

The Christian's Reward at Christ's Return

1 Thessalonians 2:1-20

The coming of Christ is a working hope.

A. The Motive and Method of a True Witness for Christ (2:1-6)

1. It is not an empty action (v 1)

2. It is not a weak-hearted action (v 2)

3. It requires the truth in word and deed (v 3)

4. It is a sacred trust and privilege (v 4)

**5. It must be presented frankly and without personal
desire (vv 5-6)**

Matthew 12:50

The Christian's Reward at Christ's Return

1 Thessalonians 2:1-20

The coming of Christ is a working hope.

B. The Mother Side of Paul's Ministry (2:7-9)

Comfort

- 1. Compassionate (v 7)**
- 2. Protective (v 8)**
- 3. Untiring (v 9)**

The Christian's Reward at Christ's Return

1 Thessalonians 2:1-20

The coming of Christ is a working hope.

B. The Mother Side of Paul's Ministry (2:7-9)

Comfort

1. Compassionate (v 7)

2. Protective (v 8)

3. Untiring (v 9)

The Christian's Reward at Christ's Return

1 Thessalonians 2:1-20

The coming of Christ is a working hope.

C. The Father Side of Paul's Ministry (2:10-13)

Charge

- 1. A visible role model (v 10)**
- 2. A disciplined approach (v 11)**
- 3. Goal-oriented to reproduce the role model (v 12)**
- 4. Believable (v 13)**

The Christian's Reward at Christ's Return

1 Thessalonians 2:1-20

The coming of Christ is a working hope.

D. The Brother Side of Paul's Ministry (2:14-16)

Challenge – Sharing in suffering

Proverbs 17:17

- 1. The similarity of the suffering (v 14)**
- 2. The source of the suffering (v 15)**
- 3. The sense of the suffering (v 16)**

The Christian's Reward at Christ's Return

1 Thessalonians 2:1-20

The coming of Christ is a working hope.

E. The Reward of a True Witness for Christ (2:17-20)

1. The brotherhood of believers (v 17)

2. The call to the spiritual fight (v 18)

3. The promise of Christ's return (v 19)

4. Spiritual fruit (v 20)

The Christian's Sanctification for Christ's Return

1 Thessalonians 3:1-13

The coming of Christ is a purifying hope.

**What are the concerns
of a true spiritual
mentor?**

I. Paul's Concern for the Thessalonican Believers (3:1-5)

1 Thessalonians 3:1-5

1 Wherefore when we could no longer forbear, we thought it good to be left at Athens alone;

2 And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith:

3 That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto.

I. Paul's Concern for the Thessalonican Believers (3:1-5)

1 Thessalonians 3:1-5 - continued

4 For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know.

5 For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.

I. Paul's Concern for the Thessalonican Believers (3:1-5)

A. The depth of his concern (v 1)

B. Timothy sent to minister (vv 2-3)

1. To establish

2. To comfort

3. To stand with them through tribulation

C. Paul's fear was that suffering would make them turn from the faith (vv4-5)

II. Paul's Reaction to Timothy's Report (3:6-10)

1 Thessalonians 3:6-10

6 But now when Timotheus came from you unto us, and brought us good tidings of your faith and charity, and that ye have good remembrance of us always, desiring greatly to see us, as we also to see you:

7 Therefore, brethren, we were comforted over you in all our affliction and distress by your faith:

8 For now we live, if ye stand fast in the Lord.

II. Paul's Reaction to Timothy's Report (3:6-10)

1 Thessalonians 3:6-10 - continued

9 For what thanks can we render to God again for you, for all the joy wherewith we joy for your sakes before our God;

10 Night and day praying exceedingly that we might see your face, and might perfect that which is lacking in your faith?

II. Paul's Reaction to Timothy's Report (3:6-10)

A. They were standing firm in the midst of the trial (v 6)

**B. The effects of the report on Paul and the others
(vv 7-10)**

1. Comforted (v 7)

2. Encouraged to keep serving (v 8)

3. Rejoicing (v 9)

4. Praying for them (v 10a)

5. Desire for fellowship (v 10b)

6. Desire for their continued spiritual growth (v 10c)

III. Paul's Prayer for the Thessalonian Church (3:11-13)

1 Thessalonians 3:11-13

11 Now God himself and our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way unto you.

12 And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you:

13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

III. Paul's Prayer for the Thessalonican Church (3:11-13)

- A. That the Holy Spirit would allow them to return
(v 11)**
- B. That the love of God would increase (v 12)**
- C. That they would remain holy until Christ's return
(v 13)**

