

The Greek Word THLIPSIS

INTRO: Thlipsis is used 43 times in the New Testament.
It's primary definition: Pressure.

Translated in NIV

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| 1. Trouble | 6. Hardship |
| 2. Suffering | 7. Affliction |
| 3. Distress | 8. Trials |
| 4. Anguish | 9. Hard-pressed |
| 5. Persecution | 10. Tribulation |

I. Pressure is Unavoidable.

John 16:33

It's going to
happen.

- Peace is not the absence of stress, it is the presence of God in the midst of your stress.

II. Pressure is Unsettling.

Matthew 13:1-21

It tests your
foundation.

- If a storm is unhinging you today, it's because it found a place where you were just visiting the word instead of living in the word.

III. Pressure is Unfolding.

Acts 14:19-22

It makes you
grow.

- God rarely does His deepest work in comfort zones. He does it in pressure chambers.

Have you read the end of the book?

Flourish | Pastor Dudley Rutherford | March 14 & 15, 2026

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