

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for April 5, 2009**

**“Down But Not Out”**  
**2 Corinthians 1:4**  
**Dale Whitehead**

Where should we look for comfort?

We should look to God for comfort (2 Corinthians 1:3).

Can we, if we go to God for comfort, be assured that we will find it no matter how many or difficult our trials?

No matter how many or how difficult our trials, if we would look to God for comfort we will always find it (2 Corinthians 1:4a; 8-11).

Notice the word “all,” as long as Paul and Timothy turned to God for comfort they were continuously comforted without exception in every kind of affliction.

Paul and Timothy, when they turned to God for comfort, were not comforted by God because they were special, but because God was special (2 Corinthians 1:3).

God will comfort us, or in other words strengthen us, through His promises (Romans 8:28-30).

If we can believe God causes all things to work together for good, not only will we be strengthened to hang on, but we will be enabled to count our troubled situation as a source of joy (James 1:2-4).

The testing of our faith produces endurance (James 1:3).

We need endurance, or in other words toughness, in order to proceed forward toward spiritual maturity (James 1:4).

One of the reasons why a professing Christian might not receive comfort, though asking for it, is because he is double-minded (James 1:4-8).

To be double-minded means that we have two minds—one mind that seems to trust God and wants what God wants while the other continues to trust in ourselves and want what we want.

May God give us the grace to continually and wholeheartedly come to Him for help in the time of our need so that we might be continually comforted in each and every trial that we might face.

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