The God of Redemption

The Apostle Paul revealed the nature of God as hidden in his name: “The God of All Comfort” (2 Corinthians 1:3). Comfort means “with fortification.” Comfort is strengthening aid. There are many kinds of comfort. God’s comfort is not the comfort of an Easy Chair or a Lazy Boy. The kind of comfort that God gives is meant to give strength so that we may live for him in this fallen world.

We may often find ourselves falling short of what we know is God’s calling on our lives. “How can I possibly live for God with (fill in the blank) going on in my life?!” It is in our weakness that the God of All Comfort applies his strengthening aid. He lovingly jumps right into the middle of our troubles.

God works his redemption in us through the trials and tests that are part every person’s life. As we yield to him in the midst of our trials his winnowing fork will dig its way into our hearts. The chaff will be winnowed out of our hearts. God works his comforting power in our lives so that he can turn us loose to affect the people around us. His loving eyes are on those who do not know his comforting power. Others need to know him. Who better to make him known than those who have received his redemptive power?

**The God of Redemption**

**2 Corinthians 1:3-11**

■ GOD WORKS IN US – Sanctification

 ▪ Reveal presumption → Teachableness

 ▪ Test sincerity → Faithfulness

 ▪ Cause discomfort → Dependence

 ▪ Test patience → Fruitfulness

 ▪ Shift values → Thankfulness

 ▪ Develop submission → Christ-likeness

■ GOD WORKS THROUGH US – Ministry

■ GOD WORKS BEYOND US – Prayer