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Lighthouse Bible Church

Sunday, December 7, 2025

Title: The God of all comfort

2 Corinthians 1:1-11

Background:

- **Corinth = roughly 40 miles west of Athens**
- **Paul met Priscilla, Aquila in Corinth**
- **Center of commerce**

**Paul is an apostle of Jesus Christ, he
says to begin the chapter (2 Corinthians
1:1-2). He made this appeal in his first
letter to the same folks — 1 Corinthians
1:1-3**

Apostle means sent one and Corinth is part of the particular mission God fashioned for part work with Gentiles.

Acts 9:10-16

Matthew 10:1-8; Luke 9:1-6

**This isn't the only time that Paul will
have to defend his ministry and
qualifications: Galatians 1:12-24**

Paul calls God the God of all comfort (2 Corinthians 1:3-5) and says he comforts those in the ministry, which is important given their many troubles.

**All of the apostles, Paul included,
underwent some tribulation. We as
believers should expect it too.**

2 Timothy 3:10-12

Affliction is a guarantee, but so is the comfort that God provides with it.

Paul was afflicted: Acts 20:17-27

**Jesus Christ was physically afflicted,
and he was distraught over the death He
knew was coming: Luke 22:39-46**

God provided comfort to the scattered people of Israel, too, even as he punished them.

Ezekiel 11:16-20

**Paul tells Timothy to endure hardship
as part of his duties to the ministry.**

2 Timothy 4:5-8

Remember that you're in a long line of others who also suffered—you are not alone.

Hebrews 11:32-40

Those persecutions are part of how we identify with the life of Jesus, who suffered on our behalf that we might be saved.

Philippians 3:10-14

Others sought to avoid persecution.

Galatians 6:12-18

**Peter and the other apostles gladly
accepted persecution for His name's
sake: Acts 5:33-42**

**That same Gamaliel mentioned in Acts 5
was Paul's mentor: Acts 22:1-10**

**Paul makes it clear to his readers that
should not be concerned with his
welfare and the others who were
spreading the gospel.**

God comforts us in our afflictions.

- **Psalm 86:12-17**
- **Matthew 5:3-12**
- **John 14:18-27**

**Not only were Paul and the others
comforted in their affliction, they were
working toward the consolation
(comfort) and salvation of their
listeners.**

**To some extent, our charge is the same.
The ways we suffer here in the flesh may
well benefit others and the body of
Christ more generally.**

Notice that Paul writes that he and others had been delivered from death (1 Corinthians 2:10-11) and that God will continue to deliver them.

**God delivering from persecution is a
guarantee, whether you die or not.**

Daniel 3:14-18

**Paul and the others would suffer but
they would reap the eventual — eternal
— benefits. It's the same with us.**

Galatians 6:7-10

In conclusion:

- **Paul knew suffering came with his work**
- **Comfort comes with his work, and ours more generally**
- **Suffering for the gospel can bring benefits for others + identify us with Him**