

# THE GOD OF ALL COMFORT

## 2 CORINTHIANS 1:1-7

### TEXT: VERSES 3,4

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INTRO: At times a person or a local congregation will go through a period of time experiencing **ONE TRIAL AFTER ANOTHER**. However, there are times when a person or a local congregation will go through a period of time experiencing **ONE TRIAL UPON ANOTHER**. The first situation can be extremely DIFFICULT. But the second situation can be terribly DEVESTATING. At the present time MANY individuals in our congregation are facing both, **(some are facing one trial AFTER another and some are facing one trial UPON another)** which when combined makes for a very DIFFICULT TIME OF TRIAL AND TRIBULATION FOR THE ENTIRE FELLOWSHIP. There is a biblical principle that when one hurts we all hurt to a certain extent. For instance, the past two weeks have brought “GREAT AND TERRIBLE CIRCUMSTANCES” upon many in our church that the pastoral ministry has endeavored to minister unto. Those circumstances have ranged from the Physical, to the Financial, to the Family, to the Personal, to the Interpersonal, to the Social, to the Emotional, to the Mental, and to the Spiritual. Some of those CIRCUMSTANCES have gone from the Mild, to the Life shaking, from the Short, to the Long, from the Temporary, to the Permanent, from the Life giving to practically the Life taking. **Many of you know what I am talking about and I am glad you are here today because God has a message for us all to hear that will get us through those CIRCUMSTANCES whatever they may be.** Today we are going to focus on the scriptures that remind us that TRUE BELIEVERS have an INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP with **THE GOD OF ALL COMFORT**. So, for the next few minutes, let’s take our minds off of those “GREAT AND TERRIBLE CIRCUMSTANCES” and focus on God, **WHO CAN HANDLE EACH ONE OF THEM FOR US WITHOUT ANY TROUBLE AT ALL!**

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2 Corinthians 1:3,4 is a POWERFUL PASSAGE FOR PERSONAL TRIALS.  
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### OBSERVATIONS ON VERSE 3

- 1) Verse 3 is a DOXOLOGY encouraging believers to BLESS GOD for Who he is.
- 2) Verse 3 is a DOCTRINE that teaches Who God is and How God functions in our personal lives.
  - a) The Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ – As the Father cared for Jesus when He was one earth, He will care for each one of His children on earth now.
  - b) The Father of Mercies – God is the ORIGINATOR of all the MERCIES we need but do not deserve. Those MERCIES are: **MANIFOLD** (Nehemiah 9:19), **TENDER** (Psalm 25:6), **GREAT** (Numbers 14:19), and **INHAUSTIBLE** (Psalm 5:7).
  - c) The God of All Comfort – “COMFORT” is a word that means **“TO GIVE STRENGTH IN THE MIDDLE OF TROUBLE RESULTING IN COURAGE AND BOLDNESS**. In providing COMFORT God does not just “pat us on our head” or give us a “piece of candy” but GIVES US THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF STRENGTH WE NEED FOR THE TRIAL!

3) Verse 3 is a DEFINITE reminding us that we can depend on God at all times for all things.

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*Sometimes we CANNOT sing about the circumstances of life, BUT we can sing about the GOD who is in CONTROL of all those circumstances and WHO can PROVIDE ALL THE COMFORT we need in those BAD CIRCUMSTANCES of life.*  
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NOTE: During the THIRTY YEARS' WAR, (in Europe from 1618-1648) Pastor Martin Rinkart faithfully served the people of Eilenburg, Saxony. He conducted as many as 40 FUNERALS A DAY, and a total of over 4000 during his ministry there. Yet out of this devastating experience, he wrote a song for his flock which today we use as a hymn of THANKSGIVING."

*"NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD, WITH HEART AND HANDS AND VOICES,  
WHO WONDROUS THINGS HATH DONE, IN WHOM HIS WORLD REJOICES."*

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**I. THE SOURCE OF ALL OF OUR COMFORT**

**GOD AND GOD ALONE!**

A. God's Provision Encourages His Comfort (Note biblical examples)

1. In the Garden of Eden (Adam and Eve's salvation)
2. In the Flood (Noah's salvation)
3. In the Exodus (Israel's salvation)
  - a. The Red Sea
  - b. The Wilderness Wanderings
  - c. The Jordan River
  - d. The Promised Land
4. In the Battle (David and Goliath)
5. In the Fiery Furnace (Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego)
6. In the Lions Den (Daniel)
7. In the Grave (Lazarus)
8. In the Prison (Paul and Silas)

B. God's Promises Establishes His Comfort

1. As a Deliverer – Isaiah 46:4
2. As a Mother – Isaiah 66:13
3. As a Care-giver – John 14:1,18,27

C. God's Power Effects His Comfort

1. God **CAN** do what He Promises – Romans 4:21
2. God **WILL** do what He Promises – Psalm 34:19

D. God's Process Enables His Comfort

1. Through His Word
2. Through His Holy Spirit
3. Through His Spiritually-minded Children

ILLUSTRATION:

**II THE SCOPE OF ALL OF OUR COMFORT**

A. On the Personal Basis

**"COMFORETH US IN ALL OUR TRIBULATION"**

-God's comfort reaches into EVERY POSSIBLE circumstance we face.

B. On the Interpersonal Basis

**“WE MAY BE ABLE TO COMFORT THEM WHO ARE IN ANY TROUBLE”**

-The things we learn from God through His comforting of us, we can use in comforting others....and IT DOES NOT NEED TO BE THE SAME TYPE OF TRAIL for us to comfort. There are certain principles of God's comfort that spans all trails and troubles.

ILLUSTRATION:

**III. THE SURITY OF ALL OF OUR COMFORT**

A. God's Comfort is Sometimes Sought – Provided when we ask for it.

B. God's Comfort is Always Sustaining- Provided when we don't ask for it.

ILLUSTRATION:

**IV. THE SIGHTS OF ALL OF OUR COMFORT**

A. God's Sights are on us From God Himself

B. God's Sights are on others Through Us From God Himself

1. Sometimes singly – That is JUST ON US ALONE.

2. Sometimes simultaneous – That is ON OTHERS AS GOD COMFORTS US.

ILLUSTRATION:

**LESSON: GOD IS THERE ALL THE TIME FOR ALL OF US FOR EVERY TRAIL AND EVERY CIRCUMSTANCE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ALL WE NEED TO GROW AND SERVE HIM MORE EFFECTIVELY!**