

ARISE AND BUILD

Neh. 2:20

“...we his servants will arise and build...”

“Building Encouragement”

2 Cor. 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:

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

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

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.

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

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.

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**.

Introduction, 1:1-2

A. The Identification, v. 1

1. Of Paul – “Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ...”
2. Of Purpose – “...by the will of God...”
3. Of People – “...and Timothy *our* brother, unto the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints which are in all Achaia:

B. The Inspiration, v. 2

1. The Benefits – “Grace *be* to you and peace...”
2. The Benefactor – “...from God our Father, and *from* the Lord Jesus Christ.”

I. THE SOURCE OF ENCOURAGEMENT, 1:3-4

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

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.

3 “...the Father of mercies...”

Original Word: οἰκτιρμός

Transliteration: oiktirmos

Definition: compassion, pity

Usage: pity, compassion, favor, grace, mercy.

oiktirmós – properly, compassion (pity), i.e. deep feeling about someone's difficulty or misfortune (*TDNT*, 1:159).

oiktirmós ("visceral compassions") is used of the *deep feelings* God has for all of us, and powerfully shows and shares in those following Him.

<https://biblehub.com/greek/3628.htm>

3 “...the God of all comfort;”

Original Word: παράκλησις

Transliteration: paraklēsis

Definition: a calling to one's aid, encouragement, comfort

Usage: a calling for, summons, hence: (a) exhortation, (b) entreaty, (c) encouragement, joy, gladness, (d) consolation, comfort.

paráklēsis – properly, a call (urging), done by someone "close beside," i.e. a *personal exhortation* that delivers the "evidence that stands up in God's court."

[(*paráklēsis*) is cognate with *paráklētos* ("legal advocate") and thus has *legal overtones*.]

<https://biblehub.com/greek/3874.htm>

A. The Magnitude of the Source of Encouragement, 1:3

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

“Sorrow looks back; worry looks around; but faith looks up.”

B. The Magnitude of the Supply of Encouragement, 1:4

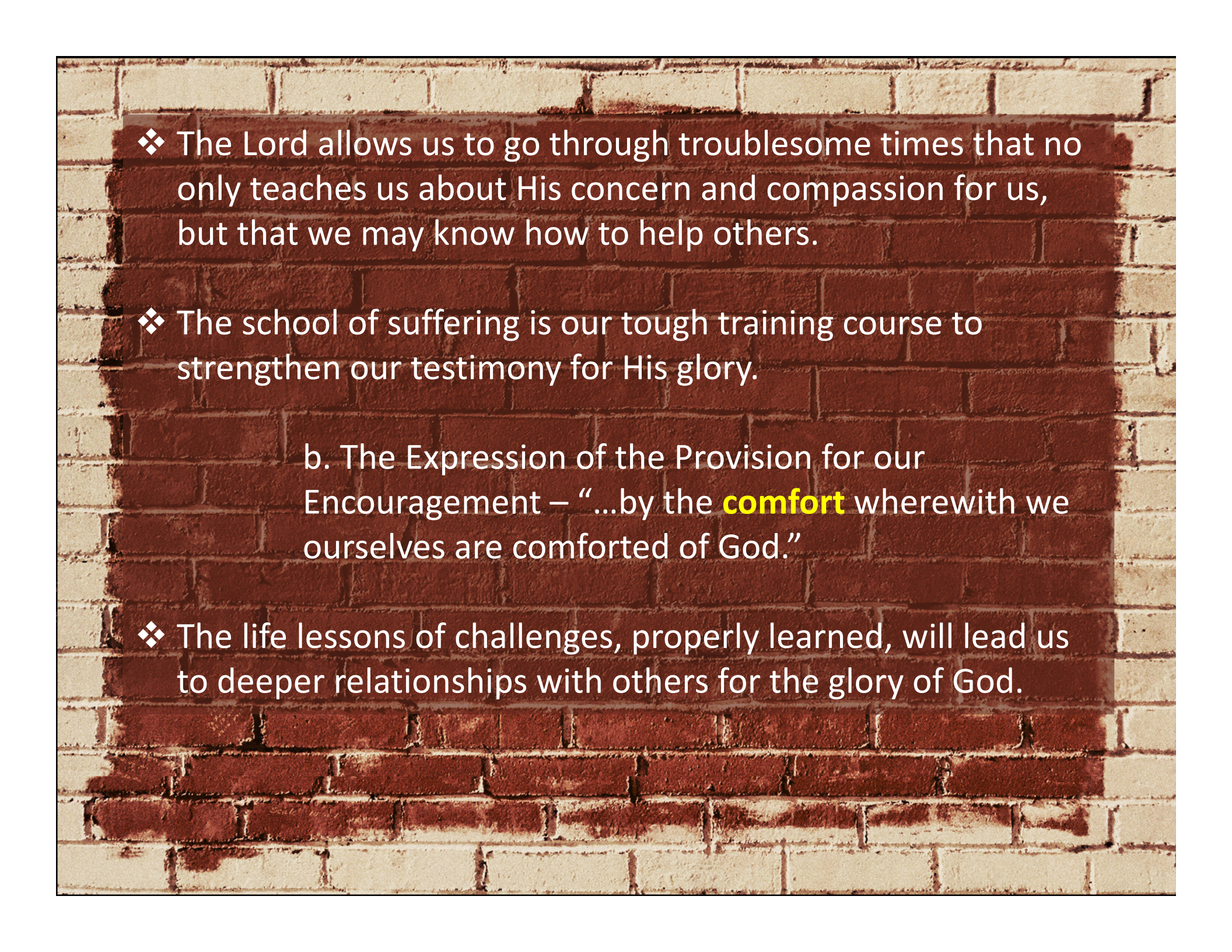
2 Cor. 1:4 **Who comforteth us in all our tribulation**, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the **comfort** wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

1. The Inexhaustible Supply – **“Who comforteth us in all our tribulation...”**

- ❖ When the Bible says, "who comforteth us," notice that the word "comforteth" is in the present tense.
- ❖ This encouragement is continual, ever-present.

2. The Intent of the Supply – **“...that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble,** by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.”

a. The Expanded Picture for our Encouragement –
“...that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble...”



❖ The Lord allows us to go through troublesome times that not only teaches us about His concern and compassion for us, but that we may know how to help others.

❖ The school of suffering is our tough training course to strengthen our testimony for His glory.

b. The Expression of the Provision for our Encouragement – “...by the **comfort** wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.”

❖ The life lessons of challenges, properly learned, will lead us to deeper relationships with others for the glory of God.

2 Cor. 12:9 And he said unto me, **My grace is sufficient for thee:** for **my strength is made perfect in weakness.** Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses **for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.**

II. THE SUBJECT OF ENCOURAGEMENT, 1:5

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

A. The Overwhelming Challenges – “For as **the sufferings of Christ** abound in us...”

Original Word: πάθημα

Transliteration: pathéma

Definition: that which befalls one, a suffering, a passion

Usage: (a) **suffering**, affliction, (b) passion, emotion, (c) an undergoing, an enduring.

páthēma (from *pásxō*, "the capacity to feel strong emotion, like suffering") – **properly, the capacity and privilege of experiencing strong feeling; felt, deep emotion, like agony, passion (ardent desire), suffering, etc.**

<https://biblehub.com/greek/3804.htm>

Rom. 8:18 For I reckon that **the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.**

Heb 2:9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels **for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.**

10 For it became him, for whom *are* all things, and by whom *are* all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, **to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.**

B. The Overwhelming Consolation – “...so our **consolation also aboundeth by Christ.**”

- ❖ The “proportion” of “the sufferings of Christ” is exceeded by the “consolation” or encouragement that is provided to us by the Lord Jesus Christ.

Original Word: περισσεύω

Transliteration: perisseuó

Definition: **to be over and above, to abound**

Usage: (a) intrans: I exceed the ordinary (the necessary), **abound**, overflow; am left over, (b) trans: I cause to abound.

perisseúō (from *perí*, "all-around" which indicates abundance or surplus) – **properly, exceed, go beyond the expected measure, i.e. above and beyond** ("more than . . ."); "what goes further (more), *surpasses*" (J. Thayer).

<https://biblehub.com/greek/4052.htm>

III. THE STEWARDSHIP OF ENCOURAGEMENT, 1:6-7

A. The Endurance, 1:6

2 Cor. 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.

B. The Edification, 1:7

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

2 Tim. 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: **for I know whom I have believed**, and am persuaded that **he is able** to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

Alka-Seltzer Christians fizzle for a little while—and then disappear.

If there is no opposition—there is no victory.

Rom. 8:37 Nay, in all these things **we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.**

Summary

THE INEVITABLE CHALLENGE = The faithful life of a believer will have times of suffering, persecution, and discouragement.

THE INTIMATE COMPANIONSHIP = The faithful believer will experience the close fellowship and encouragement of the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ.

THE INCREMENTAL CONSOLATION = The faithful believer will experience comfort that produces encouragement from which to encourage and to comfort others.

Conclusion

1 Pet. 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that **the same afflictions** are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

10 But **the God of all grace**, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, **after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.**

11 To him *be* glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

“perfect” = making adjustment in order to finish the goal.

→ **adjustments**

“stablish” = developing consistency with no vacillation.

→ **attitude**

“strengthen” = mobility for efficiency in order to accomplish the goal. → **agility**

“settle” = the foundation of our faith, strong enough to endure all challenges. → **adamancy**

❖ When we face discouraging situations, we must remember that the Lord is in control, and will be by our sides to encourage and to comfort us!