

## PERSEVERANCE

Reference: **II Corinthians 4:7-10**

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Definition: To **persevere** is defined as “to \_\_\_\_\_ in a purpose or enterprise, to \_\_\_\_\_ in spite of difficulties.”

This morning we’re examining four statements from the famous Apostle Paul that can contribute to a Christians resolve to persevere and not quit.

### STATEMENT ONE

**verse eight**, “*We are **hard-pressed** on every side, yet not **crushed**...*”

Paul said the same thing earlier in **II Corinthians 7:5** (see screen)

The word translated “*troubled*” in **7:5** is the same Greek word translated as “*hard pressed*” in **4:8** and means “to \_\_\_\_\_.”

In the second half of **4:8**, the word translated as “*crushed*” means to “cramp or crowd together, to pin or \_\_\_\_\_ together.”

**PRINCIPLE:** Pressed, but \_\_\_\_\_.

**verse seven** “*But we have this **treasure** in **earthen vessels**...*”

This **treasure** represents the \_\_\_\_\_.

The **earthen vessels** (clay pots) represent our human \_\_\_\_\_!

Reference: **Acts 1:8** (see screen)

**verse seven**, “*But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of **the power may be of God and not of us.***”

**LESSON:** It is the Holy Spirit that \_\_\_\_\_ and enables us to persevere.

### STATEMENT TWO

**verse eight**, “...we are **perplexed**, but not in **despair**;”

The word translated as “*perplexed*” means “to have **no** \_\_\_\_\_” and the word translated as “*despair*” means to “to be utterly at a loss, **without** \_\_\_\_\_.”

**PRINCIPLE:** No way, but \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_.

Reference: **Matthew 7:7-8** (see screen)

### STATEMENT THREE

**verse nine** “*persecuted, but not forsaken...*”

The word translated as “*persecuted*” in this context means “to be pursued or to be \_\_\_\_\_” and the word translated “*forsaken*” means “to be abandoned, deserted or \_\_\_\_\_.”

**PRINCIPLE:** Chased, but \_\_\_\_\_.

### STATEMENT FOUR

**verse nine**, “... **struck down**, but **not destroyed**-”

The word translated “*struck down*” mean “to be thrown down or \_\_\_\_\_” and the word translated “*destroyed*” means “to fully destroy or \_\_\_\_\_.”

**PRINCIPLE:** Knocked down, but **not** \_\_\_\_\_.

Two different reactions to being knocked down:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_