

Sermon Notes

Strength in weakness: Towards a theology on suffering

2 Corinthians 1:1-11

Paul describes his trials in a variety of ways from vv3-11 using words like troubles (v4), sufferings (v5-7), hardships (v8), pressure (v8), despair (v8), the sentence of death (v9), and a deadly peril (v10).

However in the middle of these trials Paul discovered that:

- 1) God comforts us so that we can comfort others
- 2) God allows us to share in the sufferings of Christ
- 3) Suffering teaches us to rely on God

Suffering results in praise

Troubles are not a sign of weakness but a place where God's grace can be experienced in a way that it cannot be elsewhere.