

2 Corinthians 1:1-11 "Trials"
Pastor James Woodley, Th.D. Oct. 16, 2019

I. 1-2 HIS _____

2Co 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God

Timothy our brother

unto the church of God which is at Corinth =

with all the saints which are in all Achaia =

2Co 1:2 Grace be to you =

and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. =

II. 3-4 HIS _____

2Co 1:3 Blessed be God =

even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ =

Isaiah 42:8; Philippians 2:9, 11

the Father of mercies, =

and the God of all comfort =

2Co 1:4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation =

that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble by

the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. =

III. 4-9 HIS _____

Paul gives 10 references to his trials:

- 2Co 1:4 1. tribulationany trouble, =
- 2Co 1:5 2. sufferings of Christ =
- 2Co 1:6 3. afflicted =
- 2Co 1:6 4. same sufferings which we also suffer =
5. ye are partakers of the sufferings =
- 2Co 1:8 6. trouble which came to us in Asia =
- 2Co 1:8 7. pressed out of measure =
8. above strength =

“Heb 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”

9. insomuch that we despaired even of life =
- 2Co 1:9 10. the sentence of death in ourselves =

that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead:

IV. 3-4, 10-11 HIS _____

2Co 1:3 **Blessed be God, =**

even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, =

the Father of mercies, =

and the God of all comfort =

2Co 1:4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. =

2Co 1:10 Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us; =

2Co 1:11 Ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf. =

2 Corinthians 1:1-11 “Trials”

Pastor James Woodley, Th.D. Oct. 16, 2019

I. 1-2 HIS GREETING

2Co 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, unto the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints which are in all Achaia:

2Co 1:2 Grace be to you and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Just what do we desire for those we know?

What do we bring into their lives?

**2Co 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God
Timothy our brother**

unto the church of God which is at Corinth = A Local Church

**with all the saints which are in all Achaia = This was a very large
area of Greece**

**2Co 1:2 Grace be to you = Salvation & the Christian life are all
about God's grace.**

**Grace is the unearned favor/blessing/enablement of God through
faith.**

**and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. =
Our personal sins place us under the wrath of God. But through
GRACE we can be saved. Then we are at peace with God. First
grace, then peace.**

II. 3-4 HIS GOD

2Co 1:3 Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;

2Co 1:4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

2Co 1:3 Blessed be God = Blessing God's name is an important part of worship.

even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ = Part of the Trinity teaching. Jesus could not be addressed as 'Lord' if He was not fully God.

Isaiah 42:8 *I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.*

Philippians 2:9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:...Php 2:11 *And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

the Father of mercies, = 'mercy' is what God does to solve our problems.

and the God of all comfort = This is the same word used for the Holy Spirit - 'Comforter'. He comforts us by teaching us, using us and strengthening us.

2Co 1:4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation = We need God in times of trouble.

that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. = A major reason why God allows suffering = so we can experience God's comfort in our trial and use it as an opportunity to minister to others when they suffer.

III. 4-9 HIS GRIEF

2Co 1:4 Who comforteth us in all our **tribulation**, that we may be able to comfort them which are in **any trouble**, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

2Co 1:5 For as the **sufferings of Christ** abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.

2Co 1:6 And whether we be **afflicted**, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same **sufferings** which we also **suffer**: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation.

2Co 1:7 And our hope of you is stedfast, knowing, that as **ye are partakers** of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation.

2Co 1:8 For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our **trouble** which came to us in Asia, that we were **pressed out of measure, above strength,**

insomuch that we **despaired even of life:**

2Co 1:9 But we had **the sentence of death in ourselves**, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead:

PAUL GIVES 10 REFERENCES TO HIS TRIALS:

2Co 1:4 1. **tribulationany trouble**, = The word 'tribulation' is the same word used of the future Tribulation period. But they were not in The Tribulation. Christians will suffer in the Church Age.

2Co 1:5 2. **sufferings of Christ** = There is a price to pay in faithfully serving Christ without compromise. Paul suffered in body, in his soul and his spirit.

2Co 1:6 3. **afflicted** = Same word 'tribulation' as above. Intense suffering.

2Co 1:6 4. **same sufferings which we also suffer** = Same word as above for sufferings of Christ. It was an additional burden to Paul to know that his ministry had brought suffering to these people. But he was comforted by the fact that they were saved

through his ministry. The eternal joys of Heaven offset the short time of earthly sufferings to be endured for spreading the Gospel.

5. ye are partakers of the sufferings = The Corinthians embraced their trials for the same reason Paul did – to spread the Gospel without compromise.

2Co 1:8 **6. trouble which came to us in Asia** = Same word ‘tribulation’. Includes persecution inflicted by others upon Paul. Paul experienced riots, stoning, prison, beatings, slander, threats, hunger, thirst, shipwreck, betrayal, isolation, etc.

2Co 1:8 **7. pressed out of measure** = A crushing weight, more than is humanly possible to bear. Paul’s trials were of a two-fold nature: the actual individual trial, and the accumulation of trials. They just never stopped. It was one after another.

8. above strength = God allows our trials to exceed our capacity to deal with them. The result is that we MUST find grace (strength) from God or we cannot go on. This is where Hebrews 4:16 kicks in: “**Heb 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.**”

9. insomuch that we despaired even of life = His grief was so great that it was humanly impossible to desire to continue on. He had to have special grace from God to keep going. Some see this as Paul thinking he was going to be martyred. But the context is depression, not a fatal trial with no escape.

2Co 1:9 **10. the sentence of death in ourselves** = Some call this the ‘Elijah Syndrome’. Even after great victories for the Lord, there is a spiritual vulnerability. Elijah desired God to take him after his great victory at Mt. Carmel. And God did! Be careful what you wish for! Paul did not try to commit suicide. But his despair was so great that he wished God must might take him home and give him relief

that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead:

Humanly, he did not have the power to overcome his trials. But he drew strength and courage from knowing that if and when he died,

God would raise him from the dead and reward him for his sufferings, and he would face no further pain in Heaven.

IV. 3-4, 10-11 HIS GRACE

Paul did not write 2 Corinthians to complain about his trials. Nor was it seek pity from others, or praise from men for his accomplishments.

He wrote to encourage others by his example. He had to face trials beyond human limits. But God's grace sustained him. He wanted to encourage others as they faced persecution for the Lord. It is all about experiencing God's GRACE.

2Co 1:3 Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;

2Co 1:4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

2Co 1:10 Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us;

2Co 1:11 Ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf.

2Co 1:3 Blessed be God, = Blessing God helps to keep a thankful heart during trials.

even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, = Remembering what God did in sending His Son reminds us that God has proven His love for us. We tend to doubt this during trials.

the Father of mercies, = God's mercy is seen providing salvation, in giving us the Word, in sending the indwelling Holy Spirit, in ministering to us through other believers, in Christ's interceding for us, and in the constant grace that is always available for every trial.

and the God of all comfort = The 'comfort' of the world is a sham. All true encouragement is based on truth. The truth is that there is a God, a Bible, a Savior, a Heaven, a Hell, and a Gospel of hope to share with others.

2Co 1:4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. = God never wastes a trial. They all have a purpose.

2Co 1:10 Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us; = The three time elements: past – present – future.

2Co 1:11 Ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf. = Note that prayer played a key role in what God did regarding Paul! Also, the financial support the Corinthians gave was a great encouragement.