

ENCOURAGEMENT IN LIGHT OF PRESENT SUFFERING

I. Paul's Gratitude Expressed (1:3-4)

The Reasons for his gratitude:

A. They Were _____ By God's Amazing Grace (1:2)

B. Their Faith In Christ Was _____ (1:3a)

C. Their Love For Others Was _____ (1:3b)

D. Their Testimony Was Well _____ To Others (1:4)

1. Paul & his team _____ of them to other churches (1:4a)

“boasted”

- Was this boasting prideful?

2. What were the *reasons* stated for Paul's boasting of them? (1:4b)

a. They displayed _____ & _____ in light of great opposition!

b. They _____ patiently the _____ set before them despite persecutions & tribulations

II. Encouragement In Light Of Present Suffering (1:5-ff)

A. Why Do Good People Suffer?

1. Christians should realize that suffering is _____ of salvation.
2. Christians should realize that suffering draws us _____ to the Lord.

B. Paul's Encouragement in Their Suffering (1:5)

1. Be *encouraged* believer, remember when you suffer & endure patiently for Christ's sake during your Christian life now, you are manifesting _____ that you are considered _____ of the Kingdom of God.

2 Timothy 2:11-13

Romans 8:18

2. Be *encouraged* believer, opposition or suffering for Christ now will be _____ by the righteous _____ of God one day. (1:8-10)