

Be Ready: Beauty of Purity and Perseverance  
Faithfulness in Serving God, 1 Thessalonians 2:13-20

Glory: High renown or honor won by notable achievements.

1 Thessalonians 2:13 And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.

God's power over salvation.

1 Thessalonians 2:14-16 For you, brothers, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea. For you suffered the same things from your own countrymen as they did from the Jews, who killed both the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and drove us out, and displease God and oppose all mankind by hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles that they might be saved-so as to fill up the measure of their sins. But wrath has come upon them at last!

Imitating faith.

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1 Thessalonians 2:17-18 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.

Satan's Hindrance:

1. God allowed this.
2. God worked through this.

1 Thessalonians 2:19-20 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.

Final thoughts

1. Keeping our focus on heaven.
2. The joy of worshiping God with other believers.
3. Glory belongs to Christ, boasting in Christ.