



“God who comforts the downcast”

A dark, moody photograph of palm fronds, likely from a coconut palm, filling the background. The fronds are silhouetted against a dark, almost black background, with some highlights showing their texture. The text is centered over the image.

2 Corinthians 7- A Transition Chapter



Context of Paul and the Corinthians

- Paul establishes the Corinthian Church
- After hearing of problems, Paul writes 1 Corinthians
- Paul visits Corinth, which is a “painful visit.”
 - Some oppose him and discredit him
- Paul writes a severe letter to Corinth
- Paul waits to hear from Titus about Corinth
- Paul is overjoyed that Titus returns with a good report

Paul's heart for the Corinthians

(1:24) We are workers with you for your joy.

(2:4) I wrote to you out of anguish of heart-with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love I have for you.

(3:2) You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts.

(6:11) We speak openly to you, our heart has been opened wide

(7:3) You are in our hearts, to live together and to die together



1. The Burden of Paul's heart:

Were those among whom the Holy Spirit called going to be faithful to Christ?

Would those "on the fence" Choose Christ?



2. God comforts Paul- and us- by reports of unexpected repentance and renewed diligence among those we love. [7, 11-13]



**3. God comforted Titus- and He
comforts us- by refreshing our spirits
and increasing our affection for one
another. [14-16]**

Application- ongoing relationships with other Christians-

Blessing of personal refreshment we receive from hearing about God's work in others.

Our affection for one another grows as we remember others' obedience to Christ; Our bitterness towards one another grows as we remember their sins.



Main Truth-

God strengthens his people-in the midst of their own affliction-with comfort and joy coming from the salvation of others.

This kind of comfort and joy reminds us of everything that Jesus does and is for us!