

# ***Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles***

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February 2, 2024 – Praying the Apostolic Prayers – Erlinda Cruz

## ***Understanding the Context of Paul's Prayer to be Counted Worthy, Part 4***

Paul prayed for the saints to walk in the glory and benefits of wholeheartedness (2 Thessalonians 1:11-12). He prayed for believers to be inspired by the Spirit to respond to Jesus in a way worthy of Him—in wholeheartedness. He also connected this with the ability to fulfill all of God's will in their lives.

“Therefore, we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power, that the name of our Lord Jesus... may be glorified in you, and you in Him...”

2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

Paul's prayer will posture believers to be:

1. **Glorified in His saints:** Those who are transformed so as to respond in a way that is worthy of Jesus will bring glorify to Him on that Day that He returns. They will be “trophy of His grace.”
  - a. “...when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired [marveled at]... Therefore, we pray...that our God would count you worthy...”  
2 Thessalonians 1:10-11
2. **Not ashamed:** We are to live a way so we will not be ashamed of our lifestyle at His coming.
  - a. “...abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.”  
1 John 2:28
3. **Admired or marveled at:** As we endure persecution, the Spirit redirects our marveling from the things of this world to marvel on the beauty of Jesus. It will be understood as we see the wisdom and glory of having marveled at Christ before He comes—to prepare us for that Day.
4. **Therefore:** In view of the three benefits that give manifest evidence that enduring persecution results in long term benefits for God's people, Paul prayed that God would make them worthy of this calling—which includes preparing and making them fit to glorify and marvel at Jesus.

You notice that Paul's desire is for us to really understand, with wisdom, the “hope of Your calling.”