

Chapter 3

Because he could not come himself, as he desired, he sent Timothee. 6. At whose returne now vnderstanding that they stand still steadfast, notwithstanding all those persecutions, he reioyceth exceedingly: 10. praying that he may see them againe, 12. and for their increase in charitie.

For the which cause forbearing no longer, it pleased vs to remaine at Athens, alone. ² And we sent Timothee our Brother, & the Minister of God in the Gospell of Christ, to confirme you and exhort you for your faith, ³ that no man be moued in these tribulations: for your selues know, that we are appointed to this. ⁴ For euen when we were with you, we fore-told you that we should suffer tribulations, as also it is come to passe, and you know. ⁵ Therefore I also forbearing no longer, sent to know your faith: left perhaps he that tempteth, hath tempted you, and our labour be made vaine. ⁶ But now Timothee comming vnto vs from you, and reporting to vs your faith and charitie, and that you haue a good remembrance of vs alwaies, desiring to see vs, as we also you: ⁷ therefore we are comforted, Brethren, in you, in all our necessitie, & tribulation, by your faith, ⁸ because now we liue, if you stand in our Lord. ⁹ For what thanks-giuing can we render to God for you, in all ioy wherewith we reioyce for you before our God, ¹⁰ night and day more abundantly praying that we may see your face, and may accomplish those things that want of your faith?

Act. 18, 5.

¹¹ And God himself and our Father, & our Lord IESVS Christ direct our way to you. ¹² And our Lord multiplie you, & make your charitie abound one to another, and toward all men: as we also in you, ¹³ to confirme your hearts without blame, in holineffe, before God

^a Though letters or epistles in absence giue great comfort & confirmation in faith, yet it is preaching in presence by which the faith of Christ and true religion is alwaies both begun and accomplished.

and our Father, in the coming of our Lord IESVS Christ
with all his Saints. Amen.