

Timothy's Life-Giving Report,
1 Thessalonians 3:6-10

1 Thessalonians 3:6-7 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 think kindly of us, longing to see us just as we also long to see you, for this reason, brethren, in all our distress and affliction we were comforted about you through your faith;

1 Thessalonians 3:8-10 for now we really live, if you stand firm in the Lord. For what thanks can we render to God for you in return for all the joy with which we rejoice before our God on your account, as we night and day keep praying most earnestly that we may see your face, and may complete what is lacking in your faith?

Background:

- ++The content of the Report
- ++The effects of the Report
- ++The response of the Report

Acts 17:1-5 Now when they had traveled through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. And according to Paul's custom, he went to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, explaining and giving evidence that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you is the Christ."

Acts 17:4-5 And some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, along with a large number of the God-fearing Greeks and a number of the leading women. But the Jews, becoming jealous and taking along some wicked men from the market place, formed a mob and set the city in an uproar; and attacking the house of Jason, they were seeking to bring them out to the people.

Paul had two main points in his message:

- Point 1: The Christ/Messiah had to suffer, die, and then raise from the dead.
- Point 2: Jesus is the Christ.

Paul received two reactions:

- Reaction 1: some were persuaded and believed
- Reaction 2: some became jealous and formed a mob

Background summary:

Paul came to Thessalonica and shared the gospel with as much people as he could. Some believed in the gospel, and some rejected him. He then had to leave to avoid being beaten or killed.

I Thessalonians 3:1-2

Parable of the Sower

Matthew 13:3-4 And He spoke many things to them in parables, saying, "Behold, the sower went out to sow; and as he sowed, some seeds fell beside the road, and the birds came and ate them up.

Matthew 13:5-6 Others fell on the rocky places, where they did not have much soil; and immediately they sprang up, because they had no depth of soil. But when the sun had risen, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.

Matthew 13:7-8 Others fell among the thorns, and the thorns came up and choked them out. And others fell on the good soil and *yielded a crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.

Explanation of the Parable

Matthew 13:18-19 "Hear then the parable of the Sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one on whom seed was sown beside the road.

Matthew 13:20-21 The one on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, this is the man who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no firm root in himself, but is only temporary, and when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he falls away.

Matthew 13:22-23 And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the man who hears the word, and the worry of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. And the one on whom seed was sown on the good soil, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty."

I Thessalonians 3:5

The content of the Report

Verse 6: 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 think kindly of us, longing to see us just as we also long to see you,

The content of the Report

Three main ideas:

1. good news of their faith and love

Three main ideas:

1. good news of their faith and love
2. that they were always thinking kindly of Paul and Silas

Three main ideas:

1. good news of their faith and love
2. that they were always thinking kindly of Paul and Silas
3. that they longed to see Paul, just as much as Paul longed to see them

The effects of the Report

Verse 7-8 for this reason, brethren, in all our distress and affliction we were comforted about you through your faith; for now we really live, if you stand firm in the Lord.

Two effects:

1. Comforted even in distress.

Two effects:

1. Comforted even in distress.
2. Giving new life.

The response of the Report

Verse 9-10 For what thanks can we render to God for you in return for all the joy with which we rejoice before our God on your account, 10 as we night and day keep praying most earnestly that we may see your face, and may complete what is lacking in your faith?

Three Responses:

1. Thankfulness

Three Responses:

1. Thankfulness
2. Overwhelming joy

Three Responses:

1. Thankfulness
2. Overwhelming joy
3. Unceasingly prayer