



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ⊕

**WHOEVER IS
PRAYING FOR SNOW
PLEASE STOP**

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 10:00AM
REV CHRIS BOYD
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15



The God of All Comfort
II Corinthians 1:1-7

At the heart of the text: vs. 3-4

– **Finding God's good purpose in the difficulties and burdens of life.**

- Those who are encouraged, encourage others; those who are strengthened, strengthen others.

– **New perspective on life's hard things:**

- Not 'Why me?' but 'Why not me?'
See [I Peter 4:12-14](#)
- Not 'Let me get rid of this trial a.s.a.p.'
but 'Let it have its full, God-intended effect'
See [James 1:2-4](#)

At the heart of the text: vs. 3-4

Our Afflictions and God's Comfort

– The afflictions and trials of this life

- Root idea: to press down, oppress
- A distressing burden, pressure or weight.
- See [1:8-10](#); [4:7-12](#); [11:23-29](#)
- Any and all of the troubles life may be throwing at you right now...

At the heart of the text: vs. 3-4

Our Afflictions and God's Comfort

- The afflictions and trials of this life**
- Comfort & strength of God's presence**
 - Giving courage and strength in the face of adversity, not 'soothing sympathy'!
 - Rooted in *God's presence* – He *comes alongside and counsels* us to steadfast perseverance. Our Help in time of trouble.
 - See [Joshua 1:5b-9](#); [Heb 13:5b-6](#); [Ps 18:2](#)

At the heart of the text: vs. 3-4

Our Afflictions and God's Comfort

It's for and about *others* as well

– The spiritual principle set forth in vs. 4 is applied and illustrated in vs. 5-7

- God's comfort flowed from Christ to Paul and through Paul it overflowed to them
- An *upward* (Heb 3), a forward (Rom 8) and an *outward* (II Cor 1) purpose
- As it was with Christ – it's not just about you! (See Heb 2:18)

At the heart of the text: vs. 3-4

Our Afflictions and God's Comfort

It's for and about *others* as well

Personal Application

- Focus on the powerful presence and promise of God in midst of troubles.
- Be on the lookout for God's good purposes. *How might God want to use this to benefit and bless others?*