

<sup>4</sup> The Aramaic English Interlinear New Testament (7th edition), translated by Rev. David Bauscher. <http://www.aramaicnt.com/> ©2006.

The Message .  
 NIRV .  
 New Life Version .  
 New Simplified Bible .

### Thought-for-thought translations; dynamic translations; paraphrases:

Contemporary English V. Finally, we couldn't stand it any longer. We decided to stay in Athens by ourselves and send our friend Timothy to you. He works with us as God's servant and preaches the good news about Christ. We wanted him to make you strong in your faith and to encourage you. We didn't want any of you to be discouraged by all these troubles. You knew we would have to suffer, because when we were with you, we told you this would happen. And we did suffer, as you well know. V. 4 is included for context.

The Living Bible .  
 New Berkeley Version .  
 New Living Translation .  
 The Passion Translation When we could bear it no longer, we decided that we would remain in Athens and send Timothy in our place. He is our beloved brother and coworker with God in preaching the gospel. We knew he would strengthen your faith and encourage your hearts so that no one would be shaken by these persecutions, for you know that we are destined for this.

UnfoldingWord Simplified T. As a result of that, when I could no longer endure worrying about you, I decided that Silas and I would stay behind alone in the city of Athens, and we sent Timothy to you. You know that he is our close associate and also works for God by proclaiming the good news about the Messiah. Silas and I sent him in order that he would urge you to continue to strongly trust in the Messiah. We did not want any of you to turn away from the Messiah in fear because of what you were suffering. You well know that God knew that others would mistreat us because of the Messiah.

Williams' New Testament<sup>5</sup> So when I could not bear it any longer, I decided to be left behind in Athens alone, and so I sent my brother Timothy, God's minister in the preaching of the good news of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, so that none of you might be deceived amid these difficulties. For you knew yourselves that this is our appointed lot, for when we were with you, we told you beforehand that we were going to be pressed with difficulties, and it took place, as you know. V. 4 is included for context.

### Partially literal and partially paraphrased translations:

American English Bible .  
 Beck's American Translation .  
 Breakthrough Version For this reason, no longer being able to stand it, *it* seemed like a good idea to us to be left in Athens alone. And I sent Timothy (our brother and a co-worker of God in the good news of the Anointed King) for the "to establish you and to encourage *you* on behalf of your trust" *part*, the "for no one to be swayed in these hard times" *thing*. You see, you yourselves realize that we are lying *here* for this; for even when we were with you, we were telling you beforehand that we are going to be going through hard times, just as it also happened, and you have seen *it*. V. 4 is included for context.

Common English Bible .

<sup>5</sup> William's New Testament - 1937 by Charles B. Williams.

Len Gane Paraphrase <sup>6</sup>	And for this reason when we could no longer take it, we thought it good to be left at Athens alone, and sent Timothy, our brother minister of God, and our fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen you and comfort you in your faith, so that no one would be disturbed by these afflictions, for you yourselves know that we all are placed into this.
A. Campbell's Living Oracles	Wherefore, no longer concealing our anxiety, we were well pleased to be left at Athens alone, and sent Timothy, our brother, and a minister of God, and our fellow-laborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to exhort you concerning your faith: that no one should be moved by these afflictions; for yourselves know that we are appointed to them.
New Advent (Knox) Bible	.
NT for Everyone	.
20 <sup>th</sup> Century New Testament	.

### Mostly literal renderings (with some occasional paraphrasing):

An Understandable Version	.
Berean Study Bible	.
Christian Standard Bible	.
Conservapedia Translation	.
Evangelical Heritage V.	.
Ferrar-Fenton Bible	.
Free Bible Version <sup>7</sup>	So when we couldn't bear it any longer, we decided it would be best for us to stay behind in Athens, and send Timothy on to you. He is our brother and God's co-worker in spreading the good news of Christ. We sent him to strengthen and encourage you in your trust in God so that none of you would be upset by your troubles—for you know we should expect such things.
God's Truth (Tyndale)	.
International Standard V	Therefore, when we could stand it no longer, we decided to remain alone in Athens and send Timothy, our brother who works with us for God in the gospel of the Messiah, [Or Christ; other mss. lack of the Messiah] to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, so that no one would be shaken by these persecutions, for which you are aware that we were destined.
Lexham Bible	.
Montgomery NT	And so, when I could no longer bear it, I made up my mind to be left behind at Athens, all alone. I sent Timothy, my brother and God's fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen you and to hearten you in your faith. So that no one should be shaken by these troubles—for you know well that we are appointed to troubles.
NIV, ©2011	.
Riverside New Testament	.
Leicester A. Sawyer's NT	.
The Spoken English NT <sup>8</sup>	.
UnfoldingWord Literal Text	Therefore, when we could no longer bear it, we thought it was good to be left behind at Athens alone. And we sent Timothy, our brother and God's servant in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen you and comfort you regarding your faith, [ Some other versions read, we sent Timothy, our brother and fellow worker for God in the gospel of Christ. ] so that no one would be shaken by these sufferings. For you yourselves know that for this we have been appointed.
Urim-Thummim Version	Therefore when we could no longer endure it, we thought it good to be left at Athens alone; And sent Timotheus, our brother and servant of Elohim, and our fellow

<sup>6</sup> Paraphrase by Len Gane ©2006-2012 All Rights Reserved. Based on the Textus Receptus. Aka the Welcome Bible.

<sup>7</sup> From [www.freebibleversion.org](http://www.freebibleversion.org) Copyright © 2011, Free Bible Ministry.

<sup>8</sup> The Spoken English New Testament by J. Webb Mealy; Copyright © 2012 James Webb Mealy.

laborer in the Good News of Christ, to establish you and to comfort you concerning your Faith: That no one should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed.

Weymouth New Testament So when we could endure it no longer, we decided to remain behind in Athens alone; and sent Timothy our brother and God's minister in the service of Christ's Good News, that he might help you spiritually and encourage you in your faith; that none of you might be unnerved by your present trials: for you yourselves know that they are our appointed lot.

Wikipedia Bible Project .

Worsley's New Testament .

### Catholic Bibles (those having the imprimatur):

Christian Community (1988)<sup>9</sup> .

The Heritage Bible .

New American Bible (2002) .

New American Bible (2011) .

New English Bible—1970 .

New Jerusalem Bible .

New RSV .

Revised English Bible—1989 .

### Jewish/Hebrew Names Bibles:

Complete Jewish Bible .

exeGesés companion Bible .

Hebraic Roots Bible

So, because we could no longer stand these obstacles, we decided to remain in Athens alone, and sent Timothy, our brother and minister of Elohim, and our fellow worker in the good news of Messiah, in order to establish you and to encourage you concerning your faith, that no one be drawn aside by these afflictions. For you yourselves know that we are appointed to this.

Holy New Covenant Trans.

We decided to stay behind alone in Athens. But, when we could wait no longer, we sent Timothy. He is our brother and God's co-worker for the Good News of Christ. We wanted him to help your faith and make you strong. We didn't want anyone to be shaken by these troubles. You know that we must be ready for this.

The Scriptures 2009

So, when we could no longer stand it, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone, and sent Timotiyos, our brother and servant of Elohim, and our fellow worker in the Good News of Messiah, to establish you and encourage you concerning your belief, that no one should be unsettled by these pressures, for you yourselves know that we are appointed to this.

Tree of Life Version .

### Weird English, Old English, Anachronistic English Translations:

Accurate New Testament<sup>10</sup>

...so no more Enduring [We] favor to be left in athens\* Only and [We] send timothy the brother [of] us and [man] working (together) [of] the god in the news (good) [of] the christ to the+ {him} to establish you\* and to call (near) {you\*} for the faith [of] you\* {is necessary} the+ no [man] to be shaken in the afflictions these You\* for have seen for to this [We] lie...

Alpha & Omega Bible .

<sup>9</sup> From <https://www.bibliacatolica.com.br/christian-community-bible/Acts/>

<sup>10</sup> The Accurate New Testament; First Edition; Copyright 2008 Mark D. Harness. [www.lookhigher.com](http://www.lookhigher.com)

Awful Scroll Bible	Through-which, being able no-longer to withstand it, we deem- it- good to be left-along-down from-within Athens, alone, and we direct Timothy, he from the same-womb as us, even a runner of errands of God, and our undertaker-together, from-within the announcing-of-the-Good-Tidings of the Anointed One, to steady yous and to call- yous -by concerning you all's confidence, that no-one is to be moved from-within these oppressions, for yous have perceived, certainly-of-what we ~stand for this-same thing.
Concordant Literal Version	Wherefore, when we could by no means longer refrain, it seems well for us to be left in Athens alone, and we send Timothy, our brother and God's servant in the evangel of Christ, to establish and to console you for the sake of your faith." No one is to be swayed by these afflictions, for you yourselves are aware that we are located for this."
exeGesese companion Bible	<b><u>THE HOLINESS OF THE TRUSTERS</u></b> So when we could no longer endure, we well-approved to be left alone at Asos; and sent Timo Theos our brother and minister of Elohim and our co-worker in the evangelism of the Messiah to establish you and to console you concerning your trust: that no one be shaken in these tribulations: for you yourselves know that we are set thereto.
Orthodox Jewish Bible	Therefore, when we could no longer endure it, we resolved to be left behind alone in Athens. Also we sent Timotiyos, acheinu and fellow po'el of Hashem in the Besuras HaGeulah of Moshiach. We sent Timotiyos in order to give you chozek (strength) and to speak divrei chizzuk to you on behalf of our [orthodox Jewish] Emunah [of the true Dat haYehudit]. This was for the tachlis that no one be unsettled because of ES TZARAH. For you yourselves have da'as that we have a divine calendar date with ES TZARAH.
Rotherham's Emphasized B. .	

### Expanded/Embellished Bibles:

<i>The Amplified Bible</i> An Understandable Version	. So, when we could not stand it any longer [Note: Paul's concern for the spiritual well-being of the Thessalonian Christians became unbearable], we [i.e., I, See verse 5] thought it best to be left behind, alone, at Athens [Note: Paul was willing to labor alone at Athens, so he could send his fellow-workers to minister to others. See Acts 17], and so we [i.e., I] sent Timothy, our brother and God's fellow-worker in [the ministry of] the Gospel, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, so that no one would be shaken by [having to experience] these difficult times. [See 2:14]. For you yourselves know that we are destined to have such experiences.
The Expanded Bible Jonathan Mitchell NT	. Wherefore (or: For this reason), no longer keeping a lid on [our desires] (or: bearing it no longer), we thought it a good idea to be left down alone in Athens, and then sent Timothy, our brother and God's fellow-worker in Christ's message of ease and goodness, to perhaps set you firmly (make you stable) and possibly call you alongside (to aid, encourage, exhort, console and give relief) over the [situation] of your trust and faith (or: conviction and loyalty), that no one be continuously wagged as a tail (= shaken or agitated) within these pressures (contractions, constrictions; oppressions), for you yourselves have seen

and are aware that we are continually laid into (= repeatedly destined and set for) this!

Syndein/Thieme .  
 Translation for Translators .  
 The Voice .

**Bible Translations with a Lot of Footnotes:**

Lexham Bible

**Paul Sends Timothy to Thessalonica**

Therefore when we [\*Here “when ” is supplied as a component of the participle (“could bear”) which is understood as temporal] could bear it no longer, we determined to be left behind in Athens alone, and we sent Timothy, our brother and fellow worker for God in the gospel of Christ, in order to strengthen and to encourage you about your faith, so that no one would be shaken by these afflictions. For you yourselves know that we are appointed for this, for indeed when we were with you we told you beforehand that we were about to be afflicted, just as indeed it happened, and you know. V. 4 is included for context.

NET Bible® .  
 New American Bible (2011) .  
 The Passion Translation .  
 Rotherham’s Emphasized B. .  
 The Spoken English NT<sup>11</sup>

So, when we couldn’t stand it anymore, we thought it was best that we stay behind in Athens by ourselves.  
 And we sent Timothy, our brother and God’s helper<sup>a</sup> in the good news of Christ. He came to strengthen you, and to encourage you in<sup>b</sup> your faith.  
 That way, none of you would be upset by the persecution you were experiencing.<sup>c</sup>  
 After all, you yourselves know that we’re destined for this.

a. Some very good mss have “servant,” but it’s more probable that the surprising word “helper” has been toned down to “servant” at some point.  
 b. Lit. “for the sake of”.  
 c. Lit. “by these persecutions”.

Wilbur Pickering’s New T.

**Concern leads to action**  
 So when we couldn’t stand it any longer, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone and sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, also our fellow worker in the Gospel of Christ, to confirm you and encourage you concerning your faith, that no one be unsettled by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we are appointed to this.<sup>1</sup>  
 (1) We are appointed to affliction in this life. How many sermons have you heard on this topic? If the Son learned obedience through suffering (Heb. 5:8), how about us? “Whom the LORD loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives” (Heb. 12:6). Have you ever been scourged, literally? I have—I didn’t enjoy it.

**Literal, almost word-for-word, renderings:**

A Faithful Version

Accordingly, when we could not bear to wait any longer, we thought it best for us to be left in Athens alone; And we sent our brother Timothy, a servant of God and our fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, in order to establish you and to encourage you concerning your faith, So that no one might be unduly shaken by these persecutions. (For you yourselves know that we are appointed to this very thing; And also, when we were with you, we told you beforehand that we would suffer persecutions, exactly as it also came to pass; and you are aware of this.) V. 4 is included for context.

<sup>11</sup> The Spoken English New Testament by J. Webb Mealy; Copyright © 2012 James Webb Mealy.



Analytical-Literal Translation	For this reason, when we could no longer endure [it], we thought [it] best to be left in Athens alone, and we sent Timothy (our brother and a servant [or, deacon] of God and our co-worker in the Gospel of Christ) to establish [fig., strengthen] you <sub>p</sub> and to encourage you <sub>p</sub> concerning your <sub>p</sub> faith, [that] no one be disturbed by these afflictions [or, trials], for you <sub>p</sub> yourselves know that we are appointed for this.
Berean Literal Bible	.
Bond Slave Version	.
C. Thomson updated NT	.
Charles Thomson NT	Wherefore not being able to bear any longer, we acquiesced in being left alone in Athens, and sent Timothy our brother, and a minister of God, and our fellow labourer in the glad tidings of the Christ, to establish you and comfort you concerning your belief; that none of you might be staggered by those afflictions. For you yourselves know that we are destined for this.
Context Group Version	Therefore when we could no longer endure, we thought it good to be left behind at Athens alone; and sent Timothy, our brother and co-worker under God in the Imperial News of the Anointed, to establish you (pl), and to comfort [you (pl)] concerning your (pl) trust; that no man be moved by these afflictions; for yourselves know that to this we are appointed.
English Standard Version	.
Far Above All Translation <sup>12</sup>	.
Green's Literal Translation	.
Literal New Testament	.
Literal Standard Version	.
Modern English Version	.
Modern Literal Version 2020	Hence, no longer forbearing it, we were delighted to be left in Athens alone. And we sent Timothy, our brother and God's servant and our fellow worker in the good-news of the Christ, *that* he might establish you° and to encourage you° concerning your° faith; <i>for</i> no one to be shook up in these afflictions; <i>for</i> * you° yourselves know that we are reserved *for this thing.
Modern KJV	.
New American Standard B.	.
New European Version	.
New King James Version	.
NT (Variant Readings)	.
Niobi Study Bible	<b>Paul's Concern for Their Faith and Prayer for the Church</b> Therefore when we could no longer forbear, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone, and sent Timothy (Timotheus), our brother and minister of God and our fellow laborer in the Gospel of Christ, to establish you(p) and to comfort you(p) concerning your(p) faith, that no man should be moved by these afflictions; for you(p) yourselves(p) know that thereunto we are appointed.
Revised Young's Lit. Trans.	.
A Voice in the Wilderness	.
Updated Bible Version 2.17	.
Webster's Translation	.
World English Bible	.
Worrell New Testament	.
Young's Updated LT	.

**The gist of this passage:**

1-3

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<sup>12</sup> Online: <http://www.faraboveall.com/> by Graham Thomason.

## 1Thessalonians 3:1a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
dio (διό) [pronounced DEE-oh]	<i>consequently, for which cause, therefore, wherefore, on account of; in fact (?)</i>	conjunction	Strong's #1352
mêketi (μηκέτι) [pronounced may-KEHT-ee]	<i>any longer, (not) henceforth, hereafter, no henceforward (longer, more, soon), not any more</i>	adverb	Strong's #3371
stegô (στέγω) [pronounced STEHG-oh]	<i>roofing over, (figuratively) covering with silence, enduring patiently; bearing (up, under), suffering</i>	masculine plural, present active participle, nominative case	Strong's #4722

**Translation:** *Consequently, we are no longer enduring [this circumstance] patiently,...*

There are no chapter divisions in the original text, so this goes back to the final verses of 1Thessalonians 2, which read: *But since we were torn away from you, brothers, for a short time, in person not in heart, we endeavored the more eagerly and with great desire to see you face to face, because we wanted to come to you—I, Paul, again and again—but Satan hindered us. For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at His coming? Is it not you? For you are our glory and joy.* (1Thessalonians 2:17–20; ESV; capitalized)

Paul has very fond memories of the Thessalonians, and he presented them as his crown of boasting (or glorying). The circumstance that Paul is enduring patiently is, he has wanted to come back the Thessalonica, but he has been hindered by Satan from doing so.

Essentially Paul is saying, “We are not going to continue with this situation; so we are going to plan B.”

## 1Thessalonians 3:1b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
eudokeô (εὐδοκέω) [pronounced yoo-dok-EH-oh]	<i>to be well-pleased [with], to think well of; to approve (an act); to approbate (a person or thing); to think good, to (have, take) pleasure, to be willing</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, aorist active indicative	Strong's #2106
kataleipô (καταλείπω) [pronounced kat-al-Ī-po]	<i>to forsake, to leave [behind], to abandon, to reserve; to leave down</i>	aorist passive infinitive	Strong's #2641
en (ἐν) [pronounced en]	<i>in, on, by means of, with; among</i>	preposition with the locative, dative and instrumental cases	Strong's #1722
Athēnai (Ἀθήναι) [pronounced ath-ay-nahee]	<i>uncertainty; transliterated, Athens</i>	feminine plural proper noun; a location; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #116

Thayer: *Athens [was] a famous city in Greece, the capital of Attica, and the chief seat of learning and civilisation during the golden period of the history of Greece.*

### 1Thessalonians 3:1b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
monos (μόνος) [pronounced MON- oss]	<i>alone, only, by themselves, forsaken, destitute of help, merely; without a companion</i>	masculine plural adjective, nominative case	Strong's #3441

**Translation:** ...[so] we were willing to be left behind in Athens alone,...

I do not believe that Paul is staying behind in Athens alone; he is going to sent Timothy, so this indicates that he is going to be without Timothy specifically.

1Thessalonians 3:1 **Consequently, we are no longer enduring [this circumstance] patiently, [so] we were willing to be left behind in Athens alone,...** (Kukis nearly literal translation)

### 1Thessalonians 3:2a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
καί (καί) [pronounced kī]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532
πεμπῶ (πέμπω) [pronounced PEHM- poh]	<i>to send, to dispatch; to bid a thing to be carried to one; to send (thrust or insert) a thing into another</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, aorist active indicative	Strong's #3992
Τιμόθεος (Τιμόθεος) [pronounced tee- MOTH-eh-oss]	<i>honoring God; an honorable one of God, valuable to God; transliterated, Timothy, Timotheos, Timotheaus, Timotiyos</i>	masculine singular proper noun; a person; accusative case	Strong's #5095

**Translation:** ...and [accordingly] we sent Timothy,...

The person that Paul is going to be without is Timothy. Paul considers him a very important part of the team, and he will speak of Timothy throughout the rest of v. 2.

To remind you, Paul and Barnabas went on the first missionary tour together. They had a falling out over John Mark at the beginning of the second missionary tour, so Barnabas traveled with John Mark and Paul traveled with Silas. Along the way, they picked up Timothy. Timothy proved to be a valuable asset and a quick study.

### 1Thessalonians 3:2b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
τον (τόν) [pronounced tahn]; also το (το) [pronounced toh]	<i>the, to [or towards] the</i>	masculine singular definite article in the accusative case	Strong's #3588
adelphos (ἄδελφός) [pronounced ad-el- FOSS]	<i>a brother (literally or figuratively)</i>	masculine singular noun, accusative case	Strong's #80

## 1Thessalonians 3:2b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
hēmōn (ἡμῶν) [pronounced hay-MOHN]	<i>us, of us, from us, our, ours</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, personal pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2257 (from Strong's #1473)

**Translation:** ...our brother,...

Obviously, to be a part of Paul's team, Timothy must be a part of the royal family of God. Here, he is called *our brother*, the personal pronoun referring to Paul and Silas (at least).

## 1Thessalonians 3:2c

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
καί (καί) [pronounced kī]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532
diakonos (διάκονος) [pronounced dee-AK-on-oss]	<i>a servant, attendant, minister; the servant; a deacon; a waiter</i>	masculine singular noun; accusative case	Strong's #1249

Although this is a reasonably common word (it is found 30 times in the New Testament), we never find it in the books of Luke or Acts (it is in Matthew and Mark).

του (τοῦ) [pronounced tu]	<i>of the; from the, [away, out] from the; from the source of; by the; than the</i>	masculine singular definite article, genitive/ablative case	Strong's #3588
theos (θεός) [pronounced theh-OSS]	<i>God, [the true] God; divine being; god, goddess, divinity</i>	masculine singular noun, genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2316

**Translation:** ...a servant of God...

He is called a servant or minister of God. The Greek word is diakonos (διάκονος) [pronounced dee-AK-on-oss] and we take our word *deacon* from it.

## 1Thessalonians 3:2d

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
The Byzantine Greek text and the Scrivener Textus Receptus has three words missing from the Westcott Hort text:			
καί (καί) [pronounced kī]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532
sunergós (συνεργός) [pronounced soon-er-GOSS]	<i>fellow worker (laborer), co-worker</i>	masculine singular adjective, accusative case	Strong's #4904

## 1Thessalonians 3:2d

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
hēmōn (ἡμῶν) [pronounced hay-MOHN]	<i>us, of us, from us, our, [of] ours</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, personal pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2257 (from Strong's #1473)
It is more common for words to drop out of a text than for words to have been added in after the fact.			
en (ἐν) [pronounced en]	<i>in, on, by means of, with; among</i>	preposition with the locative, dative and instrumental cases	Strong's #1722
tō (τῷ) [pronounced toh]	<i>in the; by the, to the; by means of the; for the benefit [advantage] of; for the disadvantage of</i>	neuter singular definite article; locative, dative, or instrumental case	Strong's #3588
euangelion (εὐαγγέλιον) [pronounced yoo-ang-GHEL-ee-on]	<i>announcement [proclamation, declaration, preaching] of good news [the gospel], evangelization; the bringing (declaring, showing) of glad (good) tidings</i>	neuter singular noun; dative, locative or instrumental case	Strong's #2098
tou (τοῦ) [pronounced tu]	<i>of the; from the, [away, out] from the; from the source of; by the; than the</i>	masculine singular definite article, genitive/ablative case	Strong's #3588
Christos (χριστός) [pronounced krees-TOHSS]	<i>anointed, anointed one, Messiah; transliterated, Christ</i>	masculine singular noun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #5547

**Translation:** ...and our co-worker in the proclamation of Christ,...

The words *and our coworker* are not found in the Westcott Hort text, but they are found in the Byzantine Greek text and the Scrivener Textus Receptus; and I believe that they legitimately belong here.

Timothy has been evangelizing as a part of Paul's team.

## 1Thessalonians 3:2e

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
eis (εἰς) [pronounced ICE]	<i>to, toward; into; unto; at; in order to, for, for the purpose of, for the sake of, on account of; against</i>	directional preposition	Strong's #1519
to (τό) [pronounced toh]	<i>the; this, that; to the, towards the</i>	neuter singular definite article; accusative case	Strong's #3588

## 1Thessalonians 3:2e

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
stêrizô (στηρίζω) [pronounced stay-RIHD-zoh]	<i>to turn resolutely in [a certain direction]; to make stable, to place firmly, to set fast, to fix; to strengthen, make firm; to render constant, to confirm (one's mind)</i>	aorist active infinitive	Strong's #4741
humas (ὐμάς) [pronounced hoo-MOSS]	<i>you [all], all of you; to you, towards you [all]</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural personal pronoun; accusative case	Strong's #5209, (from Strong's #5210; a form of Strong's #4771)

**Translation:** ...to strengthen you (all)...

Given the difficulties that the Thessalonians are in (to be described a bit more in v. 3), Timothy is being sent to them to strengthen them. The verb is the aorist active infinitive of stêrizô (στηρίζω) [pronounced stay-RIHD-zoh], which means, *to turn resolutely in [a certain direction]; to make stable, to place firmly, to set fast, to fix; to strengthen, make firm; to render constant, to confirm (one's mind)*. Strong's #4741.

How is Timothy going to do this? He is not going to come to the Thessalonians and say, "Listen, you guys need to toughen up!" He is going to teach them doctrine.

Based upon what we have here, Timothy is going to teach them a more in-depth approach to Christology and Soteriology—especially referring back to the prophetic passages which speak of the Messiah. Timothy would likely teach these believers about suffering, as they appear to be dealing with persecution and suffering there (you may recall from the book of Acts that Paul received a lot of push back from the Jews there (Acts 17:1–9).

## 1Thessalonians 3:2f

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
kaí (καί) [pronounced kī]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532
parakaleô (παρακαλέω) [pronounced pah-rahk-ahl-EH-oh]	<i>to exhort, to console; to call [near, for]; to invite, to invoke; to (be of good) comfort, to desire, to (give) exhort (-ation), to entreat, to pray</i>	aorist active infinitive	Strong's #3870
hupér (ὑπέρ) [pronounced hoop-AIR]	<i>above, beyond, across; for, regarding, on behalf of, for the sake of, instead of; in favor of, because of, on account of; as a substitute for</i>	preposition with the genitive case	Strong's #5228
Instead of huper, the Byzantine Greek text and the Scrivener Textus Receptus both have...			
humas (ὐμάς) [pronounced hoo-MOSS]	<i>you [all], all of you; to you, towards you [all]</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural personal pronoun; accusative case	Strong's #5209, (from Strong's #5210; a form of Strong's #4771)

## 1Thessalonians 3:2f

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
peri (περί) [pronounced <i>per-EE</i> ]	<i>about, concerning, on account of, because [of], around, near</i>	preposition	Strong's #4012
You can see how, if a few letters dropped out of the text, we would be left with <i>huper</i> . Similarly, one might want to see a direct object here and fill that in. That would be less likely, in my opinion.			
tês (τῆς) [pronounced <i>tayc</i> ]	<i>of the; from the, [away, out] from the; from the source of; by the; than the</i>	feminine singular definite article; genitive and ablative cases	Strong's #3588
pistis (πίστις) [pronounced <i>PIHS-tihs</i> ]	<i>faith, assurance, belief, believe; the content of what is believed; persuasion, that is, credence; moral conviction</i>	feminine singular noun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #4102
humôn (ὑμῶν) [pronounced <i>hoo-MONE</i> ]	<i>of yours, from you; concerning you; you, yourselves</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #5216 (genitive case of #5210)

**Translation:** ...and to [exhort and] console you (all) regarding your faith.

Timothy is going to exhort the believers in Thessalonica, and he will do this with the teaching of doctrine.

*Faith* here refers to not just what the Christians in Thessalonica believe, but in their doctrines and practices.

1Thessalonians 3:2 ...and [accordingly] we sent Timothy, our brother, a servant of God and our co-worker in the proclamation of Christ, to strengthen you (all) and to [exhort and] console you (all) regarding your faith. (Kukis nearly literal translation)

## 1Thessalonians 3:3a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
to (τό) [pronounced <i>toh</i> ]	<i>the; this, that; to the, towards the</i>	neuter singular definite article; accusative case	Strong's #3588
mêdeis/mêdemia/ mêden (μηδεις/μηδεμία/μηδέν) [pronounced <i>may-DICE, may-dem-EE-ah, may-DEN</i> ]	<i>none, nobody, no one, nothing, not even one (man, woman, thing), anyone, any (man, thing), no (man); without (delay)</i>	masculine singular adjective; accusative case	Strong's #3367 [The masculine, feminine irregular (second form) and neuter (third form) from G3361 and G1520]
saínō (σαίνω) [pronounced <i>SAH-ee-no</i> ]	<i>to shake; to wag a tail (of a dog); metaphorically: to flatter, to fawn upon; to move (the mind of one); agreeably; to agitate, to disturb, to trouble</i>	present passive infinitive	Strong's #4525

## 1Thessalonians 3:3a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
These definitions are all over the place.			
en (ἐν) [pronounced en]	<i>in, on, by means of, with; among</i>	preposition with the locative, dative and instrumental cases	Strong's #1722
tais (ταῖς) [pronounced taiç]	<i>to the, for the; in the; by the, by means of the; for the benefit [advantage] of; for the disadvantage of</i>	feminine plural definite article; dative, locative and instrumental cases	Strong's #3588
thlipseis (θλίψεις) [pronounced THLIP-sice]	<i>troubles, pressures, oppressions, tribulations, afflictions; pressures and difficulties brought about by outside conditions—by conditions outside your control</i>	feminine plural noun, dative, locative or instrumental case	Strong's #2347
tautais (ταύταις) [pronounced TAOW-face]	<i>for these, in these [things], by these</i>	feminine plural, demonstrative pronoun; dative, locative or instrumental case	Strong's #3778

**Translation:** [It is important] that no one keeps on agitating you (all) with such [undue] pressures.

V. 3 continues v. 2; however, for English sensibilities, I believe it is best to start a new sentence here. That generally requires throwing in a few extra words.

Now, how do the Thessalonians stop the Jews there from agitating them with such undue pressures? (I translated tautais as *such*). Believers are not in the business of stopping unbelievers from doing their thing. What believers primarily have to do is prepare their inner selves to deal with suffering and difficulties.

So that there is no misunderstanding, Paul did not go looking for pressures and beatings and abusive behavior. In fact, much of Acts is about him encountering that sort of stuff, and moving on to another city. Paul allowed such difficulties to guide him to go from point A (where there is suffering) to point B (a place where Paul needs to evangelize).

The Thessalonians cannot do this. Although it is possible and okay for believers to pick up and move from one place to another; Paul has evangelized a number of people in Thessalonica. He is not saying to them, "Listen, people are not going to like you, so I have bought this farm up in the mountains, and I want you all to join me there." Paul did not do that. Paul was mobile on a missionary tour; but he did not expect entire populations of believers to pick up and move elsewhere. They will have to remain there; so Timothy will come to them and teach.

## 1Thessalonians 3:3b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
autoi (αὐτοί) [pronounced ow-TOY]	<i>they; same; these; themselves</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup> person masculine plural personal pronoun; nominative case	Strong's #846



1Thessalonians 3:3b			
Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
gár (γάρ) [pronounced gahr]	<i>for, for you see; and, as, because (that), but, even, for indeed, no doubt, seeing, then, therefore, verily, what, why, yet</i>	postpositive explanatory particle	Strong's #1063
eidô (εἶδω) [pronounced I-doh]; also oida (οἶδα) [pronounced OY-da]	<i>to see, to perceive, to ascertain; to inspect, to examine; to observe; to discern, to know, to understand</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural, perfect active indicative	Strong's #1492
hóti (ὅτι) [pronounced HOH-tee]	<i>that, because, for, since; as concerning that; as though; before a quotation, this can mean, quote</i>	demonstrative or causal conjunction	Strong's #3754
eis (εἰς) [pronounced ICE]	<i>to, toward; into; unto; at; in order to, for, for the purpose of, for the sake of, on account of; against</i>	directional preposition	Strong's #1519
τούτο (τούτο) [pronounced TOO-toh]	<i>this [thing], that [thing], this one</i>	demonstrative singular pronoun; neuter singular; accusative case	Strong's #5124 (Neuter, singular, nominative or accusative of #3778)
keimai (κεῖμαι) [pronounced KI-mahee]	<i>to lay, to lie, to lay outstretched (literally or figuratively); to be (appointed, laid up, made, set)</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, present (deponent) middle/passive indicative	Strong's #2749

**Translation:** You (all) know [your] selves that [it is] to this thing [that] we have been appointed.

The situation that Paul is in and the things which the Thessalonians are enduring—God has appointed them to that life, to these circumstances, to these pressures.

**Application:** It is legitimate to pray for pressures to be removed from you; but there are times when God is going to allow those things to rest upon you.

1Thessalonians 3:3 [It is important] that no one keeps on agitating you (all) with such [undue] pressures. You (all) know [your] selves that [it is] to this thing [that] we have been appointed. (Kukis nearly literal translation)

1Thessalonians 3:1–3 Consequently, we are no longer enduring [this circumstance] patiently, [so] we were willing to be left behind in Athens alone, and [accordingly] we sent Timothy, our brother, a servant of God and our co-worker in the proclamation of Christ, to strengthen you (all) and to [exhort and] console you (all) regarding your faith. [It is important] that no one keeps on agitating you (all) with such [undue] pressures. You (all) know [your] selves that [it is] to this thing [that] we have been appointed. (Kukis nearly literal translation)

1Thessalonians 3:1–3 Consequently, we decided not to wait this thing out—your difficulties and pressures—and so we sent Timothy while we remained in Athens without his assistance. Timothy is our brother, he is a servant of God, and he is our coworker here in the declaration of the gospel of the Messiah (Christ). He is coming to strengthen all of you and to exhort you regarding the faith that we share. It is important that you do not allow any

person or circumstance to throw you off your game, despite the undue pressures that you are under. It is clear that this is the life to which we all have been assigned. (Kukis paraphrase)

For even when face to face with you (all) we were, we were telling you (all) beforehand that we were about to be pressed (down). Just as [we warned], it came to pass and you (all) have seen [this]. Through this (thing), even I hereafter keep on bearing under [such pressure]. I sent [Timothy] to [you all] to know the faith of you (all), not somehow was tempting you (all) the one tempting. And to emptiness might have become the labor of us.

1Thessalonians  
3:4–5

For even when we were there with you (all), we were telling you (all) beforehand that we were about to be afflicted. And just as [we had described], it came to be (and you (all) observed it). Throughout this [oppression], even I was no longer enduring (with silence). [Around this same time] I sent [Timothy] to [you all] to ascertain [the level] of your faith lest the tempter tempt you (all). [If this were the case,] our labor would be in vain.

You may recalled that early on, we warned you about the persecution and pressure which might come upon you. In fact, just as I had described to you, it came to pass. The oppression became so great that even I was unable to endure it quietly. Around this same time, I sent Timothy to you, in part to ascertain your level of faith, lest the devil tempt you away from doctrine. Had his attacks succeeded, our work with you would have been in vain.

Here is how others have translated this passage:

#### Ancient texts:

Westcott-Hort Text (Greek)	For even when face to face with you (all) we were, we were telling you (all) beforehand that we were about to be pressed (down). Just as [we warned], it came to pass and you (all) have seen [this]. Through this (thing), even I hereafter keep on bearing under [such pressure]. I sent [Timothy] to [you all] to know the faith of you (all), not somehow was tempting you (all) the one tempting. And to emptiness might have become the labor of us.
Complete Apostles Bible	For even when we were with you, we were telling you in advance that we were going to be afflicted, just as it also happened, and you know. Because of this, when I could no longer endure it, I sent to learn about your faith, lest somehow the tempter had tempted you, and our labor be in vain.
Revised Douay-Rheims Douay-Rheims 1899 (Amer.)	. For even when we were with you, we foretold you that we should suffer tribulations: as also it is come to pass, and you know. For this cause also, I, forbearing no longer, sent to know your faith: lest perhaps he that tempteth should have tempted you: and our labour should be made vain.
V. Alexander's Aramaic Eastern Aramaic Manuscript James Murdock's Syriac NT	. For also when we were with you, we forewarned you, that we were to be afflicted; as ye know did occur. Therefore also I could not be quiet, until I sent to learn your faith; lest the Tempter should have tempted you, and our labor have been in vain.
Original Aramaic NT	For also when we were with you, we said to you before that we would be persecuted, just as you know it happened. Because of this I also did not resist until I sent to know your faith, lest the tempter would tempt you and our labor would be worthless.*.

Plain English Aramaic Bible .  
Lamsa Peshitta (Syriac) .

Significant differences:

### Limited Vocabulary Translations:

Bible in Basic English	And when we were with you, we said to you that trouble was before us; and so it came about, as you see. For this reason, when I was no longer able to keep quiet, I sent to get news of your faith, fearing that you might be tested by the Evil One and that our work might come to nothing.
Bible in Worldwide English	When we were with you, we told you that we would have trouble. Trouble came. And now you know what we said is true. That is why I could not wait any longer. I sent Timothy to find out if you were still believing. I was afraid that Satan had tried you too much. Then our work would have been for nothing.
Easy English Easy-to-Read Version–2008	Even when we were with you, we told you that we would all have to suffer. And you know that it happened just as we said. This is why I sent Timothy to you, so that I could know about your faith. I sent him when I could not wait anymore. I was afraid that the devil who tempts people might have defeated you with temptations. Then our hard work would have been wasted.
God's Word™	In fact, when we were with you, we told you ahead of time that we were going to suffer persecution. And as you know, that's what happened. But when I couldn't wait any longer, I sent Timothy to find out about your faith. I wanted to see whether the tempter had in some way tempted you, making our work meaningless.
Good News Bible (TEV)	For while we were still with you, we told you ahead of time that we were going to be persecuted; and as you well know, that is exactly what happened. That is why I had to send Timothy. I could not bear it any longer, so I sent him to find out about your faith. Surely it could not be that the Devil had tempted you and all our work had been for nothing!
<i>The Message</i>	.
NIRV	.
New Life Version	.
New Simplified Bible	.

### Thought-for-thought translations; dynamic translations; paraphrases:

Contemporary English V.	We didn't want any of you to be discouraged by all these troubles. You knew we would have to suffer, because when we were with you, we told you this would happen. And we did suffer, as you well know. At last, when I could not wait any longer, I sent Timothy to find out about your faith. I hoped that Satan had not tempted you and made all our work useless. V. 3 is included for context.
The Living Bible	.
New Berkeley Version	.
New Century Version	.
New Living Translation	.
The Passion Translation	In fact, when we were with you we forewarned you: "Suffering and persecution is coming." And so it has happened, as you well know. For this reason, when I could endure it no longer, I sent our brother to find out if your faith was still strong, for I was concerned that the tempter had somehow enticed you and our labor would have been in vain.
UnfoldingWord Simplified T.	Remember that when we were present with you, we kept telling you that others would mistreat us. And that is what happened, as you know. This is why I sent

Timothy to you, because I could wait no longer to know whether you were still trusting in the Messiah. I was afraid that Satan, the one who tempts us, had caused you to stop trusting in the Messiah. I was afraid that everything we had done with you was useless.

Williams' New Testament . Pressed difficulties

### Partially literal and partially paraphrased translations:

American English Bible .

Beck's American Translation .

Breakthrough Version

And I sent Timothy (our brother and a co-worker of God in the good news of the Anointed King) for the "to establish you and to encourage *you* on behalf of your trust" *part*, the "for no one to be swayed in these hard times" *thing*. You see, you yourselves realize that we are lying *here* for this; for even when we were with you, we were telling you beforehand that we are going to be going through hard times, just as it also happened, and you have seen *it*. And because of this, no longer being able to stand *it*, I sent *Timothy to you* for the "to know your trust" *part*, in case somehow the one who tries to cause trouble was trying to cause trouble with you and our labor should become for a meaningless *thing*. Vv. 2–3 are included for context.

Common English Bible .

Len Gane Paraphrase

For truly, when we were with you, we told you ahead of time that we would suffer afflictions, even as it happened and as you know. For this reason when I couldn't put it off any longer I sent so that I might know about your faith, lest somehow the tempter having tempted you and our labor turn out to be futile.

A. Campbell's Living Oracles

For even when we were with you, we foretold you that we were to be afflicted; which also happened as you know. For this reason also, no longer concealing my anxiety, I sent to know your faith; lest by some means the tempter may have tempted you, and our labor have become in vain.

New Advent (Knox) Bible .

NT for Everyone .

20<sup>th</sup> Century New Testament

For, even while we were with you, we warned you beforehand that we were certain to encounter trouble. And so it proved, as you know. Therefore, since I could no longer endure the uncertainty, I sent to make inquiries about your faith, fearing that the Tempter had tempted you, and that our toil might prove to have been in vain.

### Mostly literal renderings (with some occasional paraphrasing):

An Understandable Version .

Berean Study Bible .

Christian Standard Bible .

Conservapedia Translation .

Evangelical Heritage V. .

Revised Ferrar-Fenton Bible .

Free Bible Version

Even while we were with you we kept on warning you that we would suffer persecution soon— and as you well know that is exactly what has happened.

This is why, when I couldn't stand it anymore, I sent to find out whether you were still trusting in God. I was concerned that the Devil\* had successfully tempted you and that all our work had been for nothing!\*

God's Truth (Tyndale) .

Holman Christian Standard .

International Standard V

In fact, when we were with you, we told you ahead of time that we were going to suffer persecution. And as you know, that is what happened. But when I could stand it no longer, I sent Timothy [The Gk lacks Timothy] to find out about your faith. I

was afraid that the tempter had tempted you in some way, and that our work had been a waste of time.

- Lexham Bible .
- Montgomery NT .
- NIV, ©2011 .
- Riverside New Testament .
- Leicester A. Sawyer’s NT .
- The Spoken English NT .
- UnfoldingWord Literal Text .
- Urim-Thummim Version .

For of a truth when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer distress; even as it came to pass and you know. For this cause, when I could no longer keep silent, I sent to know your Faith, unless by some means the Tempter has tempted you and our labor was in vain.

Weymouth New Testament

For even when we were with you, we forewarned you, saying, "We are soon to suffer affliction;" and this actually happened, as you well know. For this reason I also, when I could no longer endure the uncertainty, sent to know the condition of your faith, lest perchance the Tempter might have tempted you and our labour have been lost.

- Wikipedia Bible Project .
- Worsley’s New Testament .

For when we were with you, we told you before that we should be afflicted, as it came to pass, and ye know. For this cause being able to wait no longer, I sent to know *the state of* your faith, lest the tempter should have tempted you, and our labor have been in vain.

**Catholic Bibles (those having the imprimatur):**

- Christian Community (1988) .
- The Heritage Bible .
- New American Bible (2002) .
- New American Bible (2011) .
- New English Bible–1970 .
- New Jerusalem Bible .
- New RSV .
- Revised English Bible–1989 .

**Jewish/Hebrew Names Bibles:**

- Complete Jewish Bible .
- Hebraic Roots Bible .

For even when we were with you, we said to you before that we are about to suffer tribulations, as it also happened, even as you know. Because of this, no longer enduring, I also sent to know your faith, that the tempting one not somehow tempt you, and our labor should come to be in vain.

Holy New Covenant Trans.

When we were with you, we told you ahead of time: "We are about to be persecuted." And, as you know, it happened. That is why I couldn't wait any longer; I sent Timothy to find out if your faith was strong. The Tempter could have tempted you and our hard work would have been wasted.

The Scriptures 2009

For indeed, we did inform you beforehand, when we were with you, that we would suffer pressure, and so it came to be, as you know. Because of this, when I could no longer stand it, I sent to find out about your belief, lest the trying one might have tried you, and our labour should be in vain.

Tree of Life Version

For even when we were with you, we kept telling you in advance that we were going to suffer persecution—just as has happened, as you know. For this reason, when I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your faithfulness, for fear that the tempter had tempted you and that our labor might be in vain.

**Weird English, Old English, Anachronistic English Translations:**

Accurate New Testament	...and for when to you* [We] were [We] said (before) [to] you* for [We] intend to be afflicted as and [She] becomes and [You*] have seen {it} because of this (And) I no more Enduring send {someone} to the+ {us} to know the faith [of] you* not somehow tested you* The [One] Testing and to [thing] empty may become The Labor [of] us...
Alpha & Omega Bible Awful Scroll Bible	. For, even as-when we were with yous, we were confirming-beforehand to yous, certainly-of-what we are about to be oppressed, even accordingly-as-to it occurred, even have yous perceived it. Because of this, I-indeed being able no-longer to withstand it, direct to come to know of you all's confidence, lest-perhaps at all, he tempting was to tempt yous, and our toils may come to be in vain.
Concordant Literal Version	For even when we were with you, we predicted to you that "we are about to be afflicted, according as it came to be also, and you are aware." Therefore, when I also could by no means longer refrain, I send to know of your faith, lest somehow the trier tries you and our toil may be coming to be for naught."
exeGesés companion Bible	For verily, when we were with you, we forespoke that we were about to be tribulated - even exactly as it became - as you know. For this cause even when I could no longer endure, I sent to know of your trust; lest somehow the tester tests you and our labor become void.
Orthodox Jewish Bible	For, hinei, when we were with you, we kept telling you beforehand that we were going to suffer redifah, just as also it came to pass, of which you have da'as. For this reason, when I could no longer endure it, I sent in order to know your emunah, lest somehow [Hasatan Samma'el] the Tempter [HaMenasseh] had ensnared you by nissayon and our labor should be for nothing.
Rotherham's Emphasized B.	.

**Expanded/Embellished Bibles:**

<i>The Amplified Bible</i> An Understandable Version	. For even when we were with you, we warned you that we were going to be persecuted, and as you know, it has turned out that way. [So], for this reason, when I could not stand it any longer, I also sent [Timothy] to find out about your faith. I was afraid that somehow the tempter [i.e., Satan] had tempted you [to give up] and that our work [on your behalf] will have become useless.
The Expanded Bible Jonathan Mitchell NT	. You see, even when we were with you we were predicting (laying it out and telling beforehand) to you that, "we are about to be continuously pressed (or: squeezed; oppressed), " just as it was even birthed (or: also came to be), and you have seen and know. On account of this I also, no longer keeping a lid on [my desires] (= when I could bear it no longer), sent to find out about your faith, trust and loyalty, lest (or: in case) somehow the One continuously putting [folks] to the proof (or: the trier; [note: this could refer to God, or to one of His instruments, as with Job]) put you to the proof (tried or tested you), and our exhausting labor (or: = the trouble to which we went; toil; hardship; or: beating) may be birthed into a void (or: come to be [entered] into an empty place; or: exist in vain; = be to no purpose).
P. Kretzmann Commentary Syndein/Thieme	.

Translation for Translators .  
The Voice .

### Bible Translations with Many Footnotes:

Lexham Bible	...for indeed when we were with you we told you beforehand that we were about to be afflicted, just as indeed it happened, and you know. Because of this, I also, when I [*Here “when ” is supplied as a component of the participle (“could endure”) which is understood as temporal] could endure it no longer, sent in order to know your faith, lest somehow the tempter tempted you and our labor should be in vain.
NET Bible®	.
New American Bible (2011)	.
The Passion Translation	.
Rotherham’s Emphasized B.	.
The Spoken English NT	Because even when we were with you, we were telling you ahead of time that we’re going to be persecuted. Which, as you know, is exactly what happened. And that’s why, when I couldn’t stand it any longer, I sent Timothy to find out about <sup>d</sup> your faith. I was worried that <sup>e</sup> the tempter had tempted you, and our hard work would turn out to be for nothing. d. Lit. “to know”. e. Lit. “Whether perhaps”.
Wilbur Pickering’s New T.	For indeed, when we were with you we kept telling you in advance that we were going to be afflicted; <sup>2</sup> just as it happened, in fact, as you know. Yes, that’s why, no longer standing it, I sent to find out about your faith, for fear that somehow the tempter had successfully tempted you and our labor come to be for nothing. (2) It was all a calculated risk. The messengers had their eyes open and wanted to make sure their hearers went into their new life with their eyes open—there were no misleading promises of peace and prosperity!

### Literal, almost word-for-word, renderings:

A Faithful Version	And also, when we were with you, we told you beforehand that we would suffer persecutions, exactly as it also came to pass; and you are aware of this.) For this reason, when I could not wait any longer, I sent Timothy, in order to know your faith, lest perhaps the tempter had tempted you, and our labor might be in vain.
Analytical-Literal Translation	For even when we were with you <sub>p</sub> , we kept telling you <sub>p</sub> in advance [or, forewarning you <sub>p</sub> ] that we are about to be experiencing hardships [or, to be afflicted], just as also it happened, and you <sub>p</sub> know [it]. For this reason also, when I could no longer endure [it], I sent to know [or, learn about] your <sub>p</sub> faith, lest somehow the one tempting [or, the tempter] had tempted you <sub>p</sub> and our labor came to be in emptiness [fig., for nothing].
Berean Literal Bible	.
Bond Slave Version	.
C. Thomson updated NT	.
Charles Thomson NT	For when we were with you, we told you beforehand that we should soon be afflicted, as it hath actually come to pass, and you know; therefore not being able to bear any longer, I sent to know your faith, for fear the tempter might have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.
Context Group Version	For truly, when we were with you (pl), we told you (pl) beforehand that we are about to suffer affliction; even as it happened, and you (pl) know. For this cause I also, when I could no longer endure, sent that I might know your (pl) trust, lest by any means the loyalty-tester had loyalty-tested you (pl), and our labor should be in emptiness.
English Standard Version	.





## 1Thessalonians 3:4a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
Gar has an elliptical use, <i>where the clause to which it refers is omitted and is to be supplied in thought.</i> <sup>14</sup>			
Gar can be used intensively, and strengthens a clause. It may be translated <i>then, truly</i> . This can act as a <i>strong affirmation or a negation.</i> <sup>15</sup>			
hote/hête/tote (ὅτε/ἤτε/τότε) [pronounced <i>HOT-eh</i> , <i>HAY-teh</i> , <i>TOT-eh</i> ]	<i>when, whenever, while; that, this [which]; for this reason, because; after (that), as soon as, as long as</i>	adverb; causal particle (masculine, feminine and neuter forms)	Strong's #3753
prós (πρός) [pronounced <i>prahç</i> ]	<i>facing, face to face with; to, towards, unto; for; about, according to, against, among, at, because of, before, between, by, with; directly to</i>	directional preposition with the accusative case	Strong's #4314
humas (ὐμάς) [pronounced <i>hoo-</i> <i>MOSS</i> ]	<i>you [all], all of you; to you, towards you [all]</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural personal pronoun; accusative case	Strong's #5209, (from Strong's #5210; a form of Strong's #4771)
ên (ἦν) [pronounced <i>ayn</i> ]	<i>was, were, has been; to have existed; to have stayed; had occurred, took place; was present [available]</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, imperfect indicative	Strong's #2258 (imperfect of Strong's #1510)

**Translation:** For even when we were there with you (all),...

Team Paul had originally come to Thessalonica and evangelized them. At the same time, Paul ran into some serious trouble with some of the Jewish unbelievers there.

During this time, Paul warned these new believers that they would face a great deal of persecution. Much of the book of Acts is Paul going into a city, evangelizing, and then having some groups of people in the city turn against him, and make every attempt to arrest him for speaking about Jesus.

Was Paul expecting things to get really bad and for this to be followed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> advent of Jesus? I believe that it is very possible that Paul and/or other Apostles and church leaders believed that, even though we do not find this exact sentiment expressed in the New Testament (I would chalk that up to the editing of God the Holy Spirit).

Would it be possible for actual Pauline epistles to be discovered (or copies of them) this long after the fact? That is certain possible and, to be clear, these would not be lost portions of the Scriptures. God the Holy Spirit was able to preserve what needed to be preserved and He was able to discard that which may have actually been false (bear in mind, I am only speculating here). But finding a Pauline epistle which had been lost would not be much different than discovering writings by second generation believers. It would be interesting, it may include some bad information, but it would not be made a part of the Word of God.

<sup>14</sup> Spiros Zodhiates, *The Complete Word Study Dictionary New Testament*; AMG Publishers; ©1992, p. 358.

<sup>15</sup> Spiros Zodhiates, *The Complete Word Study Dictionary New Testament*; AMG Publishers; ©1992, p. 358.

## 1Thessalonians 3:4b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
prolēgō (προλέγω) [pronounced prol- EHG-oh]	<i>to tell before (hand), to say beforehand, to predict, to foretell, to forewarn</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, imperfect active indicative	Strong's #4302
humin (ὑμῖν) [pronounced hoo- MEEN]	<i>you [all]; in you; to you; in you; by you, with you</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural personal pronoun; locative, dative or instrumental case	Strong's #5213; an irregular dative of #5210; a form of #4771
hóti (ὅτι) [pronounced HOH-tee]	<i>that, because, for, since; as concerning that; as though; before a quotation, this can mean, quote</i>	demonstrative or causal conjunction	Strong's #3754
mellō (μέλλω) [pronounced MEHL- ow]	<i>to be about to, to do, to intend, to come; to suffer something (of persons or things, especially events; in the sense of purpose, duty, necessity, probability, possibility, or hesitation), will, would</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, present active indicative	Strong's #3195
thlibō (θλίβω) [pronounced THLEE- bo]	<i>to press (as grapes), to press hard upon; metaphorically to trouble, to afflict, to distress, to oppress</i>	present passive infinitive	Strong's #2346

**Translation:** ...we were telling you (all) beforehand that we were about to be afflicted.

Paul's teaching would not have sounded like Martin Luther or Saint Jerome or Billy Graham or R. B. Thieme, Jr. Every believer has his own style.

One of the things which we learn in this verse is the content of what Paul taught. I believe that we may reasonably assume that Paul taught the gospel of Jesus Christ, and that he relied heavily upon Old Testament references when teaching that. He taught the Thessalonian believers that they may face some serious persecutions and pressures in the near future. That is coming to pass.

Although I do not believe that Paul had a full and complete grasp of dispensations yet, he probably did some teaching about them. It had to be clear to every believer 30 miles outside of Jerusalem that God had a whole new program happening after the cross (within the city limits of Jerusalem, the Jewish believers could not let go of their Jewish traditions, including the legitimate ones).

## 1Thessalonians 3:4c

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
kathōs (καθώς) [pronounced kath- OCE]	<i>just as, even as, inasmuch as, as; according as, according to; since, seeing that, accepting the fact that; when, how, after that</i>	adverb	Strong's #2531
kaí (καί) [pronounced kī]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532

### 1Thessalonians 3:4c

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
gínomai ( γίνομαι ) [pronounced GIN-oh-mī]	<i>to become [something it was not before]; to come to be [about], to happen; to be born; to arise; to be made, to be created; to happen, to take place</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup> person singular, aorist (deponent) middle/passive indicative	Strong's #1096

Sometimes, when there is no specific subject, this can be translated, *and it came to pass, and it was, and so it was; now it happened that; and here is what happened next; there came about; there came to be, there arose, there developed.*

**Translation:** *And just as [we had described], it came to be...*

I believe the word *just as* refers to what Paul had prophesied about future persecutions in Thessalonica (remember, Paul did have a prophetic gift).

The idea here is, “Do not panic. I told you that this was going to happen; it is happening; don’t worry.”

R. B. Thieme, Jr. warned for decades of the decline which was apparent within the United States. This decline is far more apparent today than it was during his era. That we are teetering as a nation is something that almost any believer with doctrine is able to see. There are so many places where our nation has gone astray.

I don’t have the gift of prophecy (nor did R. B. Thieme, Jr.), but it is clear that, our nation could face some horrendous judgments over the next 10, 20 or 30 years. What is taking place within our government today borders on insanity. By reading historical trends, we know that things could go horribly bad in the United States.

For the believer with doctrine, bear in mind, Jesus Christ controls history; but sometimes, he must destroy large populations in order to preserve a nation (or, in warning a nation that they may be facing the 5<sup>th</sup> cycle of discipline<sup>16</sup>).

### 1Thessalonians 3:4d

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
kaí (καί) [pronounced kī]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532
eidô (εἶδω) [pronounced Ī-doh]; also oida (οἶδα) [pronounced OY-da]	<i>to see, to perceive, to ascertain; to inspect, to examine; to observe; to discern, to know, to understand</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural, perfect active indicative	Strong's #1492

**Translation:** *...(and you (all) observed it).*

Paul tells the Thessalonians, “You are seeing this that I warned you about take place right before your very eyes. Do not panic. You knew that this was coming.”

<sup>16</sup> Or the 6<sup>th</sup> stage of national discipline, which would be almost complete national annihilation (something that Israel would never face, but we might).

1Thessalonians 3:4 For even when we were there with you (all), we were telling you (all) beforehand that we were about to be afflicted. And just as [we had described], it came to be (and you (all) observed it). (Kukis nearly literal translation)

1Thessalonians 3:5a			
Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
διά (διά) [pronounced dee-AH]	<i>through; with; in; of time; throughout; during; by, by the means of, by reason of; on account of; because of, for this reason; therefore; on this account</i>	preposition	Strong's #1223
τούτο (τούτο) [pronounced TOO-toh]	<i>this [thing], that [thing], this one</i>	demonstrative singular pronoun; neuter singular; accusative case	Strong's #5124 (Neuter, singular, nominative or accusative of #3778)
καγὼ/καμοί/καμέ (καγὼ/καμοί/καμέ) [pronounced kag-OH]	<i>and I; I also, even I, I as well, I likewise, in like manner I; even I, this selfsame I; me, me also</i>	conjunction; 1 <sup>st</sup> person singular, nominative case	Strong's #2504
μηκέτι (μηκέτι) [pronounced may-KEHT-ee]	<i>any longer, (not) henceforth, hereafter, no henceforward (longer, more, soon), not any more</i>	adverb	Strong's #3371
στεγῶ (στεγῶ) [pronounced STEHG-oh]	<i>roofing over, (figuratively) covering with silence, enduring patiently; bearing (up, under), suffering</i>	masculine singular, present active participle, nominative case	Strong's #4722

**Translation:** Throughout this [oppression], even I was no longer enduring (with silence).

I believe that I got the correct understanding of this phrase, but it was quite difficult to translate.

Paul is commiserating with the Thessalonians, telling them that he has faced tremendous pressures that he is unable to endure quietly.

1Thessalonians 3:5b			
Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
πεμπῶ (πέμπω) [pronounced PEHM-poh]	<i>to send, to dispatch; to bid a thing to be carried to one; to send (thrust or insert) a thing into another</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person singular, aorist active indicative	Strong's #3992
εἰς (εἰς) [pronounced ICE]	<i>to, toward; into; unto; at; in order to, for, for the purpose of, for the sake of, on account of; against</i>	directional preposition	Strong's #1519
το (τό) [pronounced toh]	<i>the; this, that; to the, towards the</i>	neuter singular definite article; accusative case	Strong's #3588

## 1Thessalonians 3:5b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
ginōskō (γινώσκω) [pronounced <i>gih-NOH-skoh</i> ]	<i>to know, to learn to know, to come to know, to gain knowledge of; to feel; to become known; to understand, to perceive, to have knowledge of; a Jewish idiom for sexual intercourse between a man and a woman; to become acquainted with</i>	aoist active infinitive	Strong's #1097
tên (τὴν) [pronounced <i>tayn</i> ]	<i>the, to the; toward the; this, that</i>	feminine singular definite article; accusative case	Strong's #3588 (article, demonstrative pronoun)
pistis (πίστις) [pronounced <i>PIHS-tih</i> s]	<i>faith, assurance, belief, believe; the content of what is believed; persuasion, that is, credence; moral conviction</i>	feminine singular noun; accusative case	Strong's #4102
humōn (ὑμῶν) [pronounced <i>hoo-MONE</i> ]	<i>of yours, from you; concerning you; you, yourselves</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #5216 (genitive case of #5210)

**Translation:** [Around this same time] I sent [Timothy] to [you all] to ascertain [the level] of your faith...

What appears to be the case is, Paul did, from Corinth, send Timothy to Thessalonica, to function as their pastor for awhile, to take their temperature, so to speak, and then return to Corinth with a status report. It appears that Timothy has been there and come back; and Paul may be writing this letter based upon Timothy's report.

## 1Thessalonians 3:5c

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
mē (μή) [pronounced <i>may</i> ]	<i>not, neither, never, no; lest; nothing, without; not even; also [in a question requiring a negative answer]</i>	adverb; a qualified negation	Strong's #3361
pōs (πώς) [pronounced <i>pohç</i> ]	<i>somehow, anyhow; by any (some) means, at all, perhaps</i>	adverb; an enclitic particle of indefiniteness of manner	Strong's #4458 (hapax legomena)

My e-sword reference material tells me both that this word is found here; but also, it tells me that this word is found nowhere in the New Testament. So, my understanding would be that, in some ancient manuscripts, this word is not found at all, not even here.

The way that this works is, other manuscripts put these two words together and produce a third word:

mêpōs (μήπως) [pronounced <i>MAY-poss</i> ]	<i>not/somehow; lest, lest somehow, lest (by any means, by some means); (that) perhaps</i>	conjunction or conjunctive particle	Strong's #3381
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## 1Thessalonians 3:5c

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
The Greek manuscript has no spaces, so, fundamentally, there is no difference between the first two particles and this word.			
peirazō (πειράζω) [pronounced pi-RAD-zoh]	<i>to tempt, to entice; to test (objectively), to scrutinize, to assay, to examine, to go about, to prove; to try; to attempt; to endeavor</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup> person singular, imperfect active indicative	Strong's #3985
In the Byzantine Greek text and the Scrivener Textus Receptus, this is a 3 <sup>rd</sup> person singular, aorist active indicative.			
humas (ὕμας) [pronounced hoo-MOSS]	<i>you [all], all of you; to you, towards you [all]</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural personal pronoun; accusative case	Strong's #5209, (from Strong's #5210; a form of Strong's #4771)
ho (ὁ) [pronounced hoh]	<i>the; this, that; who, which</i>	definite article for a masculine singular noun, nominative case	Strong's #3588
peirazō (πειράζω) [pronounced pi-RAD-zoh]	<i>being tempted, being enticed; testing (objectively), scrutinizing, assaying, examining, going about, the one proving; trying; attempting to, endeavoring to</i>	masculine singular, present active participle; nominative case	Strong's #3985

**Translation:** ...lest the tempter tempt you (all).

Paul does not want the Thessalonians to give into temptation, to give into the pressures, to abandon their faith in Christ.

## 1Thessalonians 3:5d

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
kaí (καί) [pronounced kī]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532
eis (εἰς) [pronounced ICE]	<i>to, toward; into; unto; at; in order to, for, for the purpose of, for the sake of, on account of; against</i>	directional preposition	Strong's #1519
kenos (κενός) [pronounced keh-OSS]	<i>empty, vain; destitute [of goods, of spiritual truth]; without wealth</i>	neuter singular adjective; accusative case	Strong's #2756

1Thessalonians 3:5d			
Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
gínomai ( γίνομαι) [pronounced GIN-oh-mī]	<i>to become [something it was not before]; to come to be [about], to happen; to be born; to arise; to be made, to be created; to happen, to take place</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup> person singular, aorist (deponent) middle/passive subjunctive	Strong's #1096
ho (ὁ) [pronounced hoh]	<i>the; this, that; who, which</i>	definite article for a masculine singular noun, nominative case	Strong's #3588
kopos (κόπος) [pronounced KOP-oss]	<i>a beating; a beating of the breast with grief, sorrow; labour, weariness [from working]; trouble; to cause one trouble, make work for him; intense labour united with trouble and toil</i>	masculine singular noun, nominative case	Strong's #2873
hēmōn (ἡμῶν) [pronounced hay-MOHN]	<i>us, of us, from us, our, ours</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, personal pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2257 (from Strong's #1473)

**Translation:** [If this were the case,] our labor would been in vain.

If the believers in Thessalonica were ready to throw the towel in, that would mean that Paul's work there would have been for naught.

1Thessalonians 3:5 Throughout this [oppression], even I was no longer enduring (with silence). [Around this same time] I sent [Timothy] to [you all] to ascertain [the level] of your faith lest the tempter tempt you (all). [If this were the case,] our labor would been in vain. (Kukis nearly literal translation)

1Thessalonians 3:4–5 For even when we were there with you (all), we were telling you (all) beforehand that we were about to be afflicted. And just as [we had described], it came to be (and you (all) observed it). Throughout this [oppression], even I was no longer enduring (with silence). [Around this same time] I sent [Timothy] to [you all] to ascertain [the level] of your faith lest the tempter tempt you (all). [If this were the case,] our labor would been in vain. (Kukis nearly literal translation)

1Thessalonians 3:4–5 You may recalled that early on, we warned you about the persecution and pressure which might come upon you. In fact, just as I had described to you, it came to pass. The oppression became so great that even I was unable to endure it quietly. Around this same time, I sent Timothy to you, in part to ascertain your level of faith, lest the devil tempt you away from doctrine. Had his attacks succeeded, our work with you would have been in vain. (Kukis paraphrase)

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Now, just now, a coming of Timotheos face to face with us from you (all) and he is declaring to us the faith and the love of you (all); and that you (all) keep on having a remembrance of us [which is] good; always longing us to see, just as also we you (all). Through this (thing) we have been encouraged brothers, by you (all), because of the every distress and affliction of us, because of the faith of you (all). For now we keep on living if you (all) keep on standing firm in [the] Lord.

1Thessalonians  
3:6–8

Just now, [there was] a coming of Timothy to us from you (all) and he is proclaiming to us your faith and (agapê) love. [He] also [tells us] that you (all) have a good memory of us [and that] you always long to see us, just as we [long to see] you (all). Through this [time] we have been encouraged, brothers, by you (all) because of our [shared] distresses and pressures, and because of your faith [which you have shown under pressure]. Right this moment, we keep on enjoying life if you (all) keep on standing firm in the Lord.

Timothy has just returned to us from you, which prompted this missive. He testifies to us of your faith and your relaxed mental attitude. He also revealed that you have a fond memory of us and that you long to see us again (as we would like to see you again as well). Throughout this time as we travel from city to city, we are encouraged by you, brothers, because of your solid faith under pressure when faced with pressures and distresses (which we face as well). Right at this moment, we are greatly satisfied with life knowing that you all keep on standing firm and stable in the Lord.

Here is how others have translated this passage:

#### Ancient texts:

Westcott-Hort Text (Greek)	Now, just now, a coming of Timotheos face to face with us from you (all) and he is declaring to us the faith and the love of you (all); and that you (all) keep on having a remembrance of us [which is] good; always longing us to see, just as also we you (all). Through this (thing) we have been encouraged brothers, by you (all), because of the every distress and affliction of us, because of the faith of you (all). For now we keep on living if you (all) keep on standing firm in [the] Lord.
Complete Apostles Bible	But now when Timothy came to us from you, and brought good news to us of your faith and your love, and that you have good remembrance of us always, longing to see us, as we also long to see you-- because of this we were encouraged, brothers, in regard to you in all our affliction and distress by your faith. Because now we live, if you stand firm in the Lord.
Revised Douay-Rheims Douay-Rheims 1899 (Amer.)	. But now when Timothy came to us from you and related to us your faith and charity, and that you have a good remembrance of us always, desiring to see us as we also to see you: Therefore we were comforted, brethren, in you, in all our necessity and tribulation, by your faith. Because now we live, if you stand in the Lord.
V. Alexander's Aramaic Eastern Aramaic Manuscript James Murdock's Syriac NT	. But now, since Timothy hath come to us from among you, and hath informed us respecting your faith and your love, and that ye have a good remembrance of us at all times, and that ye desire to see us, even as we [to see] you; therefore we are comforted in you, my brethren, amid all our straits and afflictions, on account of your faith. And now, we live, if ye stand fast in our Lord.



Original Aramaic NT	But now since Timotheaus has come to us from your midst and he gave us good news concerning your faith and about your love, and that you have a good commemoration of us in every place and you desire to see us, just as we also do you, Therefore we were comforted by you, brethren, concerning all our adversities and in our afflictions, because of your faith. And now we live, if you will abide in Our Lord.
Plain English Aramaic Bible	.
Lamsa Peshitta (Syriac)	.

Significant differences:

### Limited Vocabulary Translations:

Bible in Basic English	But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has given us good news of your faith and love, and that you have happy memories of us, desiring greatly to see us, even as we do to see you; For this cause, brothers, in all our trouble and grief we were comforted about you because of your faith; For it is life to us if you keep your faith in the Lord unchanged.
Bible in Worldwide English	But now Timothy has come back to us from you. He has brought us the good news that you are still believing and have love in your hearts. He has told us that you always remember us. He also told us that you want to see us, just as we want to see you. My brothers, the way you believe has comforted us in all our troubles. It gives us new life now to know that you are standing strong in the Lord.
Easy English	.
Easy-to-Read Version–2008	But now Timothy has come back from his visit with you and told us good news about your faith and love. He told us that you always remember us in a good way. He told us that you want very much to see us again. And it is the same with us--we want very much to see you. So, brothers and sisters, we are encouraged about you because of your faith. We have much trouble and suffering, but still we are encouraged. Our life is really full if you stand strong in the Lord.
God's Word™	But Timothy has just now come back to us from you and has told us the good news about your faith and love. He also told us that you always have fond memories of us and want to see us, as we want to see you. So brothers and sisters, your faith has encouraged us in all our distress and trouble. Now we can go on living as long as you keep your relationship with the Lord firm.
Good News Bible (TEV)	Now Timothy has come back, and he has brought us the welcome news about your faith and love. He has told us that you always think well of us and that you want to see us just as much as we want to see you. So, in all our trouble and suffering we have been encouraged about you, friends. It was your faith that encouraged us, because now we really live if you stand firm in your life in union with the Lord.
The Message	.
NIRV	.
New Life Version	.
New Simplified Bible	.

### Thought-for-thought translations; dynamic translations; paraphrases:

Contemporary English V.	Timothy has come back from his visit with you and has told us about your faith and love. He also said that you always have happy memories of us and that you want to see us as much as we want to see you. My friends, even though we have a lot of trouble and suffering, your faith makes us feel better about you. Your strong faith in the Lord is like a breath of new life.
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The Living Bible	.
New Berkeley Version	.
New Century Version	.
New Living Translation	.
The Passion Translation	But now, Timothy has just returned to us and brought us the terrific news of your faith and love. He informed us that you still hold us dear in your hearts and that you long to see us as much as we long to see you. So, our dear brothers and sisters, in the midst of all our distress and difficulties, your steadfastness of faith has greatly encouraged our hearts. We feel alive again as long as we know that you are standing firm in the Lord.
UnfoldingWord Simplified T.	But now Timothy has just returned to Silas and me from being with you, and he has told us the good news that you still trust in the Messiah and that you love him. He told us also that you always happily remember us and that you want very much us to visit you, just as we want to visit you. My fellow believers, even though we are suffering very much because of what people are doing to us here, we have been comforted because Timothy told us that you still trust in the Messiah. Now it is as if we are living in a new way, because you are trusting very much in the Lord Jesus.
Williams' New Testament	But now, since Timothy has just come back to me from you, and brought me good tidings of your faith and love, and told me how kindly you remembered me and that you are longing to see me as much as I am to see you, this is the very reason, namely, through your faith, brothers, that I have been encouraged about you, in spite of all my distresses and crushing difficulties, for now I am really living, since you are standing firm in the Lord.

**Partially literal and partially paraphrased translations:**

American English Bible	.
Beck's American Translation	.
Breakthrough Version	Just now, after Timothy came to us from you and shared with us the good news of <i>your</i> trust, your love, and that you always have a good mention of us, yearning to see us, exactly as we also you, because of this, brothers, we were encouraged based on you over all our shortages and hard times through your trust because now we live if you stand in <i>the</i> Master.
Common English Bible	.
Len Gane Paraphrase	But now Timothy came from you to us and brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always have good memories of us, greatly desiring to see us, just as we do you. Therefore, brothers, by your faith we were comforted about you in all our affliction and distress. For now we live, if you remain steadfast in the Lord.
A. Campbell's Living Oracles	But now, when Timothy came to us from you, and gave us the good news of your faith and love, and that you have good remembrance of us at all times, ardently desiring to see us, even as we also to see you; by this, brethren, we were comforted concerning you in all our affliction and necessity, even by your faith. For now we live, when you stand firm in the Lord.
New Advent (Knox) Bible	.
NT for Everyone	.
20 <sup>th</sup> Century New Testament	But, when Timothy recently returned to us from you with good news of your faith and love, and told us how kindly you think of us--always longing, he said, to see us, just as we are longing to see you--On hearing his, we felt encouraged about you, Brothers, in the midst of all our difficulties and troubles, by your faith. For it is new life to us to know that you are holding fast to the Lord.

**Mostly literal renderings (with some occasional paraphrasing):**

An Understandable Version	.
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Berean Study Bible	But just now, Timothy has returned from his visit with the good news about your faith, your love, and the fond memories you have preserved, longing to see us just as we long to see you. For this reason, brothers, in all our distress and persecution, we have been reassured about you, because of your faith. For now we can go on living, as long as you are standing firm in the Lord.
Christian Standard Bible	.
Conservapedia Translation	.
Evangelical Heritage V.	.
Revised Ferrar-Fenton Bible	.
Free Bible Version	Now Timothy has just returned from visiting you and he has brought us good news of your trust in God and the love you have. He's told us that you still have fond memories of us, longing to see us just as we long to see you. This news really encouraged us while we were suffering troubles ourselves, brothers and sisters, knowing that you continue to hold on to your trust in God. For us life is worth living now because you're standing firm in the Lord!
God's Truth (Tyndale)	.
Holman Christian Standard	.
International Standard V	<b><i>Paul Rejoices about the Thessalonians</i></b> But Timothy has just now returned from visiting [The Gk. lacks visiting] you and has told us the good news about your faith and love. He also told us that you always have fond memories of us and want to see us, just as we want to see you. That's why, brothers, in all our distress and persecution we have been encouraged about you by your faith. For now we can go on living, as long as you continue to stand firm in the Lord.
Lexham Bible	.
Montgomery NT	.
NIV, ©2011	.
Riverside New Testament	But now that Timothy has come to us from you and has brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always keep us well in mind and long to see us, just as we long to see you, we have been cheered, brethren, in regard to you, in all our straits and distresses by your faith. Now we are living, since you are standing firm in the Lord.
Leicester A. Sawyer's NT	.
The Spoken English NT	.
UnfoldingWord Literal Text	.
Urim-Thummim Version	But now when Timotheus came from you to us, and brought us joyful news of your Faith and brotherly love, and that you have good remembrance of us always, desiring greatly to see us, as we also want to see you: Therefore brethren, we were comforted over you in all our affliction and distress by your Faith: For now we live, if you stand fast in the LORD.
Weymouth New Testament	But now that Timothy has recently come back to us from you, and has brought us the happy tidings of your faith and love, and has told us how you still cherish a constant and affectionate recollection of us, and are longing to see us as we also long to see you--for this reason in our distress and trouble we have been comforted about you, brethren, by your faith. For now life is for us life indeed, since you are standing fast in the Lord.
Wikipedia Bible Project	.
Worsley's New Testament	.
<b>Catholic Bibles (those having the imprimatur):</b>	
Christian Community (1988)	.
The Heritage Bible	.
New American Bible (2002)	.

New American Bible (2011) .  
 New English Bible–1970 .  
 New Jerusalem Bible .  
 New RSV .  
 Revised English Bible–1989 .

### Jewish/Hebrew Names Bibles:

Complete Jewish Bible .  
 Hebraic Roots Bible .  
 Holy New Covenant Trans. .  
 The Scriptures 2009 .  
 Tree of Life Version .

But now Timothy coming to us from you, and announcing good news to us of your love and faith, and that you have good remembrance of us always, longing to see us, even as also we long to see you.  
 Because of this we were comforted over you, brothers, on all our affliction and distress through your faith, because now we can live happily, if you should stand fast in YAHWEH.

But Timothy has just now come back from you to us. He has told us the news about your faith and giving of self to others for their good, expecting nothing in return; that you always have good memories of us and yearn to see us, just as much as we want to see you. Brothers, this is why your faith encouraged us, even though we are in trouble and suffering. If you stand in the Lord, we feel alive now.

But now that Timotiyos has come to us from you, and having brought us good news of your belief and love, and that you always have good remembrance of us, longing to see us, as we also to see you, therefore, brothers, in all our pressure and distress we were encouraged concerning you by your belief. Because we now live, if you stand fast in the Master.

### Weird English, Old English, Anachronistic English Translations:

Accurate New Testament .  
 Alpha & Omega Bible .  
 Awful Scroll Bible .  
 Concordant Literal Version .  
 exeGeses companion Bible .

...now but coming timothy to us from you\* and announcing [to] us the faith and the love [of] you\* and for [You\*] have mention [of] us good always Desiring us to see as and We {Desiring to see} you\* {are} because of this [We] are called (near) Brothers at you\* at every the need and affliction [of] us through the [of] you\* faith for now [We] live if You\* stand in lord...

But now Timothy, coming from yous, with regards to us, and himself announcing- to us -the-good-tidings, of you all's confidence and dear love, and that yous hold a good remembrance of us as-when-at-all times, yearning-for to perceive us, accordingly-as-to we also yous.  
 Because of this, yous of the same-womb, we being called- yous -by in all our oppressions and that enfolded-over, because of you all's confidence.  
 Because now we Live, if- yous -shall stand sure from-within the Lord.

Yet at present, because of Timothy's coming to us from you, and bringing us the evangel of your faith and your love, and that you have a good remembrance of us always, longing to see us even as we also you -"  
 therefore we were consoled, brethren, over you in all our necessity and affliction, through your faith,  
 for now we are living if ever you are standing firm in the Lord.

And now, when Timo Theos came from you to us and evangelized of your trust and love and that you have good remembrance of us always - yearning to see us - exactly as we also to see you: because of this, brothers, we consoled over you

in all our tribulation and necessity  
through your trust:  
for now we live

- whenever you stand firm in Adonay.

Orthodox Jewish Bible

But, just now, when Timotiyos has come to us from you and has brought us good news of your [correct orthodox Jewish] Emunah and your ahavah and that you always have zochrim tovim (good memories) of us, yearning to see us, just as we yearn to see you.

For this reason, Achim b'Moshiach, in all our tzoros and redifah, we received chozek because of you through your emunah.

For now we have Chayyim if you have a firm standing and remain ne'emanot (faithful) in Hashem.

Rotherham's Emphasized B. .

### Expanded/Embellished Bibles:

*The Amplified Bible*

An Understandable Version

.  
But now Timothy has returned to us from you and brought us good news about your faith and love, and [reported] that you have good memories of us. [He told us that you are] longing to see us, just as we also long to see you. So, brothers, through all of our distress and persecution, we were encouraged over you because of your faith, for now we [really] live, if you [continue to] stand firm in [the service of] the Lord [i.e., Paul could enjoy life much more in knowing that the Thessalonians were living for the Lord faithfully].

The Expanded Bible

Jonathan Mitchell NT

.  
Yet at the present moment, Timothy, upon coming to us from you and announcing the good news (message of ease and well-being) to us of your faith and love, [said] that you always continuously hold (or: have) a good remembrance of us, continuously having strong desire to see us – even as we also you!

On account of this, brothers (= folks who are as family), on [the occasions of] all our choking necessity and pressure, by means of the ministry of a paraclete (or: the Paraclete) we were comforted and encouraged through your faith, trust and loyalty, so that now we can be (or: are) living, since (or: if ever) you continue standing firm in (and: in union with) [the] Lord.

P. Kretzmann Commentary

Syndein/Thieme

Translation for Translators

The Voice

### Bible Translations with Many Footnotes:

Lexham Bible

#### *Timothy's Positive Report*

But now, because [\*Here "because " is supplied as a component of the participle ("has come") which is understood as causal] Timothy has come to us from you and has brought good news to us of your faith and love, and that you always think kindly of us [Literally "that you have kindly remembrance of us always"], desiring to see us just as also we desire to see you, because of this, brothers, we have been comforted because of you in all our distress and affliction through your faith, because now we live, if you stand firm in the Lord.

NET Bible®

New American Bible (2011)

The Passion Translation

Rotherham's Emphasized B. .

The Spoken English NT But Timothy has just now come back to us from you. And he's told us the good news of your faith and your love. And he tells us that you always have good memories of us-that you really want to see us, just as much as we want to see you. So thanks to your faith, brothers and sisters, we've been encouraged about you, in the midst of all our hardships and persecutions.

Wilbur Pickering's New T. Because now we live, if you're standing firm in the Lord. But now that Timothy has come to us from you and brought us glad news of your faith and love, and that you have good memories of us always, longing to see us, just as we also long to see you—because of this, brothers, in all our affliction and distress we were encouraged about you by your faith; for now we live, if you are standing firm in the Lord.<sup>3</sup>

(3) Again, I find the level of Paul's involvement with them to be surprising. (It would be physically and emotionally impossible to be this involved with every church he started.) But as a responsible father, he is properly concerned for their growth and well being (verse 10).

**Literal, almost word-for-word, renderings:**

A Faithful Version But now, after Timothy came to us from you and told us the good news of your faith and your love, and that you always keep us in mind, and are longing to see us, even as we also long to see you; Through this report about you we were encouraged, brethren, in all our persecution and trouble?because of your faith; For now we live, if you stand firm in the Lord.

Analytical-Literal Translation But now Timothy having come to us from you<sub>p</sub> and having declared good news to us [regarding] your<sub>p</sub> faith and love, and that you<sub>p</sub> have a good remembrance of us always, longing to see us, just as we also [long to see] you<sub>p</sub>. For this reason, we were encouraged, brothers [and sisters], in regard to you<sub>p</sub>, in all our affliction and distress, by means of your<sub>p</sub> faith. Because now we live, since you<sub>p</sub> stand firm in [the] Lord.

Berean Literal Bible .

Bond Slave Version .

C. Thomson updated NT .

Charles Thomson NT .

Context Group Version But when Timothy came even now to us from you (pl), and brought us the imperial news of your (pl) trust and allegiance, and that you (pl) have good remembrance of us always, longing to see us, even as we also [to see] you (pl); for this cause, brothers, we were comforted over you (pl) in all our distress and affliction through your (pl) trust: for now we live, if you (pl) stand firm in the Lord.

English Standard Version .

Far Above All Translation .

Green's Literal Translation .

Literal New Testament .

Literal Standard Version .

Modern English Version .

Modern Literal Version 2020 But now, after Timothy came to us from you<sup>o</sup>, and proclaimed to us good-news *about* your<sup>o</sup> faith and love\*, and that you<sup>o</sup> have a good remembrance of us always, longing to see us, just-as we also *long to see* you<sup>o</sup>. Brethren, because of this, we were comforted upon *the basis of* you<sup>o</sup> in all our affliction and calamity through your<sup>o</sup> faith, because now we live, if you<sup>o</sup> stand-firm in the Lord.

Modern KJV .

New American Standard .

New European Version .

New King James Version .

NT (Variant Readings)  
Niobi Study Bible

**Encouraged by Timothy**

But now when Timothy came from you(p) unto us, and brought us good tidings of your(p) faith and charity, and that you(p) have a good remembrance of us always and desire greatly to see us (as we also desire to see you), therefore brethren, we were comforted concerning you(p) in all our affliction and distress by your(p) faith; for now we live, if you(p) stand fast in the Lord.

Revised Young's Lit. Trans. .  
Updated Bible Version 2.17 .  
A Voice in the Wilderness .  
Webster's Translation .  
World English Bible .  
Worrell New Testament .  
Young's Updated LT .

**The gist of this passage:**  
6-8

**1Thessalonians 3:6a**

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
árti (ἄρτι) [pronounced AR-tee]	<i>now, just now, this moment; now at this time, at this very time, this moment</i>	adverb	Strong's #737
dé (δέ) [pronounced deh]	<i>now, then; but, moreover, and, also; namely, to wit</i>	post-positive conjunctive particle	Strong's #1161
érchomai (ἔρχομαι) [pronounced AIR-khoh-my]	<i>going, coming (in a great variety of applications, literally and figuratively); the ones accompanying; appearing; bringing, those entering</i>	masculine singular, aorist active participle, genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2064
Timótheos (Τιμόθεος) [pronounced tee-MOTH-eh-oss]	<i>honoring God; an honorable one of God, valuable to God; transliterated, Timothy, Timotheos, Timotheaus, Timotiyos</i>	masculine singular proper noun; a person; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #5095
prós (πρός) [pronounced prahç]	<i>facing, face to face with; to, towards, unto; for; about, according to, against, among, at, because of, before, between, by, with; directly to</i>	directional preposition with the accusative case	Strong's #4314
hêmas (ἡμᾶς) [pronounced hay-MASS]	<i>us, to us</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural pronoun; accusative case	Strong's #2248 (accusative plural of Strong's #1473)
apó (ἀπό) [pronounced aw-PO]; spelled ἄφ' before a vowel.	<i>from, away from, by; after; at; with, because of, since; before; in; of; out (from)</i>	preposition or separation or of origin	Strong's #575

## 1Thessalonians 3:6a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
humôn (ὕμῶν) [pronounced hoo- MONE]	<i>of yours, from you; concerning you; you, yourselves</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #5216 (genitive case of #5210)

**Translation:** Just now, [there was] a coming of Timothy to us from you (all)...

What appears to be the case is, for whatever reason, Paul sent Timothy to Thessalonica. Perhaps a troubling report, perhaps a concern for them during the unrest which was taking place.

Timothy has just returned from Thessalonica, given Paul a report, and Paul is sending a letter to the Thessalonians as a result.

## 1Thessalonians 3:6b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
καί (καί) [pronounced kī]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532
euaggelizō (εὐαγγελίζω) [pronounced yoo-ang- ghel-EED-zo]	<i>announcing [speaking, declaring, bringing] the good news, evangelizing, proclaiming the gospel; bringing [declaring] glad [good] tidings [news, information]</i>	masculine singular; aorist middle participle, genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2097
hêmin (ἡμῖν) [pronounced hay- MEEN]	<i>to us, of us, by us; for us</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural pronoun; locative, dative or instrumental case	Strong's #2254 (from Strong's #1473)
tên (τὴν) [pronounced tayn]	<i>the, to the; toward the; this, that</i>	feminine singular definite article; accusative case	Strong's #3588 (article, demonstrative pronoun)
pistis (πίστις) [pronounced PIHS- tihs]	<i>faith, assurance, belief, believe; the content of what is believed; persuasion, that is, credence; moral conviction</i>	feminine singular noun; accusative case	Strong's #4102
καί (καί) [pronounced kī]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532
tên (τὴν) [pronounced tayn]	<i>the, to the; toward the; this, that</i>	feminine singular definite article; accusative case	Strong's #3588 (article, demonstrative pronoun)



## 1Thessalonians 3:6b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
agápē (ἀγάπη) [pronounced ag-AH-pay]	agape love, mental attitude love, volitional love; brotherly love, affection, good will, love, benevolence; love feasts	feminine singular noun, accusative case	Strong's #26
humōn (ὕμῶν) [pronounced hoo-MONE]	of yours, from you; concerning you; you, yourselves	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #5216 (genitive case of #5210)

**Translation:** ...and he is proclaiming to us your faith and (agapê) love.

Timothy has seen demonstrations of their faith and their agapê love (that is, their relaxed mental attitude).

Quite frankly, we do not know exactly what takes place in the nascent local churches as Paul goes from place to place. We are aware of one instance when Paul was unable to be in one city, and God sent Apollos to them instead. For these local churches, we really do not have any sort of guidebook for them. Do they read the Scriptures as do the synagogues? I would think so. Would some believers possibly talk about prophecies about the Messiah and how they were fulfilled by the Lord? Very possibly.

Exactly what the new churches did after Paul had been there and evangelized is not thoroughly discussed in this first epistle of Paul's (first one that we are aware of); nor do we know much from the book of Acts (despite it being a history of the early church). We have a few brief admonitions from Paul in his epistles regarding what believers were to do when they gather—bear in mind, these things are written in his epistles.

We do know this. Paul sent Timothy to them and Timothy spent time there. My assumption would be, based upon what we know about Timothy later in life, that he functioned as a temporary pastor there. Was he there a few weeks or a few months?

## 1Thessalonians 3:6c

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
kaí (καί) [pronounced kī]	and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while	conjunction	Strong's #2532
hóti (ὅτι) [pronounced HOH-tee]	that, because, for, since; as concerning that; as though; before a quotation, this can mean, quote	demonstrative or causal conjunction	Strong's #3754
echō (ἔχω) [pronounced EHKH-oh]	to have [and/or] hold; to own, to possess, to adhere to, to cling to	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural, present active indicative	Strong's #2192
mneía (μνηία) [pronounced MNI-ah]	remembrance, memory, mention, recollection; recital	feminine singular noun; accusative case	Strong's #3417
hēmōn (ἡμῶν) [pronounced hay-MOHN]	us, of us, from us, our, ours	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, personal pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2257 (from Strong's #1473)

## 1Thessalonians 3:6c

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
agathos (ἀγαθός) [pronounced <i>ag-ath-OSS</i> ]	<i>good, benefit, well; of good constitution or nature; useful, salutary; pleasant, agreeable, joyful, happy; excellent, distinguished; upright, honourable</i>	feminine singular adjective; accusative case	Strong's #18

**Translation:** [He] also [tells us] that you (all) have a good memory of us...

In the interest of good English, I have inserted a few words in order to start a new sentence here.

Paul again becomes quite personal. *Timothy tells us that you have a good memory of us having come there, is essentially what Paul says.*

## 1Thessalonians 3:6d

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
pántote (πάντοτε) [pronounced <i>PAHN-toht-eh</i> ]	<i>always, at all times, ever</i>	adverb	Strong's #3842
epipothéō (ἐπιποθέω) [pronounced <i>ep-ee-poth-EH-oh</i> ]	<i>longing for, desiring; pursuing with love, longing after; lusting (after, for), harboring forbidden desire</i>	masculine plural, present active participle, nominative case	Strong's #1971
hêmas (ἡμᾶς) [pronounced <i>hay-MASS</i> ]	<i>us, to us</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural pronoun; accusative case	Strong's #2248 (accusative plural of Strong's #1473)
eidô (εἶδω) [pronounced <i>I-doh</i> ]; also oida (οἶδα) [pronounced <i>OY-da</i> ]	<i>to see, to perceive, to ascertain; to inspect, to examine; to observe; to discern, to know, to understand</i>	aorist active infinitive	Strong's #1492

**Translation:** ...[and that] you always long to see us,...

This would be the natural reaction of believers in any geographical area, if they are positive toward doctrine. They would like to see Paul again, not simply for the fellowship, but for his excellent teaching.

As we studied in the book of Acts, this was certainly not the feeling of the believers in Jerusalem toward Paul.

## 1Thessalonians 3:6e

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
katháper (καθάπερ) [pronounced <i>kath-AP-emotional revolt</i> ]	<i>just as, according as, even as, as well as, exactly as</i>	adverb	Strong's #2509

## 1Thessalonians 3:6e

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
καί (καί) [pronounced <i>kī</i> ]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532
ἡμεῖς (ἡμεῖς) [pronounced <i>hay-MICE</i> ]	<i>us, we [ourselves]; we [as an emphatic]</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural pronoun; nominative case	Strong's #2249 (nominative plural of #1473)
ὑμᾶς (ὑμᾶς) [pronounced <i>hoo-MOSS</i> ]	<i>you [all], all of you; to you, towards you [all]</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural personal pronoun; accusative case	Strong's #5209, (from Strong's #5210; a form of Strong's #4771)

**Translation:** ...just as we [long to see] you (all).

There is nothing more fantastic than to be a great teacher and to go to a place where they want to hear you teach. Paul and his crew very much want to return to Thessalonica (along with many other cities) to teach more advanced doctrine.

1Thessalonians 3:6 Just now, [there was] a coming of Timothy to us from you (all) and he is proclaiming to us your faith and (agapê) love. [He] also [tells us] that you (all) have a good memory of us [and that] you always long to see us, just as we [long to see] you (all). (Kukis nearly literal translation)

## 1Thessalonians 3:7a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
διά (διά) [pronounced <i>dee-AH</i> ]	<i>through; with; in; of time; throughout; during; by, by the means of, by reason of; on account of; because of, for this reason; therefore; on this account</i>	preposition	Strong's #1223
τούτο (τούτο) [pronounced <i>TOO-toh</i> ]	<i>this [thing], that [thing], this one</i>	demonstrative singular pronoun; neuter singular; accusative case	Strong's #5124 (Neuter, singular, nominative or accusative of #3778)
παρακαλεῶ (παρακαλέω) [pronounced <i>pahr-ahk-ahl-EH-oh</i> ]	<i>to exhort, to console; to call [near, for]; to invite, to invoke; to (be of good) comfort, to desire, to (give) exhort (-ation), to entreat, to pray</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, aorist passive indicative	Strong's #3870

Thayer definitions: 1) to call to one's side, call for, summon; 2) to address, speak to, (call to, call upon), which may be done in the way of exhortation, entreaty, comfort, instruction, etc.; 2a) to admonish, exhort; 2b) to beg, entreat, beseech; 2b1) to strive to appease by entreaty; 2c) to console, to encourage and strengthen by consolation, to comfort; 2c1) to receive consolation, be comforted; 2d) to encourage, strengthen; 2e) exhorting and comforting and encouraging; 2f) to instruct, teach.

## 1Thessalonians 3:7a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
adelphoi (ἀδελφοί) [pronounced <i>ad-el-FOY</i> ]	<i>brothers (literally or figuratively); figuratively for, royal family</i>	masculine plural noun, vocative	Strong's #80
ἐπί (ἐπί) [pronounced <i>eh-PEE</i> ]; spelled eph (ἐφ) [pronounced <i>ehf</i> ] before a vowel	<i>on, upon; at, by, over; during, at (in) the time of; about; in addition to, besides; against; on the basis of; because; with</i>	preposition of superimposition; a relation of rest and distribution with the dative, locative or instrumental case	Strong's #1909
ὑμῖν (ὕμῖν) [pronounced <i>hoo-MEEN</i> ]	<i>you [all]; in you; to you; in you; by you, with you</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural personal pronoun; locative, dative or instrumental case	Strong's #5213; an irregular dative of #5210; a form of #4771

**Translation:** Through this [time] we have been encouraged, brothers,...

Having receive this report from Timothy, Paul feels encouraged by the believers in Thessalonica.

## 1Thessalonians 3:7b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
ἐπί (ἐπί) [pronounced <i>eh-PEE</i> ]; spelled eph (ἐφ) [pronounced <i>ehf</i> ] before a vowel	<i>on, upon; at, by, over; during, at (in) the time of; about; in addition to, besides; against; on the basis of; because; with</i>	preposition of superimposition; a relation of rest and distribution with the dative, locative or instrumental case	Strong's #1909
πάσῃ (πάσῃ) [pronounced <i>PAH-say</i> ]	<i>each, every, any; all, entire; anyone, all things, everything; some [of all types]</i>	feminine singular adjective, locative, dative and instrumental cases	Strong's #3956
τῇ (τῇ) [pronounced <i>tay</i> ]	<i>to the, for the; in the; by the, by means of the; for the benefit [advantage] of; for the disadvantage of; who</i>	feminine singular definite article; dative, locative and instrumental cases	Strong's #3588
ἀνάγκῃ (ἀνάγκῃ) [pronounced <i>ahn-ahg-KAY</i> ]	<i>need, needful, necessity, duty [by advantage, custom, argument]; calamity, distress, straits</i>	feminine singular noun, dative, locative or instrumental case	Strong's #318
καί (καί) [pronounced <i>kā</i> ]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532

## 1Thessalonians 3:7b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
thlipsis (θλίψις) [pronounced THLIP- siss]	<i>trouble, pressure, oppression, tribulation, affliction; pressure and difficulty brought about by outside conditions—by conditions outside your control</i>	feminine singular noun, dative, locative or instrumental case	Strong's #2347
hēmōn (ἡμῶν) [pronounced hay- MOHN]	<i>us, of us, from us, our, ours</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, personal pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2257 (from Strong's #1473)

**Translation:** ...by you (all) because of our [shared] distresses and pressures,...

The words used in this phrase are in the singular. I would have put them in the plural; but I recognize that Paul (and God the Holy Spirit) did not use the singular for both of these nouns here.

He speaks of these distresses and pressures as being *of us*. Now, most of the time when Paul uses the 1<sup>st</sup> person plural, he is talking about Team Paul in Corinth (or wherever they happen to be). However, here, he is under these various strains and pressures, as are the Thessalonians. So *our* refers to Paul and company as well as to the Thessalonians.

Now, it is not great that they have these pressures and difficulties; it is great how they are handling them.

## 1Thessalonians 3:7c

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
diá (διά) [pronounced dee-AH]	<i>through; with; in; of time; throughout; during; by, by the means of, by reason of; on account of; because of, for this reason; therefore; on this account</i>	preposition	Strong's #1223
tês (τῆς) [pronounced tayc]	<i>of the; from the, [away, out] from the; from the source of; by the; than the</i>	feminine singular definite article; genitive and ablative cases	Strong's #3588
humōn (ὑμῶν) [pronounced hoo- MONE]	<i>of yours, from you; concerning you; you, yourselves</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #5216 (genitive case of #5210)
pistis (πίστις) [pronounced PIHS- tihs]	<i>faith, assurance, belief, believe; the content of what is believed; persuasion, that is, credence; moral conviction</i>	feminine singular noun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #4102

**Translation:** ...and because of your faith [which you have shown under pressure].

The Thessalonians have shown great faith under pressure. They have these things happening to them, and they are withstanding it and acting in faith and love.

1Thessalonians 3:7 Through this [time] we have been encouraged, brothers, by you (all) because of our [shared] distresses and pressures, and because of your faith [which you have shown under pressure]. (Kukis nearly literal translation)

1Thessalonians 3:8			
Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
hóti (ὅτι) [pronounced HOH-tee]	<i>that, because, for, since; as concerning that; as though; before a quotation, this can mean, quote</i>	demonstrative or causal conjunction	Strong's #3754
nun (νῦν) [pronounced noon]	<i>now, at this time, henceforth, hereafter, from here forward; (as) of late, soon, at present, this (time)</i>	adverb; a primary particle of present time	Strong's #3568
zaō (ζάω) [pronounced DZAH-oh]	<i>to live, to be alive; to enjoy life; to breathe, to have soul life</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, present active indicative	Strong's #2198
eán (ἐάν) [pronounced eh-AHN]	<i>if, in case, suppose, let's suppose [for the sake of an argument]; in case that, provided [that]; but, except</i>	conditional particle; conjunction affixed to a subjunctive verb	Strong's #1437
humeis (ὕμεις) [pronounced hoo-MICE]	<i>you [all]</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural personal pronoun; nominative case	Strong's #5210, which is a form of Strong's #4771
stêkô (στήκω) [pronounced STAY-Kingdom of Heaven]	<i>to stand firm; to persevere, to persist, to be steadfast; to keep one's standing, to remain stationary</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural, present active indicative	Strong's #4739
en (ἐν) [pronounced en]	<i>in, on, by means of, with; among</i>	preposition with the locative, dative and instrumental cases	Strong's #1722
kurios (κύριος) [pronounced KOO-ree-oss]	<i>lord, master; Lord; he to whom a person or thing belongs, owner, possessor; a prince, chief, sovereign</i>	masculine singular noun; dative, locative or instrumental case	Strong's #2962

**Translation:** Right this moment, we keep on enjoying life if you (all) keep on standing firm in the Lord.

Paul says that they all feel pretty good about life knowing that the Thessalonians are standing up strong under pressure.

Bear in mind that this is exactly the opposite of Paul feeling like he had traveled to Thessalonica in vain (v. 5). Timothy's report tells him that it was not in vain.

1Thessalonians 3:8 Right this moment, we keep on enjoying life if you (all) keep on standing firm in the Lord. (Kukis nearly literal translation)

1Thessalonians 3:6–8 Just now, [there was] a coming of Timothy to us from you (all) and he is proclaiming to us your faith and (agapê) love. [He] also [tells us] that you (all) have a good memory of us [and that] you always long to see us, just as we [long to see] you (all). Through this [time] we have been encouraged, brothers, by you (all) because of our [shared] distresses and pressures, and because of your faith [which you have shown under

pressure]. Right this moment, we keep on enjoying life if you (all) keep on standing firm in the Lord. (Kukis nearly literal translation)

1Thessalonians 3:6–8 Timothy has just returned to us from you, which prompted this missive. He testifies to us of your faith and your relaxed mental attitude. He also revealed that you have a fond memory of us and that you long to see us again (as we would like to see you again as well). Throughout this time as we travel from city to city, we are encouraged by you, brothers, because of your solid faith under pressure when faced with pressures and distresses (which we face as well). Right at this moment, we are greatly satisfied with life knowing that you all keep on standing firm and stable in the Lord. (Kukis paraphrase)

Allow me some general remarks. Paul is obviously very close emotionally to the Thessalonians; just as he felt about Jerusalem (although it was certainly not mutual). Now, how did Paul feel about the Romans? He did not have any strong feelings, apart from being happy that the faith of Jesus went to Rome (Paul was not the one who took it there).

How do the epistles to the Thessalonians and to the Romans compare? Paul's epistle to the Romans is a masterpiece of theology, despite the fact that Paul did not do the original evangelization in Rome. His two letters to Thessalonica were not so packed with doctrine.

Paul also had close emotional ties to Jerusalem that he had a difficult time overcoming. However, those ties were so close, and Paul was so off-balance by his emotions, that God had someone else write the book of Hebrews, someone who was a lot more objective.

Let me suggest a difference between Thessalonica and Jerusalem: Paul was still able to be objective about the Thessalonians; he was not able to be objective about Jerusalem (until he was forced to choose between Jerusalem and Rome, and Paul said, very clearly, "I appeal to Cæsar.")

**For what thanksgiving are we able to God to render concerning you (all) upon all the joy by which we keep on rejoicing, because of you (all) before the God of us? Night and day on behalf of [you (all)] from [us] extraordinary praying, to the seeing of you (all) the face, and to join together the deficiencies of the faith of you (all).**

1Thessalonians  
3:9–10

**For what thanksgiving are we able to render to God for you (all) over all the joy by which we keep on rejoicing, because of you (all) before our God. [We have been involved in] extraordinary praying on [your] behalf night and day, [hoping] to see you (all) face to face and to make perfect the deficiencies of your faith.**

**Is there really a proper amount of thanks that we are able to render to God because of you. Your assemblies in Thessalonica have given us great joy and we rejoice because of you before God. In fact, day and night, we engage in extraordinary prayer on your behalf. We also hope in the future to see you all face to face, and to guide your, by the teaching of Bible doctrine, to make perfect whatever deficiencies that you may have in your faith.**

Here is how others have translated this passage:

#### Ancient texts:

Westcott-Hort Text (Greek) For what thanksgiving are we able to God to render concerning you (all) upon all the joy by which we keep on rejoicing, because of you (all) before the God of us? Night and day on behalf of [you (all)] from [us] extraordinary praying, to the seeing of you (all) the face, and to join together the deficiencies of the faith of you (all).

Complete Apostles Bible	For whatever thanksgiving can we render to God for you, for all the joy with which we are rejoicing because of you in the presence of our God, night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and to perfect what is lacking in your faith?
Revised Douay-Rheims Douay-Rheims 1899 (Amer.)	. For what thanks can we return to God for you, in all the joy wherewith we rejoice for you before our God, Night and day more abundantly praying that we may see your face and may accomplish those things that are wanting to your faith?
V. Alexander's Aramaic Eastern Aramaic Manuscript James Murdock's Syriac NT	. For what thanks can we render to God in your behalf, for all the joy with which we are joyful on your account; unless it be, that we the more supplicate before God, by night and by day, that we may see your faces, and may perfect what is lacking in your faith?
Original Aramaic NT	For what thanks can we pay on your behalf to God, for every joy with which we rejoice because of you, Except that before God, we pray all the more earnestly, night and day, to see your faces, and perfect whatever is lacking in your faith?
Plain English Aramaic Bible Lamsa Peshitta (Syriac)	. .

Significant differences:

#### Limited Vocabulary Translations:

Bible in Basic English	For how great is the praise which we give to God for you, and how great the joy with which we are glad because of you before our God; Night and day requesting God again and again that we may see your face and make your faith complete.
Bible in Worldwide English	We cannot thank God enough for you. We are very happy about you as we talk to God. Night and day we ask God that we may see you face to face. We want to help you know more about what you believe.
Easy English Easy-to-Read Version—2008	. We have so much joy before our God because of you! So we thank God for you. But we cannot thank him enough for all the joy we feel. Night and day we continue praying with all our heart that we can come there and see you again. We want to give you everything you need to make your faith strong.
God's Word™	We can never thank God enough for all the joy you give us as we rejoice in God's presence. We pray very hard night and day that we may see you again so that we can supply whatever you still need for your faith.
Good News Bible (TEV)	Now we can give thanks to our God for you. We thank him for the joy we have in his presence because of you. Day and night we ask him with all our heart to let us see you personally and supply what is needed in your faith.
<i>The Message</i>	.
NIRV	.
New Life Version	.
New Simplified Bible	.

#### Thought-for-thought translations; dynamic translations; paraphrases:

Contemporary English V.	How can we possibly thank God enough for all the happiness you have brought us? Day and night we sincerely pray that we will see you again and help you to have an even stronger faith.
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The Living Bible	.
New Berkeley Version	.
New Century Version	.
New Living Translation	.
The Passion Translation	How could we ever thank God enough for all the wonderful joy that we feel before our God because of you? Every night and day we sincerely and fervently pray that we may see you face-to-face and furnish you with whatever may be lacking in your faith.
UnfoldingWord Simplified T.	We cannot thank God enough for what he has done for you! We greatly rejoice over you when we pray to our God! We constantly and fervently ask God that we will be able to visit you, and that we will be able to help you to trust in the Messiah more strongly!
Williams' New Testament	For how can I render God enough thanks for you, for all the joy I have on account of you in the presence of our God, as night and day I continue to pray with deepest earnestness and keenest eagerness that I may see your faces and round out to completeness what is lacking in your faith?

### Partially literal and partially paraphrased translations:

American English Bible	.
Beck's American Translation	.
Breakthrough Version	You see, what thanks are we able to repay to God concerning you over all the happiness that we are happy with because of you in front of our God, night and day pleading even much more for the "to see your face and to develop what your trust lacks" <i>part</i> ?
Common English Bible	.
Len Gane Paraphrase	For what thanks can we again give to God for you, for all the joy that we enjoy before our God because of you. Day and night praying over and over that we might see your face and might perfect what is lacking in your faith.
A. Campbell's Living Oracles	But what thanksgiving can we return to God concerning you, for all the joy with which we rejoice, through you, in the presence of our God? Night and day, most earnestly requesting to see your face, and to supply the deficiencies of your faith.
New Advent (Knox) Bible	.
NT for Everyone	.
20 <sup>th</sup> Century New Testament	How can we thank God enough for all the happiness that you are giving us in the sight of our God? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face, and make good any deficiency in your faith.

### Mostly literal renderings (with some occasional paraphrasing):

An Understandable Version	.
Berean Study Bible	.
Christian Standard Bible	.
Conservapedia Translation	.
Evangelical Heritage V.	.
Revised Ferrar-Fenton Bible	.
Free Bible Version	As we go into the presence of our God, how can we ever thank God enough for you because of all the joy you bring to us? Night and day we pray with all our hearts, hoping to see you again face to face, and to help you continue developing your trust in God.
God's Truth (Tyndale)	.
Holman Christian Standard	.
International Standard V	How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we have in God's presence because of you? We pray very hard night and day that we may see you

	again face to face, so that we may equip you with [The Gk. lacks you with] whatever is lacking in your faith.
Lexham Bible	For what thanks can we repay to God concerning you, because of all the joy with which we rejoice because of you before our God, night and day praying beyond all measure that we may see your face and complete what is lacking in your faith? .
Montgomery NT NIV, ©2011 Riverside New Testament	. . . For how can we be grateful enough to God for you in view of all the joy we have because of you, while we pray beyond measure night and day that we may see your faces and make good whatever lacks there may be in your faith?
Leicester A. Sawyer's NT The Spoken English NT UnfoldingWord Literal Text Urim-Thummim Version Weymouth New Testament	. . . . . For what thanksgiving on your behalf can we possibly offer to God in return for all the joy which fills our souls before our God for you, while night and day, with intense earnestness, we pray that we may see your faces, and may bring to perfection whatever may be still lacking in your faith?
Wikipedia Bible Project Worsley's New Testament	. For what thanks can we render to God concerning you, for all the joy wherewith we rejoice on your account before our God, night and day most ardently praying, that we may see your face, and perfect whatever is wanting in your faith?

#### **Catholic Bibles (those having the imprimatur):**

Christian Community (1988)	.
The Heritage Bible	.
New American Bible (2002)	.
New American Bible (2011)	.
New English Bible–1970	.
New Jerusalem Bible	.
New RSV	.
Revised English Bible–1989	.

#### **Jewish/Hebrew Names Bibles:**

Complete Jewish Bible	.
Hebraic Roots Bible	For what thanks are we able to return to YAHWEH concerning you, over all the joy with which we rejoice because of you before our Elohim, night and day praying exceedingly for me to see your face, and to complete the things lacking in your faith?
Holy New Covenant Trans.	We cannot thank God enough. Can we repay our God for all of the happiness we have before Him because of you? Day and night we are praying very hard that we will see your faces and supply anything that is missing in your faith.
The Scriptures 2009	For what thanks are we able to return to Elohim for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sake in the presence of our Elohim, night and day praying exceedingly, to see your face and make complete what is lacking in your belief?
Tree of Life Version	For what thanks would be enough to offer to God, in return for all the joy we feel before our God because of you? Night time and day time we keep praying more than ever to see you face to face, and mend any shortcomings in your faith.

#### **Weird English, Old English, Anachronistic English Translations:**

Accurate New Testament	...whom? for thanksgiving [We] have (ability) [to] the god to repay about you* at every the happiness whom [We] enjoy because of you* before the god [of] us night and day greatly [We] Requesting {are} to the+ {us} to see [of] you* the face and to prepare the shortages [of] the faith [of] you*...
Alpha & Omega Bible	.
Awful Scroll Bible	For what good-favors are we able to extend-out-over-against to God, concerning you for all the joy, with which we rejoice because of you from-within-near our God, night and day imploring from excess, in behalf of, to perceive you all's faces, and to accordingly-outfit that deficient in you all's confidence.
Concordant Literal Version	For what thanksgiving are we able to repay to God concerning you for all the joy with which we are rejoicing because of you in front of our God, night and day superexcessively beseeching to see your face and to adjust the deficiencies of your faith?
exeGesés companion Bible	For what eucharist can we recompense to Elohim for you, for all the cheer wherewith we cheer for your sakes in front of our Elohim - night and day petitioning superabundantly to see your face and prepare what is lacking in your trust?
Orthodox Jewish Bible	For what hodayah are we able to return to Hashem concerning you because of all the simcha with which we rejoice on account of you before Eloheinu, As, yomam valailah, we are davening with all retzinut (earnestness) in order to see your penemer (faces) and to bring to shleimut what is lacking in your [orthodox Jewish] emunah?
Rotherham's Emphasized B.	.

### Expanded/Embellished Bibles:

<i>The Amplified Bible</i>	.
An Understandable Version	For how can we thank God [ <i>enough</i> ] for you, in return for all the joy we have over you, in the presence of our God? Night and day we pray very earnestly that we will be able to see you in person, so we can provide what is lacking in your faith.
The Expanded Bible	.
Jonathan Mitchell NT	For now, what gratitude (or: expression of the goodness of grace and favor) we continue able to give back to God in return – concerning you folks, upon [the occasion of] all the joy for which (or: in which) we are continually rejoicing because of you – before (or: in front of; in the place facing toward and in the presence of) our God, while night and day, over-excessively repeatedly begging regarding our need to see your face (= to see you face to face), and then to freshly adjust to correspondence (or: thoroughly equip, fit, knit together, mend and bring into agreement) the things lacking (the shortcomings or deficiencies) of your faith and with regard to your loyal trust!
P. Kretzmann Commentary	.
Syndein/Thieme	.
Translation for Translators	.
The Voice	.

### Bible Translations with Many Footnotes:

Lexham Bible	.
NET Bible®	.
New American Bible (2011)	.

The Passion Translation	.
Rotherham's Emphasized B.	.
The Spoken English NT	After all, how can we thank God enough to pay back all the joy that we have in front of our God because of you? Night and day, we're praying as hard as we possibly can, that we'll be able to see your face-and equip you in whatever ways your faith needs it. <sup>f</sup>
	<sup>f</sup> Verses 9-10 are one long rhetorical question; lit. "For what thanks can we give to God in repayment for you, concerning all the joy that we have through you in front of our God, as we night and day ask more than anything to see your face and equip the deficits of your faith?"
Wilbur Pickering's New T.	<b>Paul's desire to go to them</b> With what thankfulness can we repay God for you, for all the joy with which we are rejoicing in the presence of our God because of you; <sup>4</sup> praying most earnestly night and day, that we may see your face and complete the things lacking in your faith? (4) To see our spiritual children growing in their walk with God is a source of considerable joy.

### Literal, almost word-for-word, renderings:

A Faithful Version	.
Analytical-Literal Translation	For what thanksgiving are we able to give in return to God concerning you <sub>p</sub> , for all the joy with which we rejoice because of you <sub>p</sub> in the presence of our God, imploring [in prayer] most earnestly night and day in order to see your <sub>p</sub> face and to perfect the [things] lacking in your <sub>p</sub> faith?
Berean Literal Bible	.
Bond Slave Version	.
C. Thomson updated NT	.
Charles Thomson NT	Now because we live if you continue steadfast in the Lord, what thanks then can we render to God respecting you, for all the joy with which we rejoice on your account, in the presence of our God; day and night supplicating in the most earnest; manner to see your face and to complete the remainders of! your belief! V. 8 is included for context.
Context Group Version	For what recognition of [our] indebtedness can we give again to God for you (pl), for all the joy with which we joy for your (pl) sakes before our God; night and day imploring exceedingly that we may see your (pl) face, and may complete that which is lacking in your (pl) trust?
English Standard Version	.
Far Above All Translation	For what thanks can we return to God concerning you for all the joy with which we rejoice on your account before our God, night and day pleading most earnestly to be able to see your face and to rectify the shortcomings of your faith?
Green's Literal Translation	.
Literal New Testament	.
Literal Standard Version	And Timotheus now having come to us from you, and having declared good news to us of your faith and love, and that you always have a good remembrance of us, desiring much to see us, as we also [to see] you, because of this we were comforted, brothers, over you, in all our tribulation and necessity, through your faith, because now we live, if you may stand fast in the LORD; for what thanks are we able to repay to God for you, for all the joy with which we delight because of you in the presence of our God? Exceedingly imploring night and day, that we might see your face, and perfect the things lacking in your faith. Vv. 6–8 are included for context.
Modern English Version	.

Modern Literal Version 2020 For\* what thanksgiving are we able to repay to God concerning you°? Over all the joy in which we are rejoicing before our God *is* because of you°, exceptionally beseeching God night and day, \*that\* we may see your° face and may mend the things lacking of your° faith.

Modern KJV .

New American Standard .

New European Version .

New King James Version .

NT (Variant Readings) .

Niobi Study Bible .

Revised Young's Lit. Trans. .

Updated Bible Version 2.17 .

A Voice in the Wilderness .

Webster's Translation .

World English Bible .

Worrell New Testament .

Young's Updated LT .

### The gist of this passage:

9-10

## 1Thessalonians 3:9a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
tina (τίνα) [pronounced TEE-nah]; ti (τί) [pronounced tee]	<i>in whom, by whom, to what [one], in which, how; whether, why, what</i>	feminine singular interrogative pronoun; accusative case	Strong's #5101
gár (γάρ) [pronounced gahr]	<i>for, for you see; and, as, because (that), but, even, for indeed, no doubt, seeing, then, therefore, verily, what, why, yet</i>	postpositive explanatory particle	Strong's #1063
eucharistía (εὐχαριστία) [pronounced yoo-khar-is-TEE-ah]	<i>thankfulness, giving of thanks; thanksgiving, gratitude</i>	feminine singular noun; accusative case	Strong's #2169
dunamai (δύναμαι) [pronounced DOO-nam-ah-ee]	<i>to be able, to have power to; to be able to do something; to be capable, strong and powerful</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, present (deponent) middle or passive indicative	Strong's #1410
tô (τῷ) [pronounced toh]	<i>in the; by the, to the; by means of the; for the benefit [advantage] of; for the disadvantage of</i>	masculine singular definite article; locative, dative, or instrumental case	Strong's #3588
theos (θεός) [pronounced theh-OSS]	<i>God, [the true] God; divine being; god, goddess, divinity</i>	masculine singular noun, dative, locative or instrumental case	Strong's #2316

## 1Thessalonians 3:9a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
antapodidōmi (ἀνταποδίδωμι) [pronounced an-tap-ohd-EE-doh-mee]	<i>to recompense, to render, to repay, to requite (good or evil)</i>	aorist active infinitive	Strong's #467
peri (περί) [pronounced per-EE]	<i>about, concerning, on account of, because [of], around, near</i>	preposition	Strong's #4012
humōn (ὑμῶν) [pronounced hoo-MONE]	<i>of yours, from you; concerning you; you, yourselves</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #5216 (genitive case of #5210)

**Translation:** For what thanksgiving are we able to render to God for you (all)...

Team Paul is very thankful for the Thessalonians, and for what is taking place in that city.

Paul is saying that he is not able to offer up enough gratitude for what has taken place in Thessalonica.

## 1Thessalonians 3:9b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
ἐπί (ἐπί) [pronounced eh-PEE]; spelled eph (ἐφ) [pronounced ehf] before a vowel	<i>on, upon; at, by, over; during, at (in) the time of; about; in addition to, besides; against; on the basis of; because; with</i>	preposition of superimposition; a relation of rest and distribution with the dative, locative or instrumental case	Strong's #1909
pasê (πάσῃ) [pronounced PAH-say]	<i>each, every, any; all, entire; anyone, all things, everything; some [of all types]</i>	feminine singular adjective, locative, dative and instrumental cases	Strong's #3956
tê (τῇ) [pronounced tay]	<i>to the, for the; in the; by the, by means of the; for the benefit [advantage] of; for the disadvantage of; who</i>	feminine singular definite article; dative, locative and instrumental cases	Strong's #3588
chara (χαρά) [pronounced khahr-AH]	<i>joy, rejoicing, gladness; the joy received from you; the cause or occasion of joy; used of persons who are one's joy</i>	feminine singular noun, dative, locative or instrumental case	Strong's #5479
hê (ἣ) [pronounced hey]	<i>to whom, in which, by what, to that, by whose</i>	feminine singular relative pronoun; dative, locative or instrumental case	Strong's #3739 (relative pronoun)

## 1Thessalonians 3:9b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
chairô (χαίρω) [pronounced KHAI- row]	<i>to rejoice, be glad; to rejoice exceedingly; to be well, thrive; in salutations, hail!; at the beginning of letters: to give one greeting, salute</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, present active indicative	Strong's #5463

**Translation:** ...over all the joy by which we keep on rejoicing,...

Knowing what has been taking place in Thessalonica has given Paul and those on his team great joy.

Now and again, a believer who is involved in whatever sort of ministry appreciates the appreciation of others. Obviously, we have to be careful here, because our service should not rest in the praise of man.

**Illustration:** Let me provide an analogy. Perhaps you have planted a tree, a small sapling, and you go back and see that this is a mighty tree, perhaps 30' or 40' tall, filled with fruits or flowers. You may remember the day that you planted it, the many times you were careful not to run over it with the lawn mower, and to see it tall, and lush and productive is a nice feeling.

Team Paul feels this way about the church which they planted in Thessalonica.

**Illustration:** When I was in school, I studied some plans for the city of Sacramento of some things which had been planned for the city and reported on them. Skid row was going to be refurbished, an outdoor mall area was going to be established, and there was a section of Asian business which were going to be featured architecturally in another part of town. It was very cool to see these plans and then, five years later, to see them start to come to pass. Now, even though I had nothing to do with these plans (I was about 19 or 20 at the time), it was very cool to see things in a stage of planning and then see these things come to fruition a few years later.

In the beginning, Paul and company went to Thessalonica and gave the gospel of Jesus Christ there. Now it is a few years later and the Christian community of Thessalonica is thriving and growing. It is an amazing thing for them to see.

**Tangent:** It is certainly reasonable to ask the question, *why are we involved? Couldn't God simply announce from heaven the gospel of Jesus Christ and leave us out of it?* And this is certainly true. God could move His plan forward without us doing a single thing. But let me go back to my illustration with the city plans for Sacramento. What would have been far cooler to me is, to have invested some of my time and effort into drawing up the plans for Sacramento. Or even cooler to take some of these plans and to be involved in the building of the permanent structures there. How cool would it be to take friends or family to one of the new edifices, and to point at the bricks and say, "See those bricks there? I laid those bricks."

**Tangent:** It was always a source of pride to me as an adult to go back to the house I was raised in, and to know that every brick, every nail and every board had been cut, put into place and nailed by my own father. This is because we, as people, are creative creatures. We like to create; it is within our nature to create. So, when all is said and done, we will find that whatever part God allows us to play in the building up of His church is a privilege.

## 1Thessalonians 3:9c

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
diá (διά) [pronounced dee-AH]	<i>through; with; in; of time; throughout; during; by, by the means of, by reason of; on account of; because of, for this reason; therefore; on this account</i>	preposition	Strong's #1223
humas (ὐμάς) [pronounced hoo-MOSS]	<i>you [all], all of you; to you, towards you [all]</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural personal pronoun; accusative case	Strong's #5209, (from Strong's #5210; a form of Strong's #4771)
emprothen (ἔμπροσθεν) [pronounced EM-pross-thehn]	<i>in front of, before, in the presence of</i>	preposition (also used as an adverb)	Strong's #1715
tou (τοῦ) [pronounced tu]	<i>of the; from the, [away, out] from the; from the source of; by the; than the</i>	masculine singular definite article, genitive/ablative case	Strong's #3588
theos (θεός) [pronounced theh-OSS]	<i>God, [the true] God; divine being; god, goddess, divinity</i>	masculine singular noun, genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2316
hēmōn (ἡμῶν) [pronounced hay-MOHN]	<i>us, of us, from us, our, ours</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, personal pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2257 (from Strong's #1473)

**Translation:** ...because of you (all) before our God.

Paul has inner joy because of what has taken place in Thessalonica. He is thankful to God for allowing him to take part in this whole thing.

1Thessalonians 3:9 For what thanksgiving are we able to render to God for you (all) over all the joy by which we keep on rejoicing, because of you (all) before our God. (Kukis nearly literal translation)

## 1Thessalonians 3:10a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
nux (νύξ) [pronounced noox]	<i>night, midnight</i>	feminine singular noun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #3571
kaí (καί) [pronounced kī]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532
hēmera (ἡμέρα) [pronounced hay-MEH-raw]	<i>day, daytime; 24-hour day; period of time</i>	feminine singular noun, genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2250



## 1Thessalonians 3:10a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
hupér (ὑπέρ) [pronounced hoop-AIR]	<i>above, beyond, across; for, regarding, on behalf of, for the sake of, instead of; in favor of, because of, on account of; as a substitute for</i>	preposition with the genitive case	Strong's #5228
Does this go with the previous genitives?			
ek (ἐκ) [pronounced ehk]	<i>out of, out from, from, by, at, of</i>	preposition	Strong's #1537
perissōs (περισσῶς) [pronounced per-ihs-SOCE]	<i>beyond measure, extraordinary; greatly, exceedingly</i>	adverb	Strong's #4057
Instead of a preposition followed by an adverb, the Byzantine Greek text and the Scrivener Textus Receptus have present this as a single word ekperissōs (ἐκπερισσῶς), which has no actual Strong's #. The Byzantine Greek text is keyed to Strong's #4053 and the Scrivener Textus Receptus is keyed to Strong's #4057—neither of which begin with an ek (ἐκ). Strong's #4053, which is, for your information,...			
perissos (περισσός, ἡ, ὄν) [pronounced pair-ihs-SOSS]	<i>extraordinary, remarkable; abundant, profuse, superfluous, unnecessary; superior, surpassing, more eminent [remarkable, excellent]</i>	comparative adjective (this appears to be a masculine singular genitive)	Strong's #4053
Now an adjective could take on the ek (ἐκ) [pronounced ehk] preposition. Now, as an added bonus, the actual Greek text is written in all capital letters with no spaces between the words.			
What might help to explain ek being affixed to the word which follows is (1) this forms a new words, not found in Strong's lexicon; or (2) this sort of hides the ek (ἐκ) [pronounced ehk] preposition in plain sight because, as you will come to find, no one wants to translate it.			
Essentially, translators have essentially kept what parts they wanted from this, and thrown out the parts which they did not want.			
deomai (δέομαι) [pronounced DEH-om-ahēe]	<i>wanting, lacking; desiring, longing for; asking, making a request, petitioning, begging; the thing asked for; praying (for), making supplication (for)</i>	masculine plural, present (deponent) middle/passive participle, nominative case	Strong's #1189

**Translation:** [We have been involved in] extraordinary praying on [your] behalf night and day,...

Paul and company would go into a city, like Thessalonica, and they would evangelize the people, maybe teach a little Bible doctrine, and then move on. However, after the fact, Paul and the others would pray on behalf of this church and for their growth and development. They would have also offered thanksgiving for all that has taken place and the fact that God allowed them to have a hand in it.

If you read my translation and wonder, *where did that come from*, read the doctrine below and read through the Greek tables above.

There are some serious problems with 1Thessalonians 3:10a, and they will be explained with what follows. You can either accept my translation and its application or if you wonder *why is this your translation?* *The ESV (NKJV, NIV) does not have this.* What follows helps to explain how this translation was made (and the Greek tables above provide more information).

Looking strictly at the most literal translations, we find that the translators below essentially jettisoned the adverbs/adjectives altogether, as if they were never here.

### Translations of 1Thessalonians 3:10a

A Faithful Version	Praying day and night fervently...
Analytical-Literal Translation	...imploring [in prayer] most earnestly night and day...
Berean Literal Bible	...night and day imploring exceedingly...
Bond Slave Version	Night and day praying exceedingly....
Charles Thomson NT	...day and night supplicating in the most earnest...
English Standard Version	...as we pray most earnestly night and day...
Far Above All Translation	...night and day pleading most earnestly...
Literal Standard Version	Exceedingly imploring night and day...
Modern Literal Version 2020	...exceptionally beseeching God night and day...
New American Standard	.
New European Version	.
New King James Version	.
Niobi Study Bible	...as we pray earnestly night and day...

What would makes sense is, the words following those prepositions dropped out of the text. This potentially could give us something like: **Praying night and day on account of** [you (all)] **out from** [our hearts; or, more simply, *out from us*] **with great earnestness...**

The translations which were left out added nothing to the discussion.

I checked a number of translations outside of the mostly literal ones, without finding any of them which did anything much different from the examples quoted above.

Why doesn't your translation footnote v. 10a? Mainly because, how would you fit this into a footnote? I would suggest a simple, *there are serious problems with the text of v. 10a.*

[Chapter Outline](#)

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### 1Thessalonians 3:10b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
eis (εις) [pronounced ICE]	to, toward; into; unto; at; in order to, for, for the purpose of, for the sake of, on account of; against	directional preposition	Strong's #1519
to (τό) [pronounced toh]	the; this, that; to the, towards the	neuter singular definite article; accusative case	Strong's #3588
eidō (είδω) [pronounced I-doh]; also oida (οίδα) [pronounced OY-da]	to see, to perceive, to ascertain; to inspect, to examine; to observe; to discern, to know, to understand	aoist active infinitive	Strong's #1492

## 1Thessalonians 3:10b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
humôn (ὕμῶν) [pronounced hoo-MONE]	<i>of yours, from you; concerning you; you, yourselves</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #5216 (genitive case of #5210)
to (τό) [pronounced toh]	<i>the; this, that; to the, towards the</i>	neuter singular definite article; accusative case	Strong's #3588
prósôpon (πρόσωπον, ου, τό) [pronounced PROS-oh-pon]	<i>face, front of the human head, countenance, look, presence; (outward, external) appearance (of persons, things)</i>	neuter singular noun; accusative case	Strong's #4383

**Translation:** ...[hoping] to see you (all) face to face...

Paul very much would like to return to Thessalonica and to see the believers there and all that they have done, organizing into some local churches. He and the others would love to return as a group to Thessalonica.

## 1Thessalonians 3:10c

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
kaí (καί) [pronounced kī]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532
katartizô (καταρτίζω) [pronounced kat-ar-TID-zoh]	<i>to complete thoroughly; to repair, to mend, to prepare, to restore; to adjust, to fit, to frame, to make perfect (-ly); to join together</i>	aorist active infinitive	Strong's #2675
ta (τά) [pronounced taw]	<i>the; these, those, to this, towards that; the [things]</i>	neuter plural definite article; accusative case	Strong's #3588
hustérēmata (ὕστερηματα) [pronounced hoos-TEHR-ay-mah-tah]	<i>those things which are lacking; deficits; especially, wants, deficiencies</i>	neuter plural noun, accusative case	Strong's #5303
tês (τῆς) [pronounced tayc]	<i>of the; from the, [away, out] from the; from the source of; by the; than the</i>	feminine singular definite article; genitive and ablative cases	Strong's #3588
pistis (πίστις) [pronounced PIHS-tihs]	<i>faith, assurance, belief, believe; the content of what is believed; persuasion, that is, credence; moral conviction</i>	feminine singular noun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #4102
humôn (ὕμῶν) [pronounced hoo-MONE]	<i>of yours, from you; concerning you; you, yourselves</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #5216 (genitive case of #5210)

**Translation:** ...and to make perfect the deficiencies of your faith.

Some of what was reported to Paul we have not yet covered. Everything was not perfect in Thessalonica. There were some deficiencies. Paul would love to come back there and fill up these deficiencies with good, solid Bible teaching. In the meantime, Paul will attempt to address these things in this letter.

1Thessalonians 3:10 [We have been involved in] extraordinary praying on [your] behalf night and day, [hoping] to see you (all) face to face and to make perfect the deficiencies of your faith. (Kukis nearly literal translation)

1Thessalonians 3:9–10 For what thanksgiving are we able to render to God for you (all) over all the joy by which we keep on rejoicing, because of you (all) before our God. [We have been involved in] extraordinary praying on [your] behalf night and day, [hoping] to see you (all) face to face and to make perfect the deficiencies of your faith. (Kukis nearly literal translation)

1Thessalonians 3:9–10 Is there really a proper amount of thanks that we are able to render to God because of you. Your assemblies in Thessalonica have given us great joy and we rejoice because of you before God. In fact, day and night, we engage in extraordinary prayer on your behalf. We also hope in the future to see you all face to face, and to guide your, by the teaching of Bible doctrine, to make perfect whatever deficiencies that you may have in your faith. (Kukis paraphrase)

Now, He, the God, even the Father of us and the Lord of us, Jesus, may He guide the way of us face to face with you (all). Now to you (all) the Lord, may He increase and may He have in abundance the love to one another and to everyone, just as even us [have] to you (all), in order to stabilize of you (all) the hearts, blameless in purity in the presence of the God and Father of us, in the presence of the Lord of us, Jesus, along with all things of the holy ones of Him.

1Thessalonians  
3:11–13

[May] God Himself our Father and our Lord Jesus guide our way direct to you (all). May also the Lord superabound to you (all) and may He have in excess the agapê love toward one another and toward all [others]. And [may] we also [have in abundance this same agapê love] toward you (all). [And] for the sake of this to be made stable the hearts of you, [so that they are] blameless in purity before the God, even our Father, in the presence of our Lord Jesus, in the company of all His holy ones.

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ place us back in Thessalonica with you. May God give you great blessings and may He guide you to have great agapê toward one another. Furthermore, as a part of His blessing to you, may He help you to stabilize your thinking through Bible doctrine so that you are in fellowship and that your thinking is right before God our Father, in the Presence of our Lord and in the company of all His holy ones.

Here is how others have translated this passage:

#### Ancient texts:

Westcott-Hort Text (Greek) Now, He, the God, even the Father of us and the Lord of us, Jesus, may He guide the way of us face to face with you (all). Now to you (all) the Lord, may He increase and may He have in abundance the love to one another and to everyone, just as even us [have] to you (all), in order to stabilize of you (all) the hearts, blameless in purity in the presence of the God and Father of us, in the presence of the Lord of us, Jesus, along with all things of the holy ones of Him.

Complete Apostles Bible	Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, lead us directly to you. And may the Lord make you to increase and abound in love toward one another and toward all men, as indeed we also do toward you, so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.
Revised Douay-Rheims Douay-Rheims 1899 (Amer.)	. Now God himself and our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way unto you. And may the Lord multiply you and make you abound in charity towards one another and towards all men: as we do also towards you, To confirm your hearts without blame, in holiness, before God and our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, with all his saints. Amen.
V. Alexander's Aramaic Eastern Aramaic Manuscript James Murdock's Syriac NT	. . And may God our Father, and our Lord Jesus the Messiah, direct our way unto you; and increase and enlarge your love towards one another, and towards all men, even as we love you; and establish your hearts unblamable in holiness, before God our Father; at the advent of our Lord Jesus the Messiah, with all his saints.
Original Aramaic NT	But God Our Father and Our Lord Yeshua The Messiah shall direct our way to you, And may he multiply and increase your love one toward another, and that to every person, just as we love you, And establish your hearts without a fault in holiness before God Our Father at the arrival of Our Lord Yeshua The Messiah with all of his Holy Ones.
Plain English Aramaic Bible Lamsa Peshitta (Syriac)	. .

Significant differences:

### Limited Vocabulary Translations:

Bible in Basic English	Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus make a way for us to come to you; And the Lord give you increase of love in fullest measure to one another and to all men, even as our love to you; So that your hearts may be strong and free from all sin before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.
Bible in Worldwide English	Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, open the way for us to come to you. May the Lord make you stronger in your love for each other. Love others in the way we love you. We want the Lord to help you to stand strong. And then, when the Lord Jesus comes with all Gods people, you will be holy in the eyes of our God and Father. He will see no fault in you.
Easy English Easy-to-Read Version–2008	. We pray that our God and Father and our Lord Jesus will prepare the way for us to come to you. We pray that the Lord will make your love grow. We pray that he will give you more and more love for each other and for all people. We pray that you will love everyone in the same way we love you. This will strengthen your desire to do what is right, and you will be holy and without fault before our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy people.
<i>God's Word™</i>	We pray that God our Father and the Lord Jesus will guide us to you. We also pray that the Lord will greatly increase your love for each other and for everyone else, just as we love you. Then he will strengthen you to be holy. Then you will be

	blameless in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all God's holy people.
Good News Bible (TEV)	May our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus prepare the way for us to come to you! May the Lord make your love for one another and for all people grow more and more and become as great as our love for you. In this way he will strengthen you, and you will be perfect and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all who belong to him.
<i>The Message</i>	.
NIRV	.
New Life Version	.
New Simplified Bible	.

### Thought-for-thought translations; dynamic translations; paraphrases:

Contemporary English V.	We pray that God our Father and our Lord Jesus will let us visit you. May the Lord make your love for each other and for everyone else grow by leaps and bounds. That's how our love for you has grown. And when our Lord comes with all of his people, I pray that he will make your hearts pure and innocent in the sight of God the Father.
The Living Bible	.
New Berkeley Version	.
New Century Version	.
New Living Translation	.
The Passion Translation	Now may our Father God and our precious Lord Jesus guide our steps on a path straight back to you. And may the Lord increase your love until it overflows toward one another and for all people, just as our love overflows toward you. Then your hearts will be strengthened in holiness so that you may be flawless and pure before <i>the face of</i> our God and Father at the appearing of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones. Amen!
UnfoldingWord Simplified T.	We pray to God, our Father, and to our Lord Jesus, that they will enable us to return to you. As for you, we pray that the Lord Jesus will help you to love each other and other people more and more, just like we continue loving you more and more. We pray that our Lord Jesus will make you want to please him more and more. We pray that God our Father will enable you to become more like him, and that no one can criticize. We pray this, so that when Jesus comes back to earth and all those who belong to him come with him, he will be pleased with you.
Williams' New Testament	Now may our God and Father Himself and our Lord Jesus guide my way to you! May the Lord make you increase and overflow in love for one another and for all men, as my love for you does, so that He may strengthen your hearts to be faultless in purity in the sight of God, when our Lord Jesus comes back with all His consecrated ones.

### Partially literal and partially paraphrased translations:

American English Bible	.
Beck's American Translation	.
Breakthrough Version	May our God and Father Himself and our Master Jesus direct our way to you. May the Master increase and overflow you with the love for each other and for everyone, exactly as we also have for you, for the "to establish your hearts faultless in sacredness" <i>part</i> in front of our God and Father in the arrival of our Master Jesus with all His sacred <i>people</i> . Amen.
Common English Bible	.
Len Gane Paraphrase	Now God and our Father himself and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you. And may the Lord have you increase and be abundant in love towards one another

and towards all just as we do toward you. For the purpose that he may strengthen you hearts to be unblamable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his holy ones.

A. Campbell's Living Oracles Now may God himself, even our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, make straight our way to you. And may the Lord fill you, and make you overflow with love to one another, and to all, even as we also to you; that he may establish your hearts unblameable in holiness, before God, even our Father, at the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, with all his saints.

New Advent (Knox) Bible .  
NT for Everyone .

20<sup>th</sup> Century New Testament May our God and Father himself, and Jesus, our Lord, make the way plain for us to come to you. And for you, may the Lord fill you to overflowing with love for one another and for every one, just as we are filled with love for you; And so make your hearts strong, and your lives pure beyond reproach, in the sight of our God and Father, at the Coming of our Lord Jesus, with all his Holy Ones.

### Mostly literal renderings (with some occasional paraphrasing):

An Understandable Version .

Berean Study Bible .

Christian Standard Bible .

Conservapedia Translation .

Evangelical Heritage V. .

Revised Ferrar-Fenton Bible .

Free Bible Version .

God's Truth (Tyndale) .

Holman Christian Standard .

International Standard V

Now may our God and Father and our Lord Jesus provide a way for us to visit you. May the Lord greatly increase your love [Lit. cause you to increase and abound in love] for each other and for all people, just as we love you. [Lit. as we for you] Then your hearts will be strong, blameless, and holy in the presence of God, who is our Father, when our Lord Jesus appears with all his saints. [Or holy ones; other mss. read saints. Amen]

Lexham Bible .

Montgomery NT .

NIV, ©2011 .

Riverside New Testament .

Leicester A. Sawyer's NT .

The Spoken English NT .

UnfoldingWord Literal Text .

Urim-Thummim Version

Now Elohim Himself and our Father, and our LORD Jesus Christ, direct our way to you. And the LORD make you to increase and abound in Love toward one another and toward all people, even as we do toward you: To the end he may establish your hearts blameless in moral purity before Elohim, even our Father, at the coming of our LORD Jesus Christ with all his saints.

Weymouth New Testament

But may our God and Father Himself--and our Lord Jesus--guide us on our way to you; and as for you, may the Lord teach you to love one another and all men, with a growing and a glowing love, resembling our love for you. Thus He will build up your characters, so that you will be faultlessly holy in the presence of our God and Father at the Coming of our Lord Jesus with all His holy ones.

Wikipedia Bible Project .

Worsley's New Testament .

### Catholic Bibles (those having the imprimatur):

Christian Community (1988) .  
 The Heritage Bible .  
 New American Bible (2002) .  
 New American Bible (2011) .  
 New English Bible–1970 .  
 New Jerusalem Bible .  
 New RSV .  
 Revised English Bible–1989 .

### Jewish/Hebrew Names Bibles:

Complete Jewish Bible .  
 Hebraic Roots Bible . But may our Elohim and Father Himself, and our Master Yahshua Messiah, direct our way to you. And may the Master make you to increase and to abound in love toward one another and toward all, even as we do also toward you, in order to establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our Elohim and our Father at the coming of our Master Yahshua Messiah with all His saints.

Holy New Covenant Trans. . May God Himself, our Father, and our Lord Jesus prepare a way for us to come to you. May the Lord make your giving of self to others for their good, expecting nothing in return, grow and overflow to one another and everyone else, just as ours does toward you. May the Lord make your spirits strong, without guilt, and holy before God, our Father, when our Lord Jesus returns with all his saints.

The Scriptures 2009 . And our Elohim and Father Himself, and our Master עשוהי Messiah, direct our way to you! And the Master make you increase and overflow in love to each other and to all, as we also do to you, to establish your hearts blameless in set-apartness before our Elohim and Father at the coming of our Master עשוהי Messiah with all His set-apart ones!

Tree of Life Version . Now may our God and Father Himself and Yeshua our Lord direct our way to you. May the Lord also cause you to increase and overflow in love for one another and for all people, just as we also do for you, in order to strengthen your hearts as blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Yeshua with all His kedoshim. Amen.

### Weird English, Ⓒldε English, Anachronistic English Translations:

Accurate New Testament . ...He but The God and Father [of] us and The Lord [of] us Jesus may direct the path [of] us to you\* you\* but The Lord may increase and {you\*} [He] may exceed [in] the love to one another and to all [men] as and We {exceed in her} to you\* to the+ {him} to establish [of] you\* the hearts blameless in purity before the god and father [of] us in the coming [of] the lord [of] us jesus with all the [men] pure [of] him amen...

Alpha & Omega Bible . NOW MAY OUR THEOS (*The Alpha & Omega*) AND FATHER HIMSELF AND JESUS OUR LORD DIRECT OUR WAY TO YOU;  
 AND MAY THE LORD CAUSE YOU TO INCREASE AND ABOUND IN LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER, AND FOR ALL PEOPLE, JUST AS WE ALSO [do] FOR YOU;  
 SO THAT HE MAY ESTABLISH YOUR HEARTS WITHOUT BLAME IN HOLINESS BEFORE OUR THEOS (*The Alpha & Omega*) AND FATHER AT THE COMING OF OUR LORD JESUS WITH ALL HIS SAINTS.

Awful Scroll Bible . Moreover, would God Himself, even our Father, and our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One, accordingly-well-place-forth our way with regards to you.  
 Indeed would the Lord greaten yous, and would make yous abound in dear love, one to another and to everyone, even wholly-accordingly-to-what we are to yous, to fix the sensibility of you all's heart blame-less, from-within awfulness, from-within-near God, even our Father, from-within the being-besides of our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One, with all His awful ones.



Concordant Literal Version	Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus, be directing our way to you! " Now may the Lord cause you to increase and superabound in love for one another and for all, even as we also for you, to establish your hearts unblamable in holiness in front of our God and Father, in the presence of our Lord Jesus with all His saints."
exeGesés companion Bible	And Elohim himself and our Father and our Adonay Yah Shua Messiah direct our way to you. And Adonay superabound you superaboundingly in love to one another and to all - even exactly as we to you: to establish your hearts unaccusable in holiness in front of Elohim - even our Father at the parousia of our Adonay Yah Shua Messiah with all his holy.
Orthodox Jewish Bible	And may Eloheinu and Avinu, may Hashem Himself and Adoneinu Yehoshua direct our way to you. And may Hashem cause you to grow and to overflow and abound in ahavah (agape) for one another and for kol Bnei Adam, just as also we have ahavah (agape) for you, With this tachlis (purpose): to establish your levavot faultless in kedushah (holiness) in the presence of Hashem and Avinu at the Bi'as Moshiach (Coming of Moshiach) of Adoneinu Yehoshua with all His Kadoshim. Omein.

Rotherham's Emphasized B. .

### Expanded/Embellished Bibles:

<i>The Amplified Bible</i> An Understandable Version	. Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, open the way for us to go to you. And may the Lord cause your love for one another, and for everyone, to increase and overflow, just as ours does for you also. May the Lord strengthen your hearts so you will be <i>[found]</i> without just blame and holy, in the presence of our God and Father, when our Lord Jesus Christ returns with all of His holy ones <i>[i.e., angels. See Mark 8:38; II Thess. 1:7]</i> .
The Expanded Bible Jonathan Mitchell NT	. But our God and Father Himself, even our Lord Jesus, might suddenly make [note: verb is 3rd person singular; = He might guide] our road (path; way) straight toward (or: to) you folks. Now the Lord [=Yahweh or Christ] might at some point make you increase (or: be more than enough; be augmented; [note: in quality and/or quantity]), even to be abundantly surrounded and furnished (to super-abound) by love (or: to love; for love; in love; with love) unto each other and into everyone (or: all mankind), even as we also into you, to establish (firmly fix; set fast) your hearts blameless and without defect (or: to make stable your unblamable hearts) in set-apartness (or: holiness; sacredness) in front of our God and Father, within the presence of our Lord Jesus with all His set-apart folks (holy peoples; sacred ones).
P. Kretzmann Commentary Syndein/Thieme Translation for Translators The Voice	. . . . . . .

**Bible Translations with Many Footnotes:**

Lexham Bible	Now <i>may</i> our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you, and <i>may</i> the Lord <i>cause</i> you to increase and to abound in love for one another and for all, just as also we do for you, so that your hearts may be established blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. [Some manuscripts have “his saints. Amen.”]
NET Bible®	.
New American Bible (2011)	.
The Passion Translation	.
Rotherham’s Emphasized B.	.
The Spoken English NT	Now may the God and Father of our Lord Jesus personally guide our path to you. And may the Lord increase your love and make it overflow <sup>g</sup> for one another and for everyone-just as much as we love you. And may that love serve to strengthen your hearts. May they be faultlessly holy in front of our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus, with all his holy ones. Amen! <sup>h</sup>
	<sup>g</sup> Lit. “And the Lord increase you and make you full/overflow with love“. I think “increase” refers to their love, not to their numbers.
	<sup>h</sup> Many early mss lack the word “Amen”.
Wilbur Pickering’s New T.	Now may our God and Father Himself and our Lord Jesus Christ direct our way to you. And may the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love toward each other and toward all, just as we also do toward you, so as to establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His holy ones. <sup>5</sup> (5) Another reference to the Accounting: a heart ‘blameless in holiness’ is the ticket.

**Literal, almost word-for-word, renderings:**

A Faithful Version	.
Analytical-Literal Translation	Now [may] our God and Father Himself and our Lord Jesus Christ direct our way to you <sub>p</sub> . And [may] the Lord cause you <sub>p</sub> to increase and to abound in love to one another and to all [people], even as we also [do] for you <sub>p</sub> , in order to establish your <sub>p</sub> hearts [fig., inner selves] [as being] blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the Arrival of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His holy ones [or, saints].
Berean Literal Bible	.
Bond Slave Version	.
C. Thomson updated NT	.
Charles Thomson NT	.
Context Group Version	Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you (pl); and the Lord make you (pl) to increase and abound in allegiance one toward another, and toward all men, even as we also [do] toward you (pl); to the end he may establish your (pl) hearts unblamable in specialness before our God and Father, at the royal arrival {or presence; gr. Parousia} of our Lord Jesus with all his special ones. Amen.
English Standard Version	.
Far Above All Translation	.
Green’s Literal Translation	.
Literal New Testament	.
Literal Standard Version	And our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you, and the LORD cause you to increase and to abound in the love to one another, and to all, even as we also to you,

in order to have established your hearts, blameless in sanctification before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His holy ones.

Modern English Version  
 Modern Literal Version 2020

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus Christ, steer our way toward you°.

And may the Lord increase *in* you° and *this increase* to abound in love\* toward one another and toward everyone, just-as we also *do* toward you°;

\*that\* he might establish your° hearts, blameless in holiness before our God and Father, in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ, with all his holy-ones.

Modern KJV  
 New American Standard  
 New European Version  
 New King James Version  
 NT (Variant Readings)  
 Niobi Study Bible

**Prayer for the Church**

Now may God Himself and our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ direct (guide) our way unto you(p). And may the Lord make you(p) to increase and abound in love one toward another and toward all men, even as we do toward you(p), to the end that He may establish your(p) hearts unblamable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

Revised Young's Lit. Trans.  
 Updated Bible Version 2.17  
 A Voice in the Wilderness  
 Webster's Translation  
 World English Bible  
 Worrell New Testament  
 Young's Updated LT

**The gist of this passage:**  
 11-13

1Thessalonians 3:11a			
Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
autos (αὐτός) [pronounced ow-TOSS]	he; himself; same; this; it	3 <sup>rd</sup> person masculine singular personal pronoun; nominative case	Strong's #846
dé (δέ) [pronounced deh]	now, then; but, moreover, and, also; namely, to wit	post-positive conjunctive particle	Strong's #1161
ho (ὁ) [pronounced hoh]	the; this, that; who, which	definite article for a masculine singular noun, nominative case	Strong's #3588
theos (θεός) [pronounced theh-OSS]	God, [the true] God; divine being; god, goddess, divinity	masculine singular noun, nominative case	Strong's #2316
kaí (καί) [pronounced kī]	and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while	conjunction	Strong's #2532

## 1Thessalonians 3:11a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
patêr (πατήρ) [pronounced <i>pat-AYR</i> ]	<i>father, parent; forefather, ancestor; metaphorically, originator or transmitter; author of a family; a paternal figure; a title of honor; a teacher</i>	masculine singular noun; nominative case	Strong's #3962
hêmôn (ἡμῶν) [pronounced <i>hay-MOHN</i> ]	<i>us, of us, from us, our, ours</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, personal pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2257 (from Strong's #1473)
kaí (καί) [pronounced <i>kī</i> ]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532
ho (ὁ) [pronounced <i>hoh</i> ]	<i>the; this, that; who, which</i>	definite article for a masculine singular noun, nominative case	Strong's #3588
kuriος (κύριος) [pronounced <i>KOO-ree-oss</i> ]	<i>lord, master; Lord; he to whom a person or thing belongs, owner, possessor; a prince, chief, sovereign</i>	masculine singular noun; nominative case	Strong's #2962
hêmôn (ἡμῶν) [pronounced <i>hay-MOHN</i> ]	<i>us, of us, from us, our, ours</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, personal pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2257 (from Strong's #1473)
Iêsous (Ἰησοῦς) [pronounced <i>ee-ay-SOOCE</i> ]	<i>Jehovah is salvation; transliterated Jesus, Joshua</i>	proper singular noun, nominative case	Strong's #2424

**Translation:** [May] God Himself our Father and our Lord Jesus...

The word *may* is taken from the optative mood for the verb which follows.

Paul is talking about the active involvement of God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ. In fact, God is seen as so active in the spiritual movement of the Thessalonians as to use the personal pronoun with His title.

## 1Thessalonians 3:11b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
kateuthunô (κατευθύνω) [pronounced <i>kat-yoo-THOO-noh</i> ]	<i>to straighten, to guide, to direct; to remove [hindrances]</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup> person singular, aorist active optative	Strong's #2720
tên (τὴν) [pronounced <i>tayn</i> ]	<i>the, to the; toward the; this, that</i>	feminine singular definite article; accusative case	Strong's #3588 (article, demonstrative pronoun)

## 1Thessalonians 3:11b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
hodos (ὁδός, οὐ, ἡ) [pronounced ho-DOSS]	<i>a way, road, highway; a journey; traveling; metaphorically, a course of conduct; a way [of thinking, feeling, deciding]</i>	feminine singular noun, accusative case	Strong's #3598
hēmōn (ἡμῶν) [pronounced hay-MOHN]	<i>us, of us, from us, our, ours</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, personal pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2257 (from Strong's #1473)
prós (πρός) [pronounced prahç]	<i>facing, face to face with; to, towards, unto; for; about, according to, against, among, at, because of, before, between, by, with; directly to</i>	directional preposition with the accusative case	Strong's #4314
humas (ὕμᾱς) [pronounced hoo-MOSS]	<i>you [all], all of you; to you, towards you [all]</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural personal pronoun; accusative case	Strong's #5209, (from Strong's #5210; a form of Strong's #4771)

**Translation:** ...guide our way direct to you (all).

In the second half of this verse, we have what God is supposed to do. The verb is in the singular; however we do not have to determine, *are we talking about God the Father or God the Son?* Two points to be made: it is not abnormal for there to be two or more subjects, but as subjects for a singular verb. Secondly, God the Father and God the Son both have exactly the same plan.

1Thessalonians 3:11 [May] God Himself our Father and our Lord Jesus guide our way direct to you (all). (Kukis nearly literal translation)

## 1Thessalonians 3:12a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
humas (ὕμᾱς) [pronounced hoo-MOSS]	<i>you [all], all of you; to you, towards you [all]</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural personal pronoun; accusative case	Strong's #5209, (from Strong's #5210; a form of Strong's #4771)
dé (δέ) [pronounced deh]	<i>now, then; but, moreover, and, also; namely, to wit</i>	post-positive conjunctive particle	Strong's #1161
ho (ὁ) [pronounced hoh]	<i>the; this, that; who, which</i>	definite article for a masculine singular noun, nominative case	Strong's #3588
kurios (κύριος) [pronounced KOO-ree-oss]	<i>lord, master; Lord; he to whom a person or thing belongs, owner, possessor; a prince, chief, sovereign</i>	masculine singular noun; nominative case	Strong's #2962

## 1Thessalonians 3:12a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
pleonázō (πλεονάζω) [pronounced <i>pleh-on-AHD-zo</i> ]	<i>to superabound; to exist in abundance; to increase; to be augmented; to make to increase; to grow</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup> person singular, aorist active optative	Strong's #4121

**Translation:** *May also the Lord superabound to you (all)...*

Paul asks for God to increase or to make grow the church in Thessalonica. So, here I do not believe that he is speaking about their bank accounts or their personal wealth, but for the church to grow in size.

## 1Thessalonians 3:12b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
καί (καί) [pronounced <i>kī</i> ]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532
perisseuō (περισσεύω) [pronounced <i>per-iss-SUE-oh</i> ]	<i>to have in abundance, to have in excess, to exceed in number or measure, to have or to be more than enough</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup> person singular, aorist active optative	Strong's #4052
tē (τῇ) [pronounced <i>tay</i> ]	<i>to the, for the; in the; by the, by means of the; for the benefit [advantage] of; for the disadvantage of; who</i>	feminine singular definite article; dative, locative and instrumental cases	Strong's #3588
agápē (ἀγάπη) [pronounced <i>ag-AH-pay</i> ]	<i>agape love, mental attitude love, volitional love; brotherly love, affection, good will, love, benevolence, love feasts</i>	feminine singular noun, dative, locative or instrumental case	Strong's #26
eis (εἰς) [pronounced <i>ICE</i> ]	<i>to, toward; into; unto; at; in order to, for, for the purpose of, for the sake of, on account of; against</i>	directional preposition	Strong's #1519
allēlōn (ἀλλήλων, ἀλλήλους, ἀλλήλοις) [pronounced <i>al-LAY-lohn</i> ]	<i>one another, each other, another; reciprocally, mutually</i>	masculine plural reciprocal pronoun; accusative case	Strong's #240
καί (καί) [pronounced <i>kī</i> ]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532
eis (εἰς) [pronounced <i>ICE</i> ]	<i>to, toward; into; unto; at; in order to, for, for the purpose of, for the sake of, on account of; against</i>	directional preposition	Strong's #1519
pantas (πάντας) [pronounced <i>PAHN-tas</i> ]	<i>the whole, all (of them), everyone; anything</i>	masculine plural adjective, accusative case	Strong's #3956

**Translation:** ...and may He have in excess the agapê love toward one another and toward all [others].

Paul also prays for them to have in great excess, agapê love. This suggests spiritual growth among those in the church. This particular love, which is a mental attitude, is emphasized because they need to be aware that many of their detractors might, at some point, turn to God.

A super negative attitude could keep some unbelievers from believing in Jesus; or, if the person did believe in Jesus, it might make them uncomfortable to attend the local church.

For all churches, there is a careful line to walk, if there are those outside of the church who are trying to pester the church meetings in some way. The believers in the church need to continue with a relaxed mental attitude toward their detractors.

### 1Thessalonians 3:12c

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
katháper (καθάπερ) [pronounced <i>kath-AP-ehr</i> ]	<i>just as, according as, even as, as well as, exactly as</i>	adverb	Strong's #2509
kaí (καί) [pronounced <i>kī</i> ]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532
hêmeis (ἡμεῖς) [pronounced <i>hay-MICE</i> ]	<i>us, we [ourselves]; we [as an emphatic]</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural pronoun; nominative case	Strong's #2249 (nominative plural of #1473)
eis (εἰς) [pronounced <i>ICE</i> ]	<i>to, toward; into; unto; at; in order to, for, for the purpose of, for the sake of, on account of; against</i>	directional preposition	Strong's #1519
humas (ὕμᾱς) [pronounced <i>hoo-MOSS</i> ]	<i>you [all], all of you; to you, towards you [all]</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural personal pronoun; accusative case	Strong's #5209, (from Strong's #5210; a form of Strong's #4771)

**Translation:** And [may] we also [have in abundance this same agapê love] toward you (all).

Interestingly enough, Paul asks for his team to have this same agapê love. He uses the word katháper (καθάπερ) [pronounced *kath-AP-ehr*] which means, *just as, according as, even as, as well as, exactly as*. We go back to the previous phrase to see exactly what they want to parallel.

1Thessalonians 3:12 **May also the Lord superabound to you (all) and may He have in excess the agapê love toward one another and toward all [others]. And [may] we also [have in abundance this same agapê love] toward you (all).** (Kukis nearly literal translation)

### 1Thessalonians 3:13a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
eis (εἰς) [pronounced <i>ICE</i> ]	<i>to, toward; into; unto; at; in order to, for, for the purpose of, for the sake of, on account of; against</i>	directional preposition	Strong's #1519

## 1Thessalonians 3:13a

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
to (τό) [pronounced toh]	<i>the; this, that; to the, towards the</i>	neuter singular definite article; accusative case	Strong's #3588
stêrizô (στηρίζω) [pronounced stay-RIHD-zoh]	<i>to turn resolutely in [a certain direction]; to make stable, to place firmly, to set fast, to fix; to strengthen, make firm; to render constant, to confirm (one's mind)</i>	aorist active infinitive	Strong's #4741
humôn (ὕμῶν) [pronounced hoo-MONE]	<i>of yours, from you; concerning you; you, yourselves</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> person plural pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #5216 (genitive case of #5210)
tas (τάς) [pronounced tahss]	<i>the, to the, towards them</i>	feminine plural definite article; accusative case	Strong's #3588
kardiai (καρδίαι) [pronounced kahr-DEE-ī]	<i>hearts, minds, souls; will, character; thinking, mindset; purposes; passions, desires, appetites</i>	feminine plural noun, accusative case	Strong's #2588

**Translation:** [And] for the sake of this to be made stable the hearts of you,...

And because the city is unstable around them, the Thessalonians need to be stable from the inside out. That is come from the teaching of Bible doctrine.

## 1Thessalonians 3:13b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
amemptos (ἄμεμπτος) [pronounced AM-emp-tos]	<i>blameless, irreproachable, faultless; deserving no censure, free from fault or defect</i>	feminine plural adjective; accusative case	Strong's #273
en (ἐν) [pronounced en]	<i>in, on, by means of, with; among</i>	preposition with the locative, dative and instrumental cases	Strong's #1722
hagiôsunê (ἀγιωσύνη) [pronounced hag-ee-oh-SOO-nay]	<i>majesty, holiness; moral purity</i>	feminine singular noun; dative, locative or instrumental case	Strong's #42
emprosten (ἔμπροσθεν) [pronounced EM-pross-thehn]	<i>in front of, before, in the presence of</i>	preposition (also used as an adverb)	Strong's #1715
του (τοῦ) [pronounced tu]	<i>of the; from the, [away, out] from the; from the source of; by the; than the</i>	masculine singular definite article, genitive/ablative case	Strong's #3588



## 1Thessalonians 3:13b

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
theos (θεός) [pronounced <i>theh-OSS</i> ]	<i>God, [the true] God; divine being; god, goddess, divinity</i>	masculine singular noun, genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2316
καί (καί) [pronounced <i>kī</i> ]	<i>and, even, also; so, too, then, that; indeed, but, along with, while</i>	conjunction	Strong's #2532
patêr (πατήρ) [pronounced <i>pat-AYR</i> ]	<i>father, parent; forefather, ancestor; metaphorically, originator or transmitter; author of a family; a paternal figure; a title of honor; a teacher</i>	masculine singular noun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #3962
hêmōn (ἡμῶν) [pronounced <i>hay-MOHN</i> ]	<i>us, of us, from us, our, ours</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, personal pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2257 (from Strong's #1473)

**Translation:** ...[so that they are] blameless in purity before the God, even our Father,...

The believers in Thessalonica are to exhibit moral purity and they are to stay in fellowship as long as possible. For the most part, moral purity is simply adhering to the laws of divine establishment.

## 1Thessalonians 3:13c

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
en (ἐν) [pronounced <i>en</i> ]	<i>in, on, by means of, with; among</i>	preposition with the locative, dative and instrumental cases	Strong's #1722
tê (τῆ) [pronounced <i>tay</i> ]	<i>to the, for the; in the; by the, by means of the; for the benefit [advantage] of; for the disadvantage of; who</i>	feminine singular definite article; dative, locative and instrumental cases	Strong's #3588
parousía (παρουσία) [pronounced <i>par-oo-SEE-ah</i> ]	<i>advent, presence; the coming, arrival; the future visible return from heaven of Jesus, to raise the dead, hold the last judgment, and set up formally and gloriously the kingdom of God</i>	feminine singular noun; dative, locative or instrumental case	Strong's #3952
tou (τοῦ) [pronounced <i>tu</i> ]	<i>of the; from the, [away, out] from the; from the source of; by the; than the</i>	masculine singular definite article, genitive/ablative case	Strong's #3588
kurios (κύριος) [pronounced <i>KOO-ree-oss</i> ]	<i>lord, master; Lord; he to whom a person or thing belongs, owner, possessor; a prince, chief, sovereign</i>	masculine singular noun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2962
hêmōn (ἡμῶν) [pronounced <i>hay-MOHN</i> ]	<i>us, of us, from us, our, ours</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural, personal pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2257 (from Strong's #1473)

## 1Thessalonians 3:13c

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
Iêsous ( Ἰησοῦς) [pronounced ee-ay-SOOCE]	<i>Jehovah is salvation; transliterated Jesus, Joshua</i>	proper singular noun, genitive/ablative case	Strong's #2424

**Translation:** ...in the presence of our Lord Jesus,...

The Thessalonians have a life similar to ours, inasmuch as, their walk is before the Lord Jesus Christ. If we get out of line, there is no doubt that one of the fallen angels will be reporting this upstairs.

## 1Thessalonians 3:13d

Greek/Pronunciation	Common English Meanings	Notes/Morphology	Strong's Number
meta (μετά) [pronounced meht-AH]	<i>with, along with, among, in the company of, in the midst of</i>	preposition with the genitive/ablative case	Strong's #3326
pantôn (πάντων) [pronounced PAHN-tone]	<i>from the whole, of all; all things, everything</i>	masculine plural adjective, genitive/ablative case	Strong's #3956
tôn (τῶν) [pronounced tohn]	<i>the, of the, from the; of this, from that, [away, out] from the; from the source of; by the; than the</i>	masculine plural definite article; genitive and ablative cases	Strong's #3588
hagios (ἅγιος) [pronounced HA-gee-oss]	<i>holy (ones), set apart (ones); angels, saints</i>	masculine plural adjective used as a substantive; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #40
autou (αὐτοῦ) [pronounced ow-TOO]	<i>his, of him; from him, him; same</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup> person masculine singular personal pronoun; genitive/ablative case	Strong's #846

**Translation:** ...in the company of all His holy ones.

I am of two minds on this one. Are the believers in Thessalonica in the company of believers in that general geographical area? Or is Paul speaking of believing angels who are observing them at all time? I lean toward the latter understanding.

1Thessalonians 3:13 [And] for the sake of this to be made stable the hearts of you, [so that they are] blameless in purity before the God, even our Father, in the presence of our Lord Jesus, in the company of all His holy ones. (Kukis nearly literal translation)

1Thessalonians 3:11–13 [May] God Himself our Father and our Lord Jesus guide our way direct to you (all). May also the Lord superabound to you (all) and may He have in excess the agapê love toward one another and toward all [others]. And [may] we also [have in abundance this same agapê love] toward you (all). [And] for the sake of this to be made stable the hearts of you, [so that they are] blameless in purity before the God, even our Father, in the presence of our Lord Jesus, in the company of all His holy ones. (Kukis nearly literal translation)

1Thessalonians 3:11–13 May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ place us back in Thessalonica with you. May God give you great blessings and may He guide you to have great agapê toward one another. Furthermore, as a part of His blessing to you, may He help you to stabilize your thinking through Bible doctrine so that you are in fellowship and that your thinking is right before God our Father, in the Presence of our Lord and in the company of all His holy ones. (Kukis paraphrase)

<a href="#">Chapter Outline</a>	<a href="#">Charts, Graphics and Short Doctrines</a>	
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<a href="#">First Verse</a>	<a href="#">Chapter Summary</a>	<a href="#">Addendum</a>
<a href="http://www.kukis.org">www.kukis.org</a>	<a href="#">Exegetical Studies in 1Thessalonians</a>	

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### A Set of Summary Doctrines and Commentary

When I study a chapter of the Bible, one of the questions which I nearly always have is, *why is this chapter in the Word of God?*

#### Why 1Thessalonians 3 is in the Word of God

- 1.
- 2.

[Chapter Outline](#)

[Charts, Graphics and Short Doctrines](#)

When studying a chapter in the Bible, there are a number of topics which that study leads to.

#### What We Learn from 1Thessalonians 3

- 1.

[Chapter Outline](#)

[Charts, Graphics and Short Doctrines](#)

Originally, I was going to remove this, as I have used it in the Old Testament to look forward. However, it is certainly reasonable to summarize how our Savior is portrayed in this chapter.

#### Jesus Christ in 1Thessalonians 3

[Chapter Outline](#)

[Charts, Graphics and Short Doctrines](#)

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**Addendum**





### Doctrinal Teachers Who Have Taught 1Thessalonians 3

Series	Lesson (s)	Passage
Ken Reed	<a href="https://www.lakeeriebiblechurch.org/download/1st-thessalonians/">https://www.lakeeriebiblechurch.org/download/1st-thessalonians/</a>	1Thessalonians 1–5
Jeremy Thomas	<a href="https://www.sermonaudio.com/source_series.asp?sourceid=fbgbible">https://www.sermonaudio.com/source_series.asp?sourceid=fbgbible</a>	1Thessalonians 1–5
Grace Notes	<a href="https://www.gracenotes.info/12thessalonians/12thessalonians.shtml">https://www.gracenotes.info/12thessalonians/12thessalonians.shtml</a> (Dr. Grant C. Richison)	1Thessalonians 1–5
Benjamin Brodie	<a href="https://www.versebyverse.com/uploads/1/0/1/0/101034580/1_thessalonians_expanded_translation.pdf">https://www.versebyverse.com/uploads/1/0/1/0/101034580/1_thessalonians_expanded_translation.pdf</a>	1Thessalonians 1–5 (translation only)
Syndein	<a href="http://syndein.com/i_thessalonians.html">http://syndein.com/i_thessalonians.html</a> (Basic notes mostly from R. B. Thieme, Jr.)	1Thessalonians 1–5

Steve Ellis, Stuart Wolf and Newbold have all posted notes on the book of Acts, but I can no longer find those notes. If anyone has access to these notes, I would post them at my website.

## Word Cloud from the Kukis Paraphrase of 1Thessalonians 3

### Word Cloud from Exegesis of 1Thessalonians 3<sup>17</sup>

These two graphics should be very similar; this means that the exegesis of 1Thessalonians 3 has stayed on topic and has covered the information found in this chapter of the Word of God.

Chapter Outline	Charts, Graphics and Short Doctrines	
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<a href="http://www.kukis.org">www.kukis.org</a>		Exegetical Studies in 1Thessalonians

<sup>17</sup> Some words have been left out of this graphic; including *Strong*, *BDB*, and *pronounced*.