



# Scripture

## II Corinthians 1:1-11

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# Hope for the Heartbroken

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“Corinth was a free-wheeling ‘boom town,’ filled with materialism, pride, and the self-confidence that comes with having made it in a new place and with a new social identity. The ‘pull-yourself-up-by-your-own-bootstraps’ mentality that would become so characteristic of the American frontier filled the air.”

**~Scott Hafemann**

# **I. The Christian Life is Marked by Suffering**

## **- Vs. 3-9**

### **Philippians 1:29 -**

For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake.

### **Philippians 3:10-11 -**

That I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

# **I. The Christian Life is Marked by Suffering**

## **- Vs. 3-9**

### **Rom 8:16-17 -**

The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs— heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

## **II. God Comforts Us in Our Suffering**

”Comfort” here expresses the idea of “help” that arrives and is experienced as “comfort.” “Comfort” is help that speaks. It brings not merely outward relief but the knowledge that there is One who loves and cares, a God who sees distress and answers lament. Those who are in the midst of distress need something more than the external assistance that a mere technician might deliver. They need the warmth of compassion and concern, and they need it from the One who has power over all things, the ability to bring true help and deliverance...[Comfort] is God’s loving and caring response to human misery, which speaks and promises help in all trouble.

~ **Colin Kruse**

## **II. God Comforts Us in Our Suffering**

### **Romans 15:4 -**

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

### **III. Our Response to Suffering is Hope- Vs. 9-10**



## **IV. Our Means of Hope is Prayer - Vs. 11**

In prayer, human impotence casts itself at the feet of divine omnipotence. Thus the duty of prayer is not a modification of God's power, but a glorification of it.

~ **Philip Hughes**

## **V. Our Evidence of Hope is Sympathy - Vs. 4**