



## **Standing Strong In The Storms of Life**

### **How To Keep From Being Defeated By the Storms**

2 Corinthians 4:7-9

#### 2 Corinthians 1:3-5

3. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,
4. who 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.
5. For just as the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance, so also comfort is abundant through Christ.

#### 2 Corinthians 1:9-11

9. indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so that we would not trust ourselves, but in God who raises the dead;
10. who delivered us from so great a peril of death, and will deliver us, He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us,
11. you also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through the prayers of many.

#### 2 Corinthians 11:23-28

23. Are they servants of Christ? - I speak as if insane - I more so; in far more labors, in far more imprisonments, beaten times without number, often in danger of death.
24. Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes
25. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep.
26. I have been on frequent journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from my countrymen, dangers from the Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers on the sea, dangers among false brethren;
27. I have been in labor and hardship, through many sleepless nights, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.
28. Apart from such external things, there is the daily pressure on me of concern for all the churches.

#### 2 Corinthians 3:18

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

#### 2 Corinthians 4:5

For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus' sake.

## **1. The Principle That Must Be Understood**

### 2 Corinthians 4:7

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves;

- earthen - clay; metaphorically: human weakness and frailty
- vessels - *skenos* - pot that is hollow, void, and empty
- treasure - *thesaurus* - of exceptional value that was kept in a storehouse

## **2. The Power That Is Ours To Experience**

### 2 Corinthians 4:7

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves;

- surpassing - *hyperbole* - to a much higher level
- power - *dunamis* - the ability to do something

## **3. The Place Where It All Happens**

### 2 Corinthians 4:8

we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing;

- afflicted - *thilibo* - to be extremely stressed; to be deeply troubled

### Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

### 2 Corinthians 4:8

we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing;

- crushed - to be so pushed into a corner that there is no way out
- perplexed - to be at a total loss of how to think because of difficulty

### John 13:22

The disciples began looking at one another, at a loss

### Acts 25:20

Being at a loss how to investigate such matters

### 2 Corinthians 4:8

we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing;

- despair - at the end without any hope of finding your way

2 Corinthians 4:9

persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;

- persecuted - *dioko* - to pursue with the intent to capture or kill

- forsaken - to be left alone and uncared for

- struck down - physically thrown down and severely injured;

metaphorically: opposed by others in what you are doing

- destroyed - to completely destroy; to perish



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