

In the course of godly living and ministry, it is inevitable that believers will be afflicted. ~John MacArthur, Commentary on 2 Corinthians. (Pg. 23)

Thlipsis (θλίψις) –

Thlipsis is great emotional and spiritual stress that can be caused by external or internal pressures. ~Lawrence Richards, New International Encyclopedia of Bible Words (Pg. 232)

Thlipsis is the heavy pressures of life that sometimes become almost unbearable [so] one feels as if he is being trodden down until he cannot take it any longer. ~Ralph Earle, Word Meanings in the New Testament

Reasons God Allows Us to Experience Affliction.

- Deuteronomy 29:29

1. The purpose for affliction; grow in

_____ and not ourselves.

➤ We need the reminder to trust God and not ourselves as much as or more than Paul did.

2. The purpose for affliction; _____

us to pray.

➤ We need the reminder to trust God and not ourselves as much as or more than Paul did.

3. The purpose for affliction; _____

us it is normal.



4. The purpose for affliction; _____ comforted and to _____ comfort.

God comforts us.

➤ We cannot on our own but we can with God and His comfort.

The divine purpose in granting such strengthening aid during suffering is to enable the sufferer to administer comfort to others. ~Murray J. Harris, The Second Epistle to the Corinthians: A Commentary on the Greek Text. (Pg. 143)

God does not comfort us to make us comfortable, but to make us comforters. ~John Henry Jowett (1864-1923)

We comfort others.

5. The purpose for affliction; _____ God.

- Psalm 103:1, Psalm 118:24

For what _____ has God allowed or is God allowing you to experience affliction?

What does is God trying to teach you from and through _____?

