

Where do I go when the going
remains gruelling?



- 1 ¶ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the church of God in Corinth, together with all the saints throughout Achaia:
- 2 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 3 ¶ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort,
- 4 who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.
- 5 For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows.
- 6 If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer.
- 7 ¶ And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.

Who wrote the letter?

Authorship evidence

Internal

Ch.1:1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the church of God in Corinth, together with all the saints throughout Achaia



When and from where?

- Paul establishes Corinthian Church (1st visit)
- Paul leaves Corinth for Ephesus
- Paul writes 1st letter (lost)
- Delegation sent to Ephesus
- Paul writes 2nd letter: 1 Cor from Ephesus
- Paul's 2nd visit (painful visit)
- Paul's painful 3rd letter (lost)
- Titus visit report to Paul
- Paul writes 4th letter 2 Cor from Macedonia
-(About AD 55..)
- Paul plans 3rd visit

Acts 18:1-19

1 Cor 5:9

1 Cor 16:17

1 Cor 16:8

2 Cor 2:3,4

2 Cor 2:3,4;7:5

2 Cor 2:12;7:6,7

2 Cor 2:13; 7:5

2 Cor 13:1,2

Occasion

Major threads

Titus report after painful letter
-comfort, joy, encouragement

Comfort and hope in suffering

New efforts by false prophets (Jewish)

Pastoral visits and plans

The Apostle and his ministry in Christ

The grace of giving

Defence against those opposing him

2 Cor 7:5-14

2 Cor 1:11

2 Cor 11:13.22

2 Cor 2,7,8,13

2 Cor 2-7

2 Cor 8-9

2 Cor 10-12

Contrasts to 1 Corinthians

Contrasts	1 Corinthians	2 Corinthians
Organization	Systematic	Not as
Perspective	Objective	Subjective
Focus	Ministered To	Minister
External Influencers	Paganism	Judaism
Approach	Doctrinal	Personal
Tone	Deliberate	Impassioned

Purposes

- To express relief, joy and hope in their positive reactions to his visit and letters
- To explain his itineraries
- To applaud correction & forgiveness
- To encourage the grace of giving
- To engage them in true apostleship

Structure

Introduction	Ch 1:1-11
Reconciliation	Ch 1:12-7:16
Solicitation	Ch 8,9
Vindication	Ch 10-13

Why Study 2 Corinthians?

2 Corinthians Intro & Ch 1	Ministers who Stand Firm in Christ
2 Corinthians 2	The Nature of Ministry in the Church
2 Corinthians 3	Ministry Commendation, Confidence, & Covenant
2 Corinthians 4	Ministry Treasures & Clay
2 Corinthians 5	The Ministry of Reconciliation
2 Corinthians 6	The Accreditation of Ministry & Ministers
2 Corinthians 7	The Encouragements of Ministry
2 Corinthians 8,9	The Ministry of Generosity
2 Corinthians 10-12	The Vindications of a Minister
2 Corinthians 13	Our Commitment to God and His Power

Where do we go when
the going continues to be
gruelling for us?

- When troubles overwhelm us
- When we don't know whether we are exercising worldly wisdom or God's
- When we are unsure what has happened to the promises of God
- When others cause us deep grief

2 Cor 1

Where do we go when
the going continues to be
gruelling for us?

- When we find it difficult to forgive
- When we forget that God does lead us

- When we lose confidence in our faith
- When we feel there are veils over our minds and hearts

- When we lose heart

2 Cor 2

2 Cor 3

2 Cor 4

Where do we go when
the going continues to be
gruelling for us?

- When we are burdened and groan
- When we forget what compels us
- When we lose sight of God's views

- Does our behaviour in difficulty harmonize with our position in Christ?

- Does God have complete confidence in you and me?

2 Cor 5

2 Cor 6

2 Cor 7

Where do we go when
the going continues to be
gruelling for us?

- Do we excel in the gift of giving?
- How grounded are we in our commitment to serve the Lord?
- Do we fail the test?

2 Cor 8,9

2 Cor 10,11

2 Cor 12

God's Help Through The Gruelling

*God &
Father*

*Compassion
& Comfort*

*Lord Jesus
Christ*

Sufferings in Service

*Troubles
Sufferings
in Christ*



*Hope
Prayer*



God's Help Through The Gruelling

*God &
Father*

*Lord Jesus
Christ*

*Compassion & Comfort
& Faithful & Gracious*

Sufferings in Service

*Troubles
Sufferings
in Christ,
in
holiness
&
sincerity*



Prayer

*Hope
In the
day of
the
Lord*



Where do we go when the going **remains** gruelling?



We call on the name of our Lord Jesus

We revel in our enrichment & calling in Him

We love & serve together

We rest in His faithfulness

We remain thankful in hope

