

11 Corinthians 1:1-7 "You Have To "Allow" God To Comfort You"

(First sermon in book) 10/5/2025 TBC

Intro: A Horse Story

QUESTION: What does it mean to "Comfort" a horse?

Ex. Truman was asked about his rough day and he gave a horse answer! "I feel like I have been rode hard, and put away wet!"

A few primates, a horse, and men sweat. Few other animals sweat through their skin.

Some young horses just want to be left alone, but you cannot do that, because it brings bad consequences for the horse!

You have to get them to come to you; but you cannot do that if they have not learned to trust you.

(Next week we will show the connection of this letter to the first letter, i.e., I Corinthians. About a year has gone by since the writing of the first letter.)

Today's Text: II COR. 1:1-7

Question: How did Paul and his companions keep going having such a hard life?

Answer: They deliberately "allowed" God to comfort them!

11 Cor. 1: 1-7 READ

1:3 "Father of mercies" - He excels in this. He can show mercy as no one else can. He knows how you tick. He knows the most about you and still likes you! "mercies" - actions taken that hit the exact problem of sorrow or want.

"God of all comfort" - 3 ways it is used: Parakleseos (παράκλησις).

1. It means to call someone over to you, and plead with them to rest, and reflect.

Ex. Tired kid at the water park. Mom knew exactly what to do, but 7 other people did not know how to comfort him. I have never seen anything like it!

2. To comfort with the right words, tone of voice, understanding and actions.

3. To comfort then encourage to go forward!

Ex. Jonah ch. 4/ Elijah on Mt. Horeb I Kings 19

Same word (Parakleseos) used in I John 2:1/ Romans 15:4/ Acts 9:31/ 11 Thess. 2:16-17

II Cor. 7: 3-7 Paul "allowed" the Lord to comfort him again. It does not work automatically! You have to come to Him; to trust Him with that pain and disappointment.

Final: Any good horse, with any sense at all, will look forward to being comforted after a hard day's ride.

Anybody here have any horse sense? Still trying to control everything? Too prideful to admit you need God's comfort? Think maybe it would be nice, but you have not been good enough of a Christian this week so you don't deserve it? "Allow" God to comfort you. Let Him come along side and help with that load. Let Him talk to you so you can go forward in hope and godly confidence.