

**“THE SUFFICIENCY OF GOD’S MERCIES -  
 TO COMFORT YOU & TEACH YOU VALUABLE LESSONS  
 IN ALL YOUR TRIBULATIONS”  
 (2 Corinthians 1:1-12)**

• **The BACKGROUND of 2 CORINTHIANS**

1. The *writer* of this Epistle is \_\_\_\_\_, who is with his associate \_\_\_\_\_. (1:1)
2. The *recipients* of this Epistle are the “\_\_\_\_\_ which is at CORINTH, with all the \_\_\_\_\_ who are at ACHAIA.” (1:1b; 1 Cor. 1:2)
3. The *greeting* of this Epistle is... “\_\_\_\_\_ to you and \_\_\_\_\_, from {where?} GOD OUR FATHER and the LORD JESUS CHRIST. (1:2)
4. The *date* of this Epistle is approximately AD \_\_\_\_\_ from Philippi in Macedonia.
5. The *occasion* for this Epistle involves Paul defending the legitimacy of His character & content of His message and ministry against severe \_\_\_\_\_ by false teachers who were seeking to discredit his leadership & ministry at Corinth, and were impacting some believers in the congregation.
6. The *features* of this Epistle include such things as ...
  - a. its *nature*, being the most intensely PERSONAL, highly EMOTIONAL, and thoroughly PASTORAL of all Paul’s epistles.
  - b. its *audience*, involving the MAJORITY of believers who were supportive of his ministry (2 Cor. 1-9) & the MINORITY who were shaken by the accusations of Paul’s opponents (2 Cor. 10-13).
  - c. its *style*, involving EMPHATIC ENCOURAGEMENT, AUTHENTIC AGAPE, EXPRESSIVE EXPLANATION, RIGHTEOUS REBUKE, SEVERE SARCASM, & WEIGHTY WARNINGS.
7. The key verse is: \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND CORINTHIANS			
Introduction – Greeting (1:1-2)	Crucial Concerns	Grace Giving	Apostolic Authority
	Suffering and God’s comfort New covenant ministry Persevering in godliness	Example of Macedonians Command to Corinthians	Reply to critics Justification of ministry False teachers Visions, revelations, credentials, warnings God’s power perfected in weakness
	CHAPTERS 1:3–7:16	CHAPTERS 8–9	CHAPTERS 10:1–13:10
Scope	Past	Present	Future
Issue	Misunderstandings, concerns, explanations	Financial project	Vindication of Paul’s ministry
Tone	Forgiving, grateful, bold	Confident	Defensive and strong
Theme	Paul’s defense of his apostleship and message		
Key Verses	4:5	9:7	10:8
Christ in 2 Corinthians	Jesus is the One who comforts us in our suffering, reconciles us to God, and gives strength in our weaknesses (1:5; 5:17–21; 12:9).		

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- A. GOD’S \_\_\_\_\_ ARE SUFFICIENT TO \_\_\_\_\_ YOU IN ALL YOUR \_\_\_\_\_. (2 Cor.1:3-12)**
- What does God want to do for you in your trials? (1:3, 4, 5, 6, 7)
  - How is God the Father described here? (1:3)
  - What must you remember in your trials & what response should this solicit? We need to remember \_\_\_\_\_ our God is, that He has a \_\_\_\_\_ for our lives, and that our \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ need to be on Him which should result in \_\_\_\_\_ to Him for His sovereignty, faithfulness, mercy, and grace.

- Who does God want to comfort in this passage? (1:4a)
- When or how often does God want to comfort you? (1:4b)
- Does God's desire to comfort you apply if the trial you are in is self-induced or divine discipline? (Dan. 9:9; Prov. 28:13; 1 John 1:9-10) \_\_\_\_\_ - when we turn to Him by faith in confession of sins to God to walk again in the light. (Dan. 9:9; Prov. 28:13; 1 John 1:9-10)
- What are some of the purposes of God in comforting you beyond your personal comfort? (1:4c-7)
- Must you go through the exact same trial as someone else to be used of the Lord to help them? (1:4)
- How exactly does God comfort us?
  - 1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Cor. 1:8-10)
  - 2) \_\_\_\_\_ (1:11)
  - 3) \_\_\_\_\_ (7:1-7,13)
  - 4) \_\_\_\_\_ (Job 23:10; Ps. 119:150,67,71,92)
  - 5) \_\_\_\_\_ (Jn 14:16-17)
- Is there a place to share your trials with others? (1:8a) Does a godly walk exempt you from trials?
- How might God allow a severe trial in your life to work together for good? (1:8b)
- What is a valuable lesson that God is seeking to show you about yourself through your trials? (1:8c)
- Is it possible that some trials may even lead to physical death? How should we respond? (1:8d; Psalm 23:4, 6; 90:12; 2 Cor. 5:8-10)
- What does God want to teach you regarding your object of faith in your difficulties? (1:9)
- Will God deliver you from your trials? (1:10; 2 Tim. 4:16-18)
- What is one way that you can help others in their trials? (1:11a) What can you learn from this?
- What should all this result in? (1:11b)
- What was the key to Paul's conscience toward God and conduct to others in trials & ministry? (1:12)
- What should your responses be in light of these truths ... as a believer in Christ?
  - (1) You need to stop \_\_\_\_\_ on your trial and start focusing on & praising your \_\_\_\_\_ and His plan & purposes for you.
  - (2) You need to stop trusting in \_\_\_\_\_ and start trusting in the \_\_\_\_\_ which is one of the great blessings that come from trials which serve to strengthen our faith, not weaken it.
  - (3) You need to embrace the truth that while there are various sources for trials, there is only one Ultimate Source of comfort who is called - the Father of \_\_\_\_\_ and the God of all \_\_\_\_\_.
- ... as a lost sinner yet without Jesus Christ as Savior? (1 Peter 3:18)