

2 Corinthians 1:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation.

Analysis

And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation (εἴτε θλιβόμεθα, ὑπὲρ τῆς ὑμῶν παρακλήσεως)—Hyper (ὑπὲρ, "for/on behalf of") shows substitutionary purpose. Paul's afflictions aren't random but redemptive, producing the Corinthians' comfort and sōtēria (salvation/sanctification).

Which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings—energoumenēs (ἐνεργουμένης, "being made effective") through hypomonē (ὑπομονή, "patient endurance"). Comfort isn't escapist but empowering—enabling endurance of **the same sufferings**. Pastor and congregation share identical afflictions.

Historical Context

Written around AD 55-56 from Macedonia after Paul's 'painful visit' to Corinth (2:1). The Corinthian church faced challenges to Paul's apostolic authority from 'super-apostles' (11:5) who valued eloquence over cruciform ministry. Paul writes to defend his ministry, explain his changed travel plans, and restore relationship with this fractious congregation.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does knowing someone's suffering might be 'for my consolation' change how I pray for leaders?
2. Am I willing to embrace affliction if it produces salvation/comfort in others?
3. What 'same sufferings' do I share with my church that could become mutual encouragement?

Interlinear Text

εἴτε δὲ θλιβόμεθα ὑπὲρ τῆς ὑμῶν παρακλήσεως
or whether And we be afflicted it is for which your consolation
G1535 G1161 G2346 G5228 G3588 G5216 G3874

καὶ σωτηρίας, τῆς ἐνεργουμένης ἐν ὑπομονῇ τῆς
also salvation which is effectual in the enduring which
G2532 G4991 G3588 G1754 G1722 G5281 G3588

αὐτῶν παθημάτων ὡν καὶ ἡμεῖς πάσχομεν εἴτε
of the same sufferings which also we suffer or whether
G846 G3804 G3739 G2532 G2249 G3958 G1535

παρακαλούμεθα ὑπὲρ τῆς ὑμῶν παρακλήσεως καὶ
we be comforted it is for which your consolation also
G3870 G5228 G3588 G5216 G3874 G2532

σωτηρίας,
salvation
G4991

Additional Cross-References

2 Timothy 2:10 (Salvation): Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

2 Corinthians 1:4 (Parallel theme): Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

Romans 8:28 (Parallel theme): And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2 Corinthians 5:5 (Parallel theme): Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit.

Philippians 1:19 (Salvation): For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

Ephesians 3:13 (Parallel theme): Wherefore I desire that ye faint not at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.

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