

# Strange Ministers

## Trouble

2 Cor 1:3-10

Sept 20, 2020

### 1. We can Experience His Comfort

DEF: “Comfort”- someone coming alongside us in our afflictions

Ps 86:5

DEF: the “God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction” “The One who is Comforting us”

Psalm 86

Ps 27:13-14

### 2. We can Help Others

How does God comfort people?

[1] through the promises and truths in his Word

- 1 Thess 4:18
- Psalm 119:25, 38, 49
- Ps 42

[2] through his PEOPLE

- Job 2:13
- Gal 6:1-2
- Lk 10:33
- 2 Cor 2:5-7

God “comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to

comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.”

### 3. It Empties us of Self-Reliance

our affliction...burdened excessively...beyond our strength...we despaired even of life...we had the sentence of death within ourselves...

... so that we would not trust in ourselves

It brought him to the place of realizing he could do nothing on his own

### 4. We Experience the Power of God

“we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead”

The Father has power over death!

Dan 12

2 Cor 4:7-10

Affliction teaches us to trust God

### APPLICATION

#1 Change the question from “What’s happening,” to “What is God doing in me through this”

#2 Embrace afflictions as a tool of God

#3 Focus on others in your suffering

#4 Praise God that He IS the God of all comforts, who comforts us in all our afflictions