**Blameless**

**Luke 1:6; 1 Corinthians 1:8; Philippians 2:15; 3:6; 1 Timothy 3:2; 5:7; Titus 1:7; 2 Peter 3:14**

**Philippians 2**

12Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

13For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

14Do all things without murmurings and disputings:

**15That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;**

16Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

**Philippians 3**

4Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:

5Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;

**6Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.**

7But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

8Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,

9And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

10That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

11If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

12Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

**Colossians 1:21-23, 28**

21And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled

**22In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his sight:**

23If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

28Whom we preach, **warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus**:

* **Paul was made a minister by God in order that God would reveal the mysteries that were concealed within the Old Testament, and as he did so, he strived to warm those he taught in order that they would be pleasing to God, perfect (complete) in Christ - including being blameless.**
* **Holy & without blame...**

**Ephesians 1:4**

**4According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:**

**5Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,**

* **Why do we want to be found blameless?**
1. First, for God's sake and glory, because we want to please Him.
2. In order to be the witness God had called us to be - so that the world cannot use a blown witness or actions as an excuse to reject God.

**1 Thessalonians 2**

**9For ye remember, brethren, our labour and travail: for labouring night and day, because we would not be chargeable unto any of you, we preached unto you the gospel of God.
10Ye are witnesses, and God also, how holily and justly and unblameably we behaved ourselves among you that believe:
11As ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth his children,
12 That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.**

**1 Thessalonians 3**

11Now God himself and our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way unto you.

12And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you:

13To the end he may stablish your hearts **unblameable** in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

**1 Thessalonians 4**

7For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, **but unto holiness**.

12That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing.

**Paul give the Thessalonians (and us) several exhortations, which will work to keep us blameless.**

**1 Thessalonians 5**

4But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

5Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

6Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but **let us watch and be sober**.

7For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

8But **let us, who are of the day, be sober**, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

9For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

10Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.

Be sober 🡪 be awake, alert, watch... Verse 6

Also, "put on" – Verse 8 – the breastplate of faith and love & the helmet of salvation.

Again these are the things we practice and discipline ourselves to do, such that we would be blameless.

**1 Thessalonians 5**

**22Abstain from all appearance of evil**.

23And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and **I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ**.

**2 Thessalonians 1**

5Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer:

6Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you;

11Wherefore also **we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling**, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power:

**12That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him**, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Paul opens this letter with another exhortation and encouragement in that our worthiness to God comes out of our faithfulness to Him in the midst of tribulations. But also, that those tribulations are a token to those around us and even to the angels, and even to God, who will recompense those things fine against us.

But the point is that these tribulations are not wasted - they're a testimony in themselves as long as we endure them out of love and in faith of the testimony that Paul had begun in us - very simply, belief in Christ Jesus.

**2 Thessalonians 3**

2And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith.

**3But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.**

**It's the Lord Jesus that will keep us from evil. He will keep us blameless - IF WE ARE WILLING TO >>>>>LET<<<<< HIM.**

This is something we have no trouble believing in concept, intellectually, but this is truly a test when it comes to believing in practice; when, for example, there's a more seemingly practical approach or solution or way to do something, even though we know God has "seemed" to direct us one specific way.

The man of God that came to prophecy against the king of Israel is a good example. He was told to go in, proclaim the Word, and then leave a different way, without taking food or drink from anyone. Yet, he took false word of another man over God's Word, and it cost him his life!

We as men must train ourselves to believe and trust God's Word over our thoughts, over our feelings, and over the word of others no matter how good they seem to be!

One way to assure this, is to make sure you have Scripture to confirm what God has already put on your heart, as opposed to a feeling of a flash or song or even a feeling. The Scripture God gives you cannot be changed, so when someone comes against you, you have God’s Word above all!

**1 Timothy 1**

18This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare;

**19Holding faith, and a good conscience**; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:

Paul charges Timothy here to pay attention to, or take heed to, the prophesies that he knew from the Word of God, delivered to him by Paul, who had brought him up in the faith of Christ Jesus, so that he would be able to be strong and worthy in the battle set before him – the warfare, in which Satan is fighting to destroy the saints that God would have him to watch over and fight for.

And doing this, "***holding faith, and a good conscience***", would make him blameless (good conscience).

***The warning is that some had already given up on these prophesies and the Truth and were given over to all kinds of false doctrines.***

**1 Timothy 4**

7But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and **exercise thyself rather unto godliness**.

8For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

9This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptation.

10For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe.

**"**Exercise thyself rather unto godliness**" - blamelessness does not come naturally. Go without "exercising your faith" and you'll likely grow very slowly in the Lord or not grow at all.**

**1 Timothy 4**

15**Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.**

16Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

**Timothy was to give himself to these things that Paul writes to him; we are likewise to do the same, whether we're pastors or teachers or husbands or fathers, but especially to those who are in leadership positions as called by the Lord.**