

I'M GOING THROUGH

2 Corinthians 11:23-31

INTRODUCTION:

The Christian Hymn “I’m Going Through” by Herbert Emery Buffum is used for this sermon. “I’m going through, Yes, I’m going through, I’ll pay the price, whatever others do; I’ll take the way with the Lord’s despised few; I’m going through, Jesus, I’m going through.”

In this message, we will examine the suffering of Paul and his reliance on the God of all comfort.

THE SUFFERING OF PAUL (2 Cor 11:23-28)

- I. HE LABORED MORE ABUNDANTLY (v. 23)**
 - A. Paul labored more abundantly than those who professed to be ministers of Christ.** (Four Missionary Journeys – Acts 13-14; 15:36–18:23; 18:24-21:14; 26:30-28:30).
 - B. The purpose of Paul’s missionary journeys were to proclaim the Grace of God in forgiving sin through Jesus Christ.**
 - C. Paul established new churches in various regions, converted people to Christianity and strengthened the faith of existing Believers.**
- II. HE SUFFERED BEATINGS AND HAZARDS “ABOVE MEASURE” (v. 23-25)**
 - “**Stripes Above Measure**” (v. 23); He was in prison more frequently (v. 23); He faced death often (v. 23); Five times he received thirty-nine lashes from the Jews (v. 24); Three times he was beaten with rods (v. 25); He was stoned one time (v. 25); He “suffered shipwreck” three times (v. 25). A night and a day he was in the deep sea.
- III. THE DANGERS PAUL SUFFERED WHILE IN JOURNEYS WAS OFTEN (v. 26)**
 - The dangers of waters (v. 26); The dangers of robbers (v. 26); The dangers of his own “countrymen” (v. 26); **The dangers in the cities** (v. 26); The dangers in the wilderness (v. 26); The dangers in the sea (v. 26); **The dangers among false brethren** (v. 26) – (Matt 7:21-23; Titus 1:10, 16)).
- IV. THE DANGERS PAUL SUFFERED MENTALLY AND EMOTIONALLY (vv. 27-28)**
 - “In weariness and painfulness” (v. 27); “In watching’s often” (v. 27); “In hunger and thirst, in fasting often” (v. 27); “In coldness and nakedness: (v. 27); That which cometh upon me daily” – “the care of all the churches’ (v. 28).

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Paul suffered and sacrificed much for the cause of Jesus Christ (Luke 14:25-35; Matt 22:37-38; Matt 10:37-39; .
- Even after Paul established new churches and moved on, he prayed for them (1 Cor 1:4; Eph 1:15-16; Philippians 1:3-4; Col 1:3; 1 Thess 1:2-3; 2 Thess 1:3).

CONCLUSION:

A. I’m Going Through

B. The ABC’s of Salvation (Rom 3:23; Acts 16:31; Rom 10:9-10)

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“... the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).