

**THAT WE SHOULD NOT TRUST IN OURSELVES BUT IN GOD 2 Cor. 1:8-11**

**CHALLENGED GREATLY BY AN OVERWHELMING TRIAL**

*“For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of our<sup>1</sup>trouble which came to us in Asia: that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life. Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves,...” 2 Cor. 1:8-9*

1. Paul and team wanted the Corinthians to know of their predicament in Asia
  - a. The word “trouble” means “affliction, tribulation”
    - i. This was what Paul wrote about earlier (2 Cor. 1:4)
    - ii. The Lord had comforted him in his tribulation
  - b. He wanted the people to know what he and his team went through
2. The severe predicament that they were going through
  - a. They were burdened beyond measure
  - b. They were burdened above strength
  - c. They despaired even of their life
  - d. They had the sentence of death on themselves
3. Paul and team went through tribulation in Asia
  - a. The cities in Asia were Ephesus, Troas, Miletus.
  - b. There were many adversaries at Ephesus (1 Cor. 16:8-9)
  - c. Paul went through many forms of suffering (2 Cor. 11:23-28)

**THE PURPOSE OF GOING THROUGH THIS TIME OF TRIBULATION**

*“That we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead,...” 2 Cor. 1:9*

1. Purpose of overwhelming tribulation
  - a. Great tribulations helped Paul and team to see things better
  - b. There is an added instructive element
  - c. The purpose is to not trust in ourselves
2. Trusting solely in God and His power
  - a. The sole person we should have full confidence in is God and God alone
  - b. Placing our whole trust upon the Lord and His promises
  - c. Growing trust in God and His great power

## **LEARNING TO HAVE COMPLETE TRUST IN GOD**

*“Who delivered us from so great a death, and does deliver us; in whom we trust that He will still deliver us,...” 2 Cor. 1:10*

1. Trust in God based on past experiences
2. Growing faith and hope in the Lord
  - a. Paul and team continued to trust in God for the present
  - b. They trust that God will continue to deliver them
3. Fullness of hope in future deliverance

## **EFFECTIVELY SUPPLICATING FOR EACH OTHER**

*“You also helping together in prayer for us, that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the gift granted to us through many.” 2 Cor. 1:11*

1. Trust and prayer go together
2. Paul recognising how effectual the supplications of the Corinthians were.
3. Supplication can make a big difference in life and ministry
4. Thanksgiving given by many people when prayers are answered