



8/9/15

1 Thessalonians 2:1 For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you was not in vain,
² but after we had already suffered and been mistreated in Philippi, as you know, we had the boldness in our God to speak to you the gospel of God amid much opposition.

Motives for Ministry:

Motive 1. Pleasure (to please our God who trusts us)

³ For our exhortation does not *come* from error or impurity or by way of deceit;
⁴ but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not as pleasing men but God, who examines our hearts.
⁵ For we never came with flattering speech, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed-- God is witness--
⁶ nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, even though as apostles of Christ we might have asserted our authority.

Motive 2. motherly affection

⁷ But we proved to be gentle among you, as a nursing *mother* tenderly cares for her own children.
⁸ Having thus a fond affection for you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us.
⁹ For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, *how* working night and day so as not to be a burden to any of you, we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.

Motive 3. fatherly love

¹⁰ You are witnesses, and *so is* God, how devoutly and uprightly and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers;
¹¹ just as you know how we *were* exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father *would* his own children,
¹² so that you may walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory. ¹³ And for this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received from us the word of God's message, you accepted *it* not as the word of men, but *for* what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.
¹⁴ For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea, for you also endured the same sufferings at the hands of your own countrymen, even as they *did* from the Jews,
¹⁵ who both killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and drove us out. They are not pleasing to God, but hostile to all men,
¹⁶ hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles that they might be saved; with the result that they always fill up the measure of their sins. But wrath has come upon them to the utmost.
¹⁷ But we, brethren, having been bereft of you for a short while-- in person, not in spirit-- were all the more eager with great desire to see your face.
¹⁸ For we wanted to come to you-- I, Paul, more than once-- and *yet* Satan thwarted us.

Motive 4. joy

¹⁹ For who is our hope or joy or crown of exultation? Is it not even you, in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming?

²⁰ For you are our glory and joy.



8/2/15

Some Evidences of vulnerability:

Evidence 1. prolonged _____

1 Thessalonians 3:1 Therefore when we could endure *it* no longer, we thought it best to be left behind at Athens alone;

² and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you as to your faith,

³ so that no man may be disturbed by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we have been destined for this.

⁴ For indeed when we were with you, we *kept* telling you in advance that we were going to suffer affliction; and so it came to pass, as you know.

Evidence 2. _____

⁵ For this reason, when I could endure *it* no longer, I also sent to find out about your faith, for fear that the tempter might have tempted you, and our labor should be in vain.

Evidence 3. _____

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,

Evidence 4. _____ life and death

⁷ for this reason, brethren, in all our distress and affliction we were comforted about you through your faith;

⁸ for now we *really* live, if you stand firm in the Lord.

⁹ 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,

Evidence 5. earnest _____

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?

¹¹ Now may our God and Father Himself and Jesus our Lord direct our way to you;

¹² and may the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love for one another, and for all men, just as we also *do* for you;

¹³ so that He may establish your hearts unblamable in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.