

Comfort in Suffering

We will not only partake of the sufferings but also of the consolation that is in Christ

*"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ.** Now if we are afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effective for enduring the same sufferings which we also suffer. Or if we are comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation. And our hope for you is steadfast, **because we know that as you are partakers of the sufferings, so also you will partake of the consolation.**" (2 Cor. 1:3-7)*

God is our helper in times of trouble – Past, Present, & Future

*"For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of our trouble which came to us in Asia: that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life. Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead, **who delivered (Past) us from so great a death, and does deliver (Present) us; in whom we trust that He will still deliver (Future) us.**" (2 Cor. 1:8-10)*

*"Jesus Christ is the same **yesterday, today, and forever.**" (Heb. 13:8)*

God is able to make all things work together for our good

*"And we know that **all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.**" (Rom. 8:28)*

God is doing something good in us through suffering

Developing godly character

*"And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, **knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope.**" (Rom. 5:3-4)*

*"My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that **the testing of your faith produces patience.** But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing." (James 1:2-4)*

*"But He knows the way that I take; When He has tested me, **I shall come forth as gold.**"
(Job 23:10)*

Our suffering is temporal

*"Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, **which is but for a moment**, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are **temporary**, but the things which are not seen are eternal." (2 Cor. 4:16-18)*

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

God knows your limitations

*"No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, **who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able**, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it." (1 Cor. 10:13)*

Christ is ready for your aid and comfort

*"For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham. Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. **For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.**" (Heb. 2:16-18)*

*"Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. **For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses**, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (Heb. 4:14-16)*