

STRENGTH *in* WEAKNESS

The Comforts of God

2 Corinthians 1:3-7 (ESV)

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, ⁴ 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. ⁵ For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. ⁶ 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. ⁷ Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort.

A few **counter-cultural concepts** in 2nd Corinthians:

Pain and affliction as _____

_____ in struggle and pain

It's not _____

Suffering by _____ and per _____

A future of _____ awaiting eternity

Faith based on _____ not on _____

The God who *is*, the God who *does*:

"... the Father of mercies ..."

"... God of all comfort ..."

"... who comforts us ..."

How **God comforts** us:

God comforts us _____.

God comforts us _____.

God comforts us _____.

A few thoughts on **comforting others**:

Don't _____ their pain.

Don't offer _____.

Don't _____ about God.

Don't assume _____ or _____.

Do _____ for their relief.

Do remind and encourage with _____.

Do offer _____.

Do share _____ (without comparing).

Do offer _____.

Notes: