

2 Corinthians 7:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down,
comforted us by the coming of Titus;

Analysis

Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus—All' ho parakalōn tous tapeinous parakalesen hēmas ho Theos (ἀλλ' ὁ παρακαλῶν τοὺς ταπεινοὺς παρακάλεσεν ἡμᾶς ὁ Θεός, "but God who comforts the humble/downcast comforted us"). Tapeinous (ταπεινούς) can mean "humble" or "cast down/depressed"—God specializes in consoling the crushed in spirit (Ps 34:18, Isa 57:15).

The verb parakaleō (παρακαλέω, "to comfort/encourage/exhort") appears repeatedly in this chapter (vv. 4, 6, 7, 13). Paraklēsis (παράκλησις, "comfort") is the root of Paraklētos ("Comforter/Advocate")—the Holy Spirit's title in John 14-16. God's comfort isn't mere emotional consolation but empowerment to persevere. Remarkably, God mediates comfort en tē parousia Titou (ἐν τῇ παρουσίᾳ Τίτου, "through Titus's arrival"). Divine consolation often comes through human instruments—believers embodying Christ's presence to one another.

Historical Context

Titus was Paul's trusted co-worker (8:23), likely a Gentile convert (Gal 2:3) who served as Paul's envoy in difficult situations. Paul sent him to Corinth with the 'severe letter' (2:12-13, 7:8) to address sexual immorality, divisions, and challenges to Paul's authority. Titus's courage in confronting a volatile church and his success in mediating reconciliation reveal his pastoral skill and deep loyalty to Paul.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How has God used other believers to 'comfort' me when I was 'cast down,' and have I thanked them?
2. Am I willing to be God's instrument of comfort to others facing spiritual or emotional crisis, even at personal cost?
3. What does God's choice to comfort 'through Titus's arrival' teach about the incarnational nature of Christian ministry?

Interlinear Text

ἀλλ᾽	ο	παρεκάλεσεν	τοὺς	ταπεινοὺς			
Nevertheless	G3588	comforted	G3588	those that are cast down			
G235		G3870		G5011			
παρεκάλεσεν	ἡμᾶς	ο	θεὸς	ἐν	τῇ	παρουσίᾳ	Τίτου
comforted	us	G3588	God	by	G3588	the coming	of Titus
G3870	G2248		G2316	G1722		G3952	G5103

Additional Cross-References

2 Corinthians 7:13 (Parallel theme): Therefore we were comforted in your comfort: yea, and exceedingly the more joyed we for the joy of Titus, because his spirit was refreshed by you all.

Jeremiah 31:13 (Parallel theme): Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, both young men and old together: for I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow.

Isaiah 57:18 (Parallel theme): I have seen his ways, and will heal him: I will lead him also, and restore comforts unto him and to his mourners.

1 Thessalonians 3:2 (References God): And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith:

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