

# The God of All Comfort

Hope in the midst of trouble.

# **II Corinthians 1:3-7 ESV**

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, <sup>4</sup> who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. <sup>5</sup> For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. <sup>6</sup> If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. <sup>7</sup> Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort.

# II Corinthians 1:8-11 ESV

<sup>8</sup> For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. **For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself.** <sup>9</sup> Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. <sup>10</sup> He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again. <sup>11</sup> You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.

# What Scripture Includes with Trouble

<b>Adversary</b>	<b>Opponent</b>	<b>Enemy</b>
<b>Adversity</b>	<b>Affliction</b>	<b>Anguish</b>
<b>Distress</b>	<b>Harm</b>	<b>Mischief</b>
<b>Calamity</b>	<b>Grief</b>	<b>Tribulation</b>
<b>Hurt</b>	<b>Sorrow</b>	<b>Sadness</b>
<b>Misery</b>	<b>Wretchedness</b>	<b>Wronged</b>

# English Translation of Trouble

- Mentally or spiritually agitated
- Disturbed, burdened or worried
- In a state or condition of distress, annoyance or difficulty
- Going through a very difficult time, which includes physical difficulty or a time of ill health or pain or suffering
- Possibly when things malfunction, or things are just not going well, or your circumstances are going very badly

# The Enemy of our Souls

- Tries to seduce your emotions
- Deceive your mind
- Lead astray your will
- Distract us from the things of God

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# Shrink the Trouble in Your Life

- Minister to others
- Began praying for others fervently
- Seek ways to deepen your relationship with God
- Read or listen to the scriptures
- Provide comfort and encouragement to others

# Defining Comfort

- To give strength to
- To give hope
- To cheer you up
- To console you
- Ease the pain
- Ease the grief
- Ease the trouble
- To encourage you

# Defining Encourage

- To inspire with courage
- To inspire with spirit
- To inspire with hope
- To inspire with strength and life
- To inspire with a newfound confidence

# I Peter 1:6-7 ESV

*<sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

# I Peter 4:12 ESV

*<sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.*

# **II Corinthians 4:16-18** ESV

***16 So, we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.***

***17 For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us (Our afflictions and trials and troubles are a “light momentary affliction”) an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison,*** <sup>***18 as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.***</sup>

# *John 14: 16, 18, and 26* KJV

*<sup>16</sup> And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;*

*<sup>18</sup> I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.*

*<sup>26</sup> But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*

# For our time of reflection:

Is there any trouble, or trial, or tribulation, any suffering, or pain, or grief that you need to give to God and allow Him to comfort you so you can focus on ministering to others and providing comfort?