



What the Bible Does Not Say

2 Corinthians 1:8-9

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NEVADA • SEPTEMBER 19, 2021
All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pastor Joe's email is Joe@SouthReno.com

THE BIBLE DOES NOT SAY*

“God will never put on you
more than you can _____!”

*1 Corinthians 10:13 refers to temptation—not suffering.”

2 Corinthians 1:8-9, NIV - ⁸We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the hardships we suffered in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life. ⁹Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.

“...we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength...” - ESV

“...we were excessively crushed and driven beyond our power of endurance...” - ISV

“...crushed and overwhelmed beyond our ability to endure...” - NLT

“...for we were so utterly, unbearably crushed that we despaired of life itself...” - NRSV

“... pressed beyond measure...” - PME

2 Corinthians 1:8-9, KJV - ⁸For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble [lit., “pressing”] which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, [lit. of the donkey “pressed beyond measure”] above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life [ATR: “Utterly destitute of resources to sustain life”]: ⁹But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead.

“Christianity is not a vaccine that immunizes us against problems and difficulties in life.” -Pastor Joe

What the Bible Does Say

Based 2 Corinthians 1:8-9

1. There will be SUFFERING in this fallen world.

2 Corinthians 1:8-9, NIV - ⁸We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the hardships we suffered in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life.

James 1:2, NASB95 - ²Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials...

John 16:33, ESV (Jesus said) - In this world you will have tribulation.

2. There will be an INTENSITY to our suffering.

2 Corinthians 1:8, KJV - ⁸For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life.

A Brief Theology of Suffering:

A. We live in a “fallen world”. (cf., John 16:33)

B. Suffering is unrelated to our “goodness”. (Luke 13:4ff)

C. Suffering points to this fact: **“We Need Jesus!”**

3. There will be PURPOSE to our suffering—in time.

Romans 8:28, NAS - ²⁸And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

2 Corinthians 1:8-9, TLB - ⁸... We were really crushed and overwhelmed, and feared we would never live through it. ⁹We felt we were doomed to die and saw how powerless we were to help ourselves; but that was good, for then we put everything into the hands of God, who alone could save us, for he can even raise the dead.

The suffering you endure may be more than you can bear, but it's never more that God can bear—we must give our ‘sufferings’ to Jesus and let Him use them for His Glory!