

An aerial photograph of a zebra crossing on a city street. The crossing consists of alternating black and white horizontal stripes. Several pedestrians are walking across the crossing. In the top left, the lower legs and feet of two people are visible. In the top right, a man in a striped shirt and khaki pants is walking, looking at his phone. In the middle left, a person in a light green shirt and dark pants is walking. In the middle right, a person in a black t-shirt and dark shorts is walking, carrying a brown bag. In the bottom left, a person in a white t-shirt and dark shorts is walking. In the bottom middle, a person in a plaid shirt and light pants is walking, carrying a bag. In the bottom right, a person is walking under a blue patterned umbrella. The shadows of the pedestrians are cast onto the white stripes of the crossing, indicating a bright, sunny day.

LAST DAYS LIVING

A STUDY IN I & II THESSALONIANS

“The Profile of a Godly Pastor”

(Part 4)

I THESSALONIANS 2:14-20

1. Purposeful in Coming (vs. 1-2)
2. Truthful in Appeal (vs. 3)
3. Accountable in Motive (vs. 4)
4. Honorable in Speech (vs. 5)
5. Humble in Leadership (vs. 6)
6. Maternal in Ministry (vs. 7-8)
7. Mindful of Working (vs. 9)
8. Paternal in Instruction (vs. 10-12)
9. Faithful in Preaching (vs. 13)

Who is a Godly Pastor?

KEY POINT:

A godly pastor will show evidence of his righteous character by how he shepherds the church.

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10. Amenable to Suffering (vs. 14-16)

Who is a Godly Pastor?

- I Thessalonians 1:6
- Where we get our English word “mimic”
- Following others; copying Paul’s example

The Word “*Imitators*”

- Following Stephen's death (Acts 8)
- Initiated under Herod Agrippa (Acts 12)
- Increase of Zealot activity in Judea in A.D. 48
- When Paul began preaching in Thessalonica

What Persecution Is Paul Referring to?

*²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground,
this is the one who hears the word and
immediately receives it with joy,
²¹ yet he has no root in himself,
but endures for a while, and when tribulation or
persecution arises on account of the word,
immediately he falls away.*

Matthew 13:20-21

“Persecution, according to the NT, is a natural concomitant of Christian faith, and for the believers in Thessalonica to undergo suffering for Christ's sake proves that they are fellow-members of the same body as the Judean churches.”



F.F. Bruce
I & II Thessalonians

If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings with which we suffer.

II Corinthians 1:6

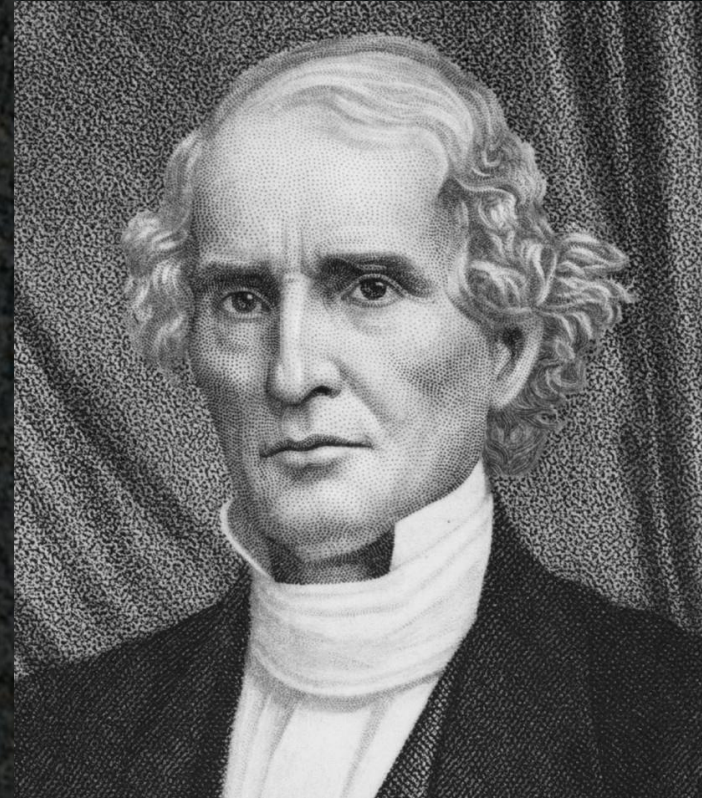
*Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake,
and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in
Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is,
the church,*

Colossians 1:24

Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead.

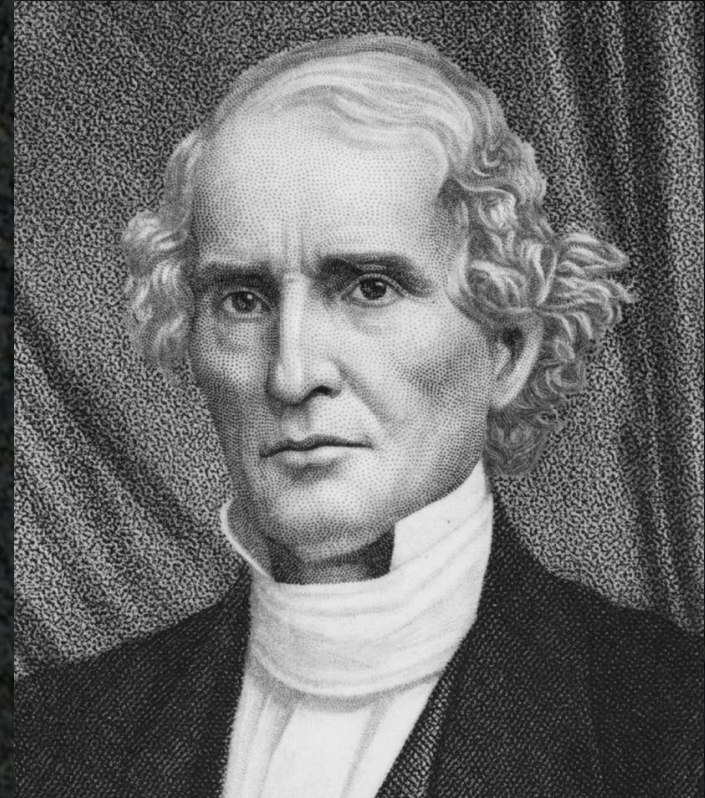
II Corinthians 1:9

“It is only when the gospel is embraced in this way that religion will show itself sufficient to abide the fiery trials to which Christians may be exposed. He who is convinced by mere human reasoning may have his faith shaken by opposite, artful reasoning; he who is won by the mere arts of popular eloquence will have ...



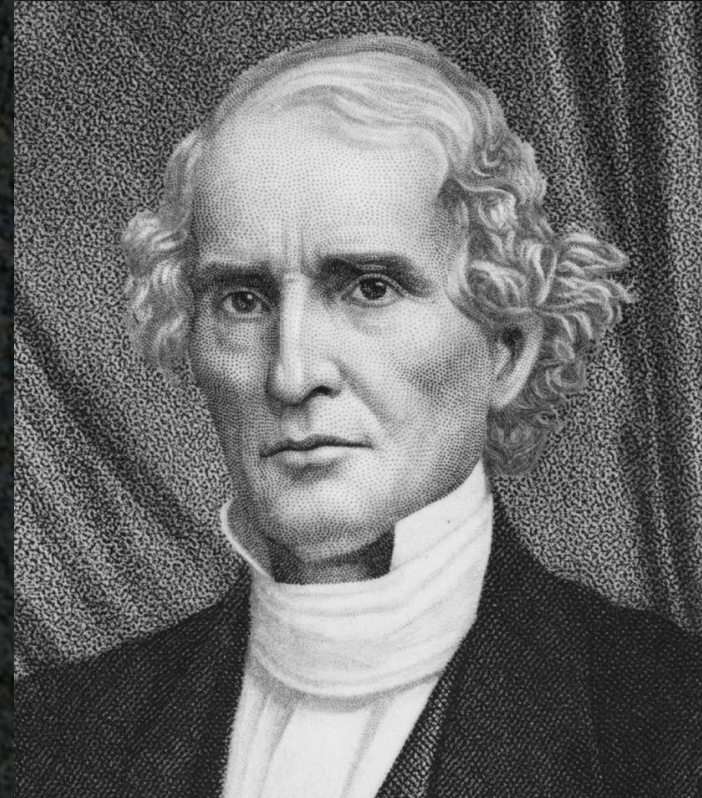
Albert Barnes
Barnes Notes

... no faith which will be proof against similar arts in the cause of error; he who embraces religion from mere respect for a pastor, parent, or friend, or because others do, may abandon it when the popular current shall set in a different direction, ...



Albert Barnes
Barnes Notes

... or when his friends shall embrace different views; but he who embraces religion as the truth of God, and from the love of the truth, will have a faith, like that of the Thessalonians, which will abide every trial.”



Albert Barnes
Barnes Notes

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10. Amenable to Suffering (vs. 14-16)
11. Wistful in Affection (vs. 17-18)

Who is a Godly Pastor?

1. Being torn away from the Thessalonians

Four Examples of Paul's Affection

¹ The word of the LORD came to me:

² “Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy, and say to them, even to the shepherds, Thus says the Lord GOD: Ah, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? ³ You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat ones, but you do not feed the sheep.

Ezekiel 34:1-6

⁴ The weak you have not strengthened, the sick you have not healed, the injured you have not bound up, the strayed you have not brought back, the lost you have not sought, and with force and harshness you have ruled them.

⁵ So they were scattered, because there was no shepherd, and they became food for all the wild beasts.

My sheep were scattered;

⁶ they wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill. My sheep were scattered over all the face of the earth, with none to search or seek for them.

Ezekiel 34:1-6

1. Being torn away from the Thessalonians
2. Calling them “brothers”

Four Examples of Paul's Affection

1. Being torn away from the Thessalonians
2. Calling them “brothers”
3. His desire to be with them again

Four Examples of Paul's Affection

22 If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell.

23 I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better.

24 But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account.

Philippians 1:22-26

*25 Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and
continue with you all,
for your progress and joy in the faith,
26 so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in
Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.*

Philippians 1:22-26

1. Being torn away from the Thessalonians
2. Calling them “brothers”
3. His desire to be with them again
4. His attempts to go to Thessalonica

Four Examples of Paul's Affection

*12 “How you are fallen from heaven,
O Day Star, son of Dawn!
How you are cut down to the ground,
you who laid the nations low!*

Isaiah 14:12-14

*13 You said in your heart,
‘I will ascend to heaven;
above the stars of God
I will set my throne on high;
I will sit on the mount of assembly
in the far reaches of the north;
14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;
I will make myself like the Most High.’*

Isaiah 14:12-14

*13 For such men are false apostles,
deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as
apostles of Christ.*

*14 And no wonder, for even Satan disguises
himself as an angel of light.*

II Corinthians 11:13-14

“We should not be alarmed when Satan hinders us, for that proves that we are on the Lord’s side and are doing the Lord’s work. In His strength, we will win the victory and triumph over our adversary.”

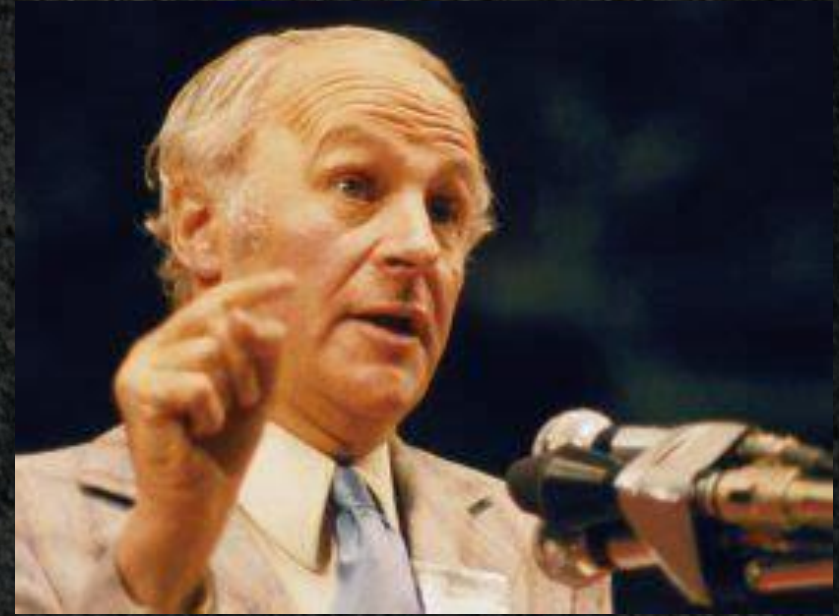


Charles Spurgeon
Morning and Evening

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11. Wistful in Affection (vs. 17-18)
12. Joyful in Relationships (vs. 19-20)

Who is a Godly Pastor?

“The Thessalonians were trophies of Christ crucified. What Paul seems to mean, in this transport of love, is that his joy in this world and his glory in the next are tied up with the Thessalonians.”



John Stott

The Message of I & II Thessalonians

*Obey your leaders and submit to them,
for they are keeping watch over your souls,
as those who will have to give an account.
Let them do this with joy and not with groaning,
for that would be of no advantage to you.*

Hebrews 13:17

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Who is a Godly Pastor?

Pastors	Congregation
Purposeful in coming	Working out salvation with fear and trembling, knowing God works His purpose (Phil 2:13-14)
Truthful in appeal	Buying the truth and not selling out (Prov 23:23)
Accountable in motives	God's will over ours (I Cor 9:14)
Honorable in speech	Corrupting talk not in our mouths (Eph 4:29)
Humble in leadership	Counting others as more important than ourselves (Phil 2:3-4)

Pastors	Congregation
Maternal in ministry	Gentleness as a fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:23)
Mindful of working	Being unwilling to work and being refused food (Prov 4:7)
Paternal in instruction	Investing in faithful people (II Tim 2:2)
Faithful in preaching	Planting, watering but God giving the increase (I Cor 3:6-7)
Amenable to suffering	Suffering for what is right (I Pet 3:14)