

# What Comfort in Times of Suffering...

2 Corinthians 1:-11

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## v. 1-2 ... "Greetings..."

The theme for this letter:

*We can overcome times of uncertainty by relying on God, who raises the dead*

## v. 3 ... God's Character

- 1) God is faithful
- 2) God is compassionate
- 3) God is our ultimate Comforter

## v. 4 ... God's Action

## v. 5-7 ... God's Purpose

God may allow situations in our life where our only **comfort** is found **through Christ**. Sometimes we think the only comfort is found if we can only change our circumstances, but God wants to comfort us right in the midst of our difficult circumstances, and to do it **through Christ**. (John 16:33)

## God's Purpose for our Pain:

- 1) We are able to comfort others
- 2) We are able to display the Gospel
- 3) Produces patient endurance

## v. 8-11 ... Relying on God, who raises the dead

v.9... Living in the Reality of the Resurrection begins with a Resurrection Mindset

*The death of Jesus and His resurrection – by the Power of God – show us this world is not the end of our story and our resurrection awaits!*

*The cycle of Christ's experience becomes our pattern for living: affliction – death – resurrection (Phil 3:10)*

*All of this happens so that we Rely on God*

v. 10... God works in us past, present, and future: **who delivered us... and does deliver us... we trust that He will continue to deliver us:**

## How do we Rely on God?

What Comfort do you Need? From Whom?

What Comfort can you Give? To Whom?

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## **Building Block:**

We can overcome times of uncertainty by relying on God, sharing with others the comfort He first gives to us.