**III. 1.**] **Wherefore**, because of our affection

for you just expressed; the narration

which follows is the proof of his  
affection for them.

**being no longer able to forbear** (our continued absence  
from communication with you), **we** (I  
Paul, from above, ch. ii. 18) **thought it  
good** (i.e. ‘it was our pleasure’) **to be left  
behind** (see Acts xvii. 15, 16) **alone in  
Athens**,

**2.**] **and sent Timothy, our  
brother and fellow-worker with God in**  
(the field of his working) **the Gospel of  
Christ** (there does not appear to be any  
special reason for this honourable mention  
of Timothy, further than the disposition to  
speak thus highly of him on the part of the  
Apostle. Such is the more natural view,  
when we take into account the fervid and  
affectionate heart of the writer. See, however,

note on 1 Tim. v. 23; with which  
timid character of Timothy such

designations as this may be connected), **in order  
to confirm you, and exhort you on behalf  
of** (in order for the furtherance of) **your  
faith**:

**3.**] **that no one might be dis-  
quieted in these afflictions** (which are  
happening to us both):

**for yourselves know...** ] *Reason why no one  
should be shaken*.

**thereunto**, viz. to *afflictions*, **we** meaning

‘ we Christians.’

**4.**] reason for the assumption of this know-  
ledge.

**ye know**, viz. by experience.

**5.**] **For this cause**, because tribulation had

verily begun among you (“*as it  
came to pass*”).

The words **I also**  
seem to convey a delicate hint that Timothy  
also was anxious respecting them: or it  
may have the same reference as “*we also*,”  
ch. ii. 13,—viz. to the other Christians who  
had heard of their tribulation.

**6—8.**] *Of the good news brought by Timothy*.

**6. But Timothy having just now  
come**] See Acts xviii. 5. This settles the  
time of our Epistle being written. It was  
very soon after this arrival of Silas and  
Timothy.—First their Christian state

comforted him,—then, their constant

remembrance of himself. Theodoret remarks :  
“He mentions three things which have  
excited his affection to them: their faith,  
their love, their remembrance of their  
teacher. Their faith shews the stability of