

Verse: 2 Timothy 2:10 GW

For that reason, I endure everything for the sake of those who have been chosen so that they, too, may receive salvation from Christ Jesus with glory that lasts forever.

The two verses before this are critical in understanding why Paul is willing to endure every hardship and suffering for the sake of those who are to receive salvation. He said in verses 8 and 9, '**Remember Jesus Christ**, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound!'

There is a great goal for us as redeemed people, and that is to share this glorious gospel with others so they too can receive salvation, and in turn share it with others.

When faced with trouble for the sake of the gospel, let us remember Jesus! He endured the agony of the cross and separation from God because of our sin, but He conquered it and rose victorious; and He has gone before us.

He gave us a great promise in Matthew 28 when He commanded His followers to go and make disciples of all nations. He said in verse 20 (TPT) "And teach them to faithfully follow all that I have commanded you. **And never forget that I am with you every day, even to the completion of this age.**"

Jesus has promised that He is with us every day. The apostle Paul experienced this reality in a significant way, especially in his weakest moments. He told Timothy that at his hearing everyone deserted him. He said, "But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it." (2 Timothy 4:17)

Jesus has gone before us and He is with us, to strengthen us and help us by his Holy Spirit who lives in us. You are not alone. Even if everyone deserts you because of the gospel, Jesus stands with you.

Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for not leaving us alone. Thank you for giving us your Word and your Holy Spirit, to guide and lead us, and thank you for your body, our brothers and sisters in Christ. Help us keep our eyes on Jesus and the mission He has given us. May we be willing to endure persecution in order to do your will and make disciples of all nations, in Jesus' name. Amen.