

2 Thessalonians 3:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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

Analysis

And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith—the second prayer request: **delivered from** (rhysthōmen apo, ḡusθῶμεν ἀπό, rescued from) **unreasonable and wicked men** (atopōn kai ponērōn anthrōpōn, ἀτόπων καὶ πονηρῶν ἀνθρώπων). Atopos (ἄτοπος) means 'out of place, absurd, perverse,' and ponēros (πονηρός) means 'evil, malicious.'

For all men have not faith (ou gar pantōn hē pistis, οὐ γὰρ πάντων ἡ πίστις)—explains their opposition. Without faith, men become unreasonable and wicked toward God's word. Universal gospel offer doesn't guarantee universal reception. Some actively resist, requiring divine deliverance for gospel workers.

Historical Context

Acts 17:5-9 records the Thessalonian Jews' violent opposition to Paul—forming a mob, dragging converts before authorities, accusing treason. Paul faced similar hostility in every city. Prayer for deliverance wasn't theoretical but urgent—his life was constantly threatened.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How do you pray for persecuted Christians facing 'unreasonable and wicked' opponents today?
2. Why does lack of faith so often produce active hostility rather than mere indifference?
3. What 'unreasonable' opposition have you faced for sharing the gospel, and how did you respond?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	ἴνα	ρύσθῶμεν	ἀπὸ	τῶν	ἀτόπων	καὶ	πονηρῶν
And	that	we may be delivered	from	G3588	unreasonable	And	wicked
G2532	G2443	G4506	G575		G824	G2532	G4190
ἀνθρώπων·	οὐ	γὰρ	πάντων	ή	πίστις		
men	men have not	for	all	G3588	faith		
G444	G3756	G1063	G3956		G4102		

Additional Cross-References

Romans 15:31 (Faith): That I may be delivered from them that do not believe in Judaea; and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be accepted of the saints;

Deuteronomy 32:20 (Faith): And he said, I will hide my face from them, I will see what their end shall be: for they are a very froward generation, children in whom is no faith.

Acts 28:24 (Faith): And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not.

Romans 10:16 (Faith): But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?

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