

I Thessalonians 3:1-13
The Future Perfection



A t h e n i a n P o s t

PAUL GIVES UP!!

Says "I Can't Bear This!"

Feelings of fear and
doubt torture him ...



3:1-5 WE couldn't bear it ... I couldn't bear it!

2:17-20 You are the people we brag about

We were “torn from you” — driven out!

We were “blocked” — by Satan himself

3:2 “To *Strengthen* and Encourage Your Faith ...”

παρακλησις *Comfort*

εἰς το στηριξαι *In order to strengthen*

a firm foundation

3:13 “To *Strengthen* Your Hearts ...” *to “fix one’s face”*

firm unwavering belief

εἰς το στηριξαι

Rom. 1:11 For I long to see you, *so that* I may impart to you some spiritual gift **to strengthen** you

Rom. 16:25 Now to Him who is able **to strengthen** you according to my gospel, the proclamation of Jesus Christ

James 5:8 You also be patient and **strengthen** your hearts, for the Lord's return is near.

Prov. 27:17 Iron sharpens iron
So one man sharpens another.
Face to Face *"The Human Touch"*

3:3 SO THAT you are not “shaken” by these persecutions

σαινωμαι *give up your beliefs*
“turn from God to ...” **Nothing!**

ἐπιστρεφω *turn, change direction*
1:10 “turned to God from idols ...”

3:6-10 Good News! Great Relief!

You long to see us!

If *you* are ***standing***—we are ***living***

Satan's tempter did not stop *you*

We are so Grateful

How can we thank Him enough?

STABILIZATION

to cause someone to become stronger
to be *more firm and unchanging in attitude or belief*

3:10-13 God's **PROCESS** For All Believers

Growing and Overflowing *Love* = STABILITY

3:10-13 God's **GOAL** For All Believers

Future PERFECTION

We're pilgrims on the journey
Of the narrow road
And those who've gone before us line the way
Cheering on the faithful, encouraging the weary
Their lives a stirring testament to God's sustaining grace
Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses
Let us run the race not only for the prize
But as those who've gone before us
Let us leave to those behind us
The heritage of faithfulness passed on through godly lives

**Oh may all who come behind us find us faithful
May the fire of our devotion light their way
May the footprints that we leave
Lead them to believe
And the lives we live
Inspire them to obey
Oh may all who come behind us find us faithful**

No Class Nov 19

No Class Nov 26

NEXT WEEK: "THE PRESENT COMFORT"
STABILITY IN LIVING LIFE