

# The God of All Comfort (Part 2)

*2 Corinthians 1:3-7*

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## 2 Corinthians: Three Key Characteristics

1. Personally Insightful into Paul (i.e., emotional)
2. Rich Theological Truth
3. Practical Aspects of Christian Living

# Paul's Third Missionary Journey



## 2 Corinthians: The God of All Comfort (Part 2)

“comfort” - Greek *parakaleo, paraklesis*

*kaleo*: to call + *para*: alongside of

Literally, to call or summon to one's aid

For example:

- Matthew 5:4 – *Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted* [*parakaleo*]. The idea here is about being consoled.
- However, in 2 Corinthians 1, the idea is more to strengthen much, to encourage.

## 2 Corinthians 1:4

“all” – from Greek root *pas*

Indicates all, any, every, the whole; always, anyone, everyone, every way, whatsoever, whosoever.

“affliction” – Greek *thilpsis*

Literally, pressure. (Also anguish, burden, persecution, tribulation, trouble, trial.)

## 2 Corinthians 1:5

What does Paul mean by his reference to “Christ’s sufferings”?

How do we share in Christ’s sufferings?

This training (teaching/discipline) “includes all instruction, all reproof and correction, and **all providentially directed circumstances in our lives** that are aimed at cultivating spiritual growth and godly character.”

*Growing in Faith, p. 38*

## 2 Corinthians 1:6

Paul views both his experience of **afflictions** and his experience of **comfort** as contributing to the Corinthians' comfort.

Paul links the Corinthians' comfort to their **patient endurance** of sufferings.

“experience” – Greek *energeō*

Literally, to be energized, active, fervent/effectual

## 2 Corinthians 1:7

Paul assures the Corinthian church of his **hope** in them.



## 2 Corinthians 1:3-7 – Summary / Application

- Exalt and praise God for His **mercy** and **comfort**!
- This passage promises **surpassing, overflowing comfort** to those who are afflicted when suffering for Jesus.
- Our afflictions do not “create” dependence on the Lord. Rather, they are an important **reminder** of our ever-existing dependence on Him.

***Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Father of mercies and God of all comfort.***

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