

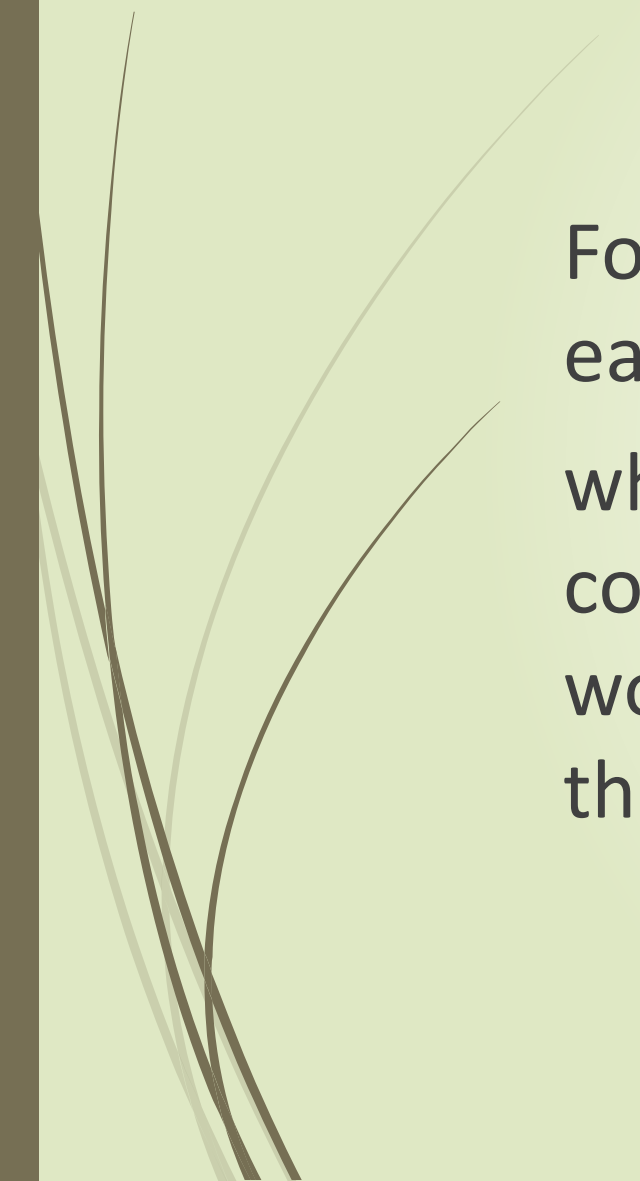


Why do Christians suffer?



Philippians 3:20-21

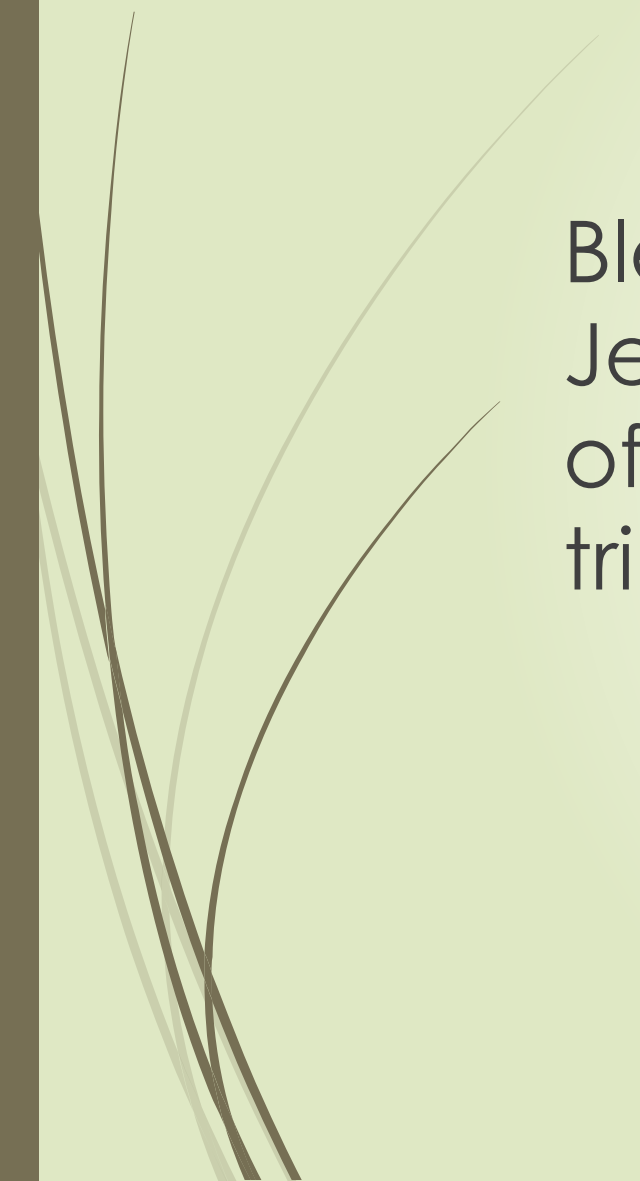
For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.





2 Corinthians 1:3

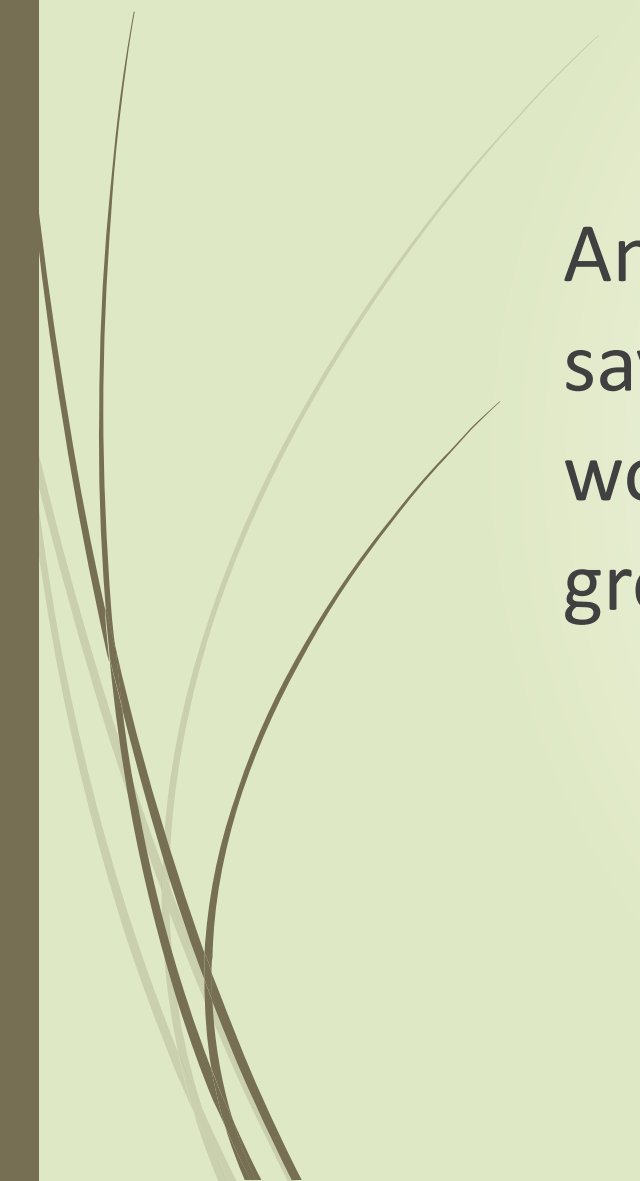
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation...





Genesis 5:29

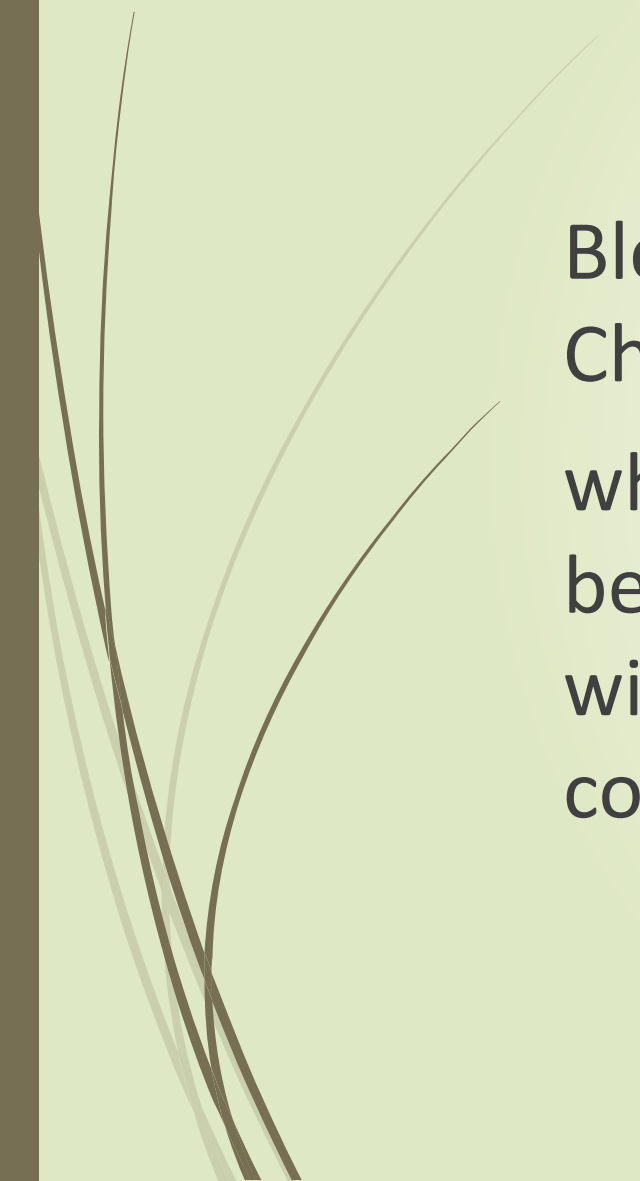
And he called his name Noah, [meaning: rest] saying, “This one will comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands, because of the ground which the Lord has cursed.”





2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.





2 Corinthians 1:5-7

For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation [comfort] also abounds through Christ.

Now if we are afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effective for enduring the same sufferings which we also suffer. Or if we are comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation.

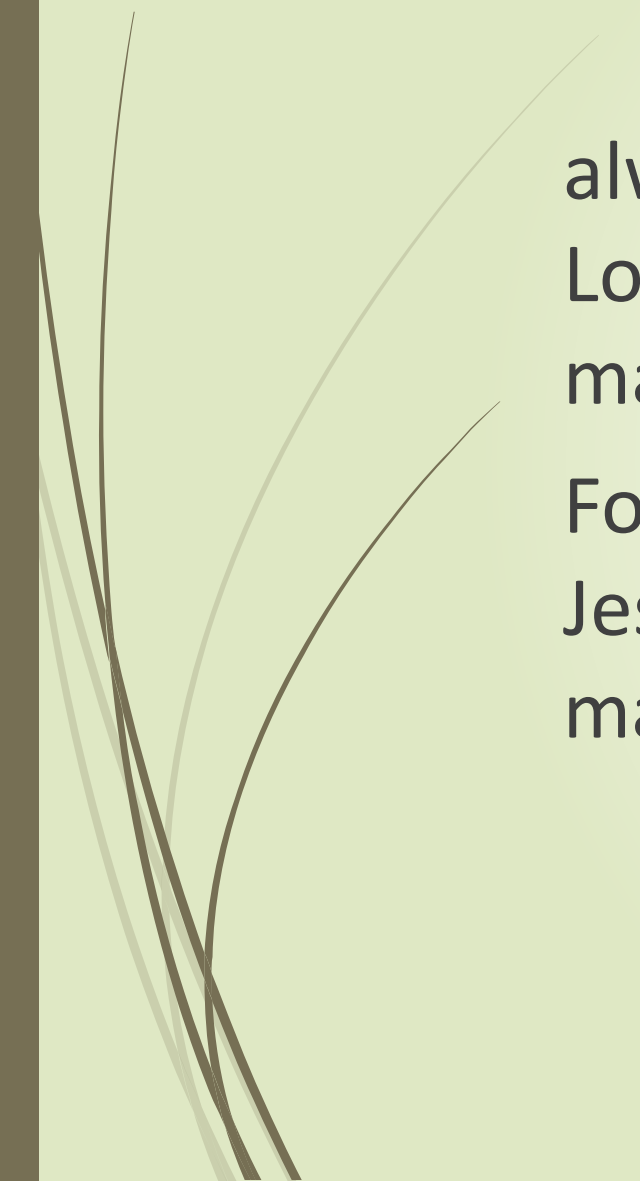
And our hope for you is steadfast, because we know that as you are partakers of the sufferings, so also you will partake of the consolation.



2 Corinthians 4:10-11

always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.

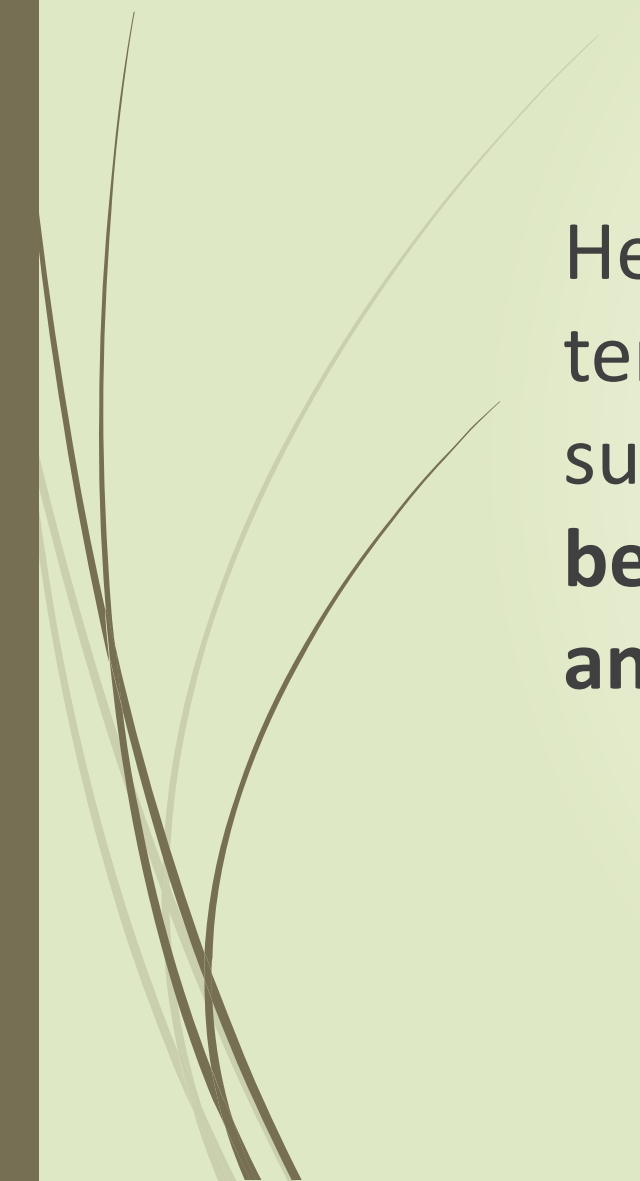
For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.





Philippians 2:8

He humbled himself to become a man. He was tempted in everything yet without sin and in the end suffered the most horrible death on the Cross. Yet, **because of His suffering, we are free, free of sin and death.**



Philippians 3:7-10

But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.

Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

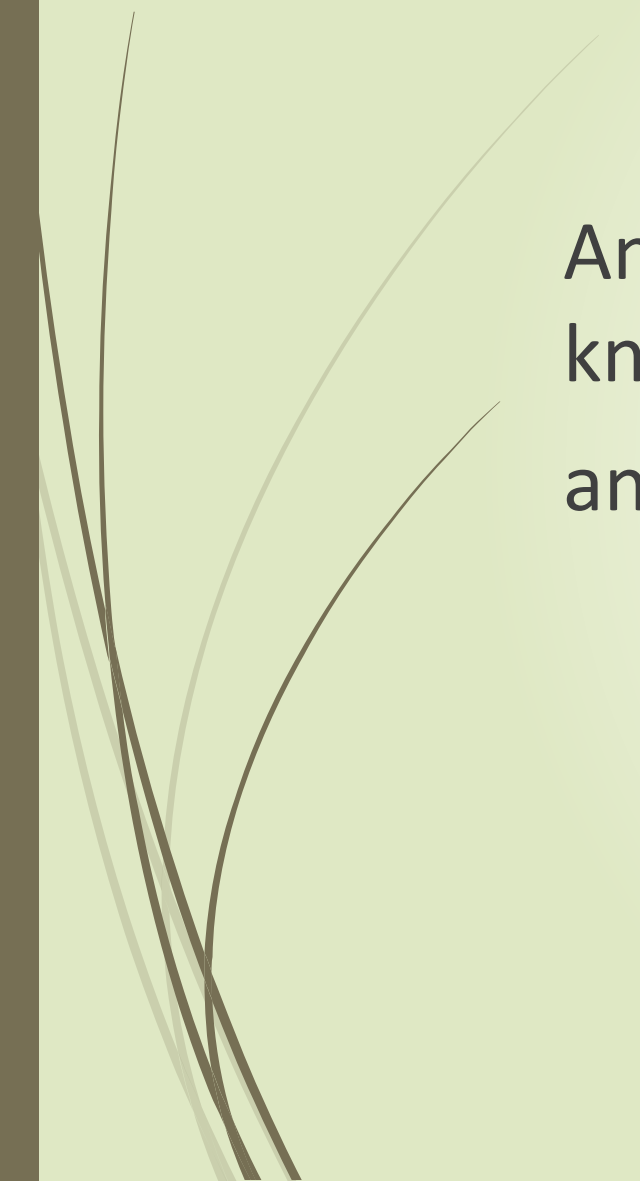
and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;


that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death



Romans 5:3-4

And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope.





James 1:2-4 AMP

Consider it nothing but joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you fall into various trials.

Be assured that the testing of your faith [through experience] produces endurance [leading to spiritual maturity, and inner peace].

And let endurance have its perfect result and do a thorough work, so that you may be perfect and completely developed [in your faith], lacking in nothing.



Philippians 3:12-14

Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.


Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,

I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you.



Philippians 3:16

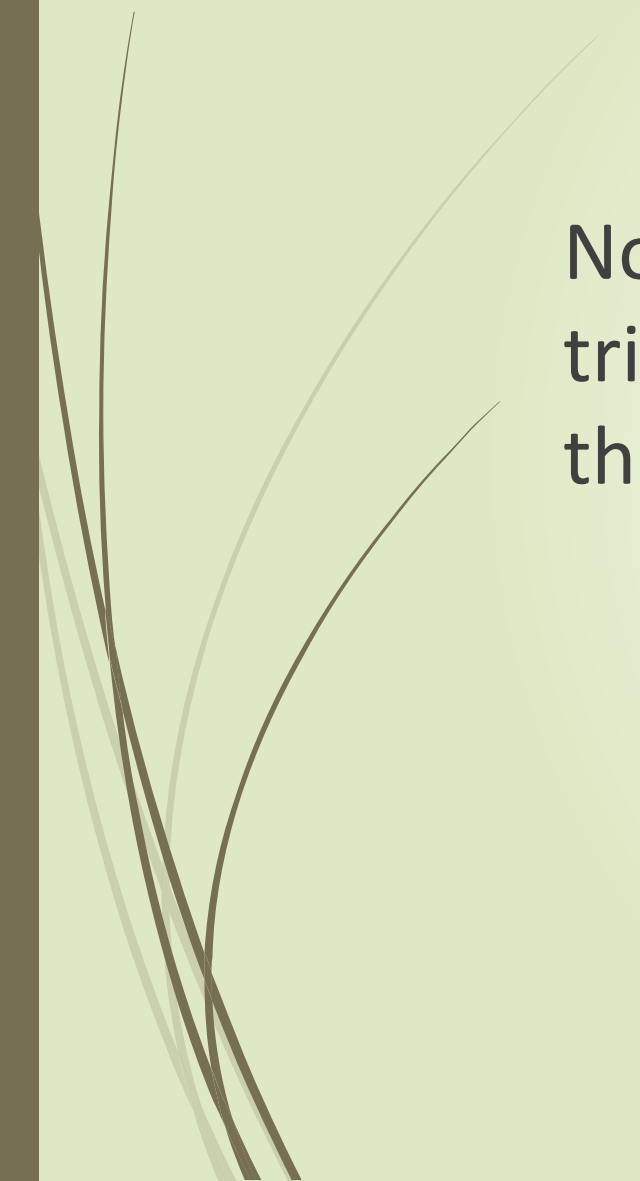
Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind.






2 Corinthians 2:14

Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses [manifest] the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.



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- God comforts us so that we can comfort others.
 - God grants us mercy so that we can be merciful to others.
 - God stands whole-heartedly with us in our suffering so that we will stand whole-heartedly with others who are suffering.
 - God never leaves us alone in our suffering so that we won't leave others alone in theirs.



1 Peter 4:1-3

Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,

that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.

For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries.



2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen.

For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.



Romans 8:18

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

