

"Our Ministry Toolbox"

From Agony to Alacrity
II Corinthians 1:1-7

Ministry is the result of a:

| I. | Privilege – "Grace be to you and peace" (v | vs. 1-2) |
|------------|---|--------------|
| We i | minister because of the: | |
| A. | $oldsymbol{C}$ — "Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of | God" |
| B . | C | |
| <i>C</i> . | C | nth" |
| II. | Preparation - "that we may be able to comfort" (v | vs. 3-5) |
| We d | are given the: | |
| A. | . S – "the Father of mercies, and the God of all con | mfort" |
| В. | . Su – "to comfort them which are in any troub | le" |
| <i>C</i> . | . Sup "as the sufferings…so our consolation also abou | ınds" |
| III. | • Process — "let him be Anathema Maranatha" (vs. 6 | 5-7) |
| We a | are ministers to: | |
| A. | C "the enduring of the same suffering" | |
| B . | Co "ye are partakersof the consolation" | |
| <i>C</i> . | Con"enduring the same suffering we also su | ffer" |

Sentence Sermon

"God does not comfort us to make us comfortable, but rather to equip us to comfort others."

Additional Verses

- > Isaiah 40:1
- > Psalm 71:21
- > Romans 5:3; 8:29
- > Acts 9:15; 16:1-3
- Philippians 2:19-22
- > Romans 8:38-39
- > John 14:27
- > II Corinthians 7:6; 12:9
- > Philippians 2:1
- II Corinthians 11:23-26, 28-29
- Colossians 1:24

Trouble mentioned in II Corinthians:

> II Corinthians 2:4; 4:8, 17; 6:4; 7:4, 5; 8:2, 13

Questions to Ponder

- 1. What are the key words or phrases in this passage?
- 2. Who are the central characters of the passage?
- 3. Why do you think Paul repeats his calling "by the will of God?"
- 4. Why are the saints in Achaia addressed as well as the church at Corinth?
- 5. Why do you think the Father and Jesus Christ are named in verse 2&3?
- 6. How does God comfort us when we are in any trouble?
- 7. What difficult situations do people go through that need comforting?
- 8. What are some difficult circumstances in which God has comforted you?
- 9. What perspective is Paul describing in verse 6?
- 10. How does the truth of verse 6 help Christians as they encounter trouble?
- 11. What is Paul's hope for the Christians in the church in Corinth in v. 7?