



## **Joy in Perseverance**

2 Corinthians 11:24-25: Five different times the Jewish leaders gave me thirty-nine lashes. <sup>25</sup> Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked. Once I spent a whole night and a day adrift at sea.

2 Corinthians 12:7-9: I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger from Satan to torment me and keep me from becoming proud. <sup>8</sup> Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. <sup>9</sup> Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness."

Romans 7:15: I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate.

Philippians 3:12-13 NIV: Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. <sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it.

Philippians 3:13-14 NIV: But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

1 Timothy 1:13 NIV: Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief.

Epilanthanomai: no longer caring for, refusing to focus on.

To know Christ and become like him.

*All scriptures referenced are from the New International Version (NIV) translation of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.*