### 1 Thessalonians

## Chapter 3

1So when we couldn’t bear it any longer, we arranged to be sent to Athens alone. 2Then we sent Timothy – our brother and God’s servant in the good news about the Anointed One – to strengthen and comfort you in your faith, 3so that none of you would become discouraged by all these difficulties.  
  
However, you know that we were all appointed [to endure] things such as this!  
  
4Yes, when we were there with you, we warned you that we were about to suffer persecution (as you well know is now happening).  
  
5And it’s because I just couldn’t stand [not knowing how you were faring] that I sent [Timothy] to see how your faith [is bearing up], and whether the Tempter has put you to the test and brought all of our hard work to nothing.  
  
6But now that Timothy has returned from you, he’s brought us the good news about your faithfulness and love; and [he’s told us] how you keep us in your fond memories and of how you’re always longing to see us, just as we’re [longing to see] you.  
  
7That’s why, brothers, despite all our own needs and difficulties, we find comfort in you and in the faith that you’re showing.  
  
8Because, if you’re standing firm in the Lord, then we’re living [happily]!  
  
  
9So, what sort of thanks can we offer to God for you in return for all the joy we now have because of you before our God?  
  
10Therefore, we’ll keep on begging night and day to see your faces and to correct anything that may be lacking in your faith.  
  
11Now, may our God and Father Himself and our Lord Jesus straighten our road to you.  
  
12May the Lord cause you to grow and to have more than enough love for each other and for all, just as we have for you.  
  
13And may he make your hearts firm in holiness, without any blame before our God and Father when our Lord Jesus appears with all of his Holy Ones…  
  
May it be so!