

SERMON NOTES

THE WAR IS ON!

1 THESSALONIANS 2:15-3:5

OCTOBER 11, 2026

SENIOR PASTOR

TIM HARKNESS



I. _____ with Jesus in building the church, fully knowing Satan seeks to hinder it. (2:15-20)

IMPACT GROUP QUESTIONS

KEY PASSAGE: 1 THESSALONIANS 2:15-3:5

Opening: What truths impacted you most from the sermon/passage? *Engage with Jesus in building the church, fully knowing Satan seeks to hinder it; Partner with believers in building the church, knowing that afflictions will come; Care and communicate well, ensuring Jesus is glorified.*

INFORM THE HEAD/STIR THE HEART

Please read 1 Thessalonians 2:15-3:5 and answer the following questions:

1. Please describe the opposition Paul faced along with other believers according to 1 Thessalonians 2:14-16. Would you conclude that the opposition was being defensive or offensive? Please explain your reasoning and its significance.

2. According to verse 16, what was the motivation of those who opposed Paul and the others? What does this tell you about their hearts?

3. How did the behavior of the opposition emulate the behavior of Satan (verse 19)?

4. Why do you think Paul's only reaction to the opposition was that God's wrath had come on them, but he didn't speak of defending himself against them?

5. According to verses 17-20, what did Paul focus his attention on? How can you apply that approach to struggles in your own life?

6. According to 1 Thessalonians 3:1-3, why did Paul send Timothy to them? Why is partnership in church building and planting so important?

7. In verses 4-5, Paul made it clear that he wanted them to understand that suffering and affliction would come. Why is it so important for our faith that we have a good understanding of God's view suffering?

8. Please explain what you see about God's heart for you versus Satan's heart for you? Why do we sometimes get them mixed up?

CHALLENGE THE WILL

What is one thing from this passage that you will apply to your life—in your actions, thoughts, or desires—to better center your worship on the Lord?

WEEKLY READING PLAN

Monday, October 12 // 2 Corinthians 12:1-10
His Grace Satisfies

Tuesday, October 13 // Ephesians 6:10-20
Take Your Stand in the Lord

Wednesday, October 14 // Philippians 2:19-30
Serve in Genuine Love

Thursday, October 15 // 2 Corinthians 5:1-10
Walk by Faith, Not by Sight

Friday, October 16 // 1 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Community of Love