So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God, who has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher.

That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day.

Truth #1 - AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST, WE MUST BE PREPARED TO SUFFER FOR THE GOSPEL.

V. 8 So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God.

The message of the Gospel is offensive to a non-believing world.

John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

You need to be prepared to suffer for standing for the truth.

John 15:20 Remember the words I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also.

Matthew 10:35 ...a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law

Truth #2 - THE GOSPEL IS NO CAUSE FOR SHAME.

2 Reasons:
1) The Gospel is Good News

v. 10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.
What is the Gospel? It’s the Good News!

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.
Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.
John 1:12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God
Romans 1:16 I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.

Truth #2 - THE GOSPEL IS NO CAUSE FOR SHAME.
2 Reasons:
1) The Gospel is Good News
2) Our Gospel hope is rooted in a risen Savior
v. 12 That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day.

Truth #3 - WHEN THE DAY OF SUFFERING ARRIVES YOU WILL NOT STAND ALONE.
v. 8 So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God
Hebrews 13:5 “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”
If God calls you to stand, you will never stand alone!