

*[Follow up] We look to the Lord to supply all our needs and get help from others, right?*

There are numerous passages which indicate that the Lord cares for his children by: fighting their battles (Deut 3:22, 31:7-8, Josh 1:9) and providing comfort in their trials [Psalm 3:24, 23:1-4,6, 27:1, 71:5, 86:17, 119:76, Eccl 3:1-8, Is 12:2, 49:13, Jer 1:8, Lam 3:25, Mic 7:7, Mt 5:4, Lk 12:7, Jn 14:1, 14:27, 16:7, Ro 15:13, 2 Co 1:3-4, He 13:6].

Christians suffer as Paul learned (Ac 9:16)<sup>1</sup> but troubles are nothing when compared to future blessing (Ro 8:18b). Therefore, the believer can wait patiently and confidently (vv 24-25). He will one day see that the Lord carried him (Deut 1:31, 31:11, Ps 91:11-12, Is 40:11, 41:13 46:4, 63:9).

Dennis Prager said that men should resist the temptation to be taken care of (e.g. relying on government rather than one's family). Unfortunately, not all have the companionship of likeminded friends or family (Eccl 4:10).

Nevertheless, those who live honorable lives (Ps 18:21, Pr 20:29, 22:6) will be called overcomers by God (Re 3:12). Their lives prove that God's way is the best way (Ps 119:105).

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<sup>1</sup> Paul suffered pain for the church (2 Co 11:23-33). He was imprisoned often (11:23a). He was whipped times without number (11:23b): received 39 lashes from the Jews on five occasions (11:24), was beaten with rods on three occasions (11:25a). He faced death time and again (11:23c): faced danger from flooded rivers (11:26b), faced danger from robbers (11:26c), faced danger from both Jewish and Gentile mobs (11:26d). He was stoned once (11:25b). He was shipwrecked three times (11:25c). He spent a terror-filled night and day on the open sea (11:25d). He traveled many weary miles (11:26a). He spent sleepless nights (11:27a). He knew constant hunger and thirst (11:27b). He was often cold and ill-clothed (11:27c). He experienced harrowing escapes (11:32-33). He bore daily the burden for the many churches he had started (11:28-31). Willmington, H. L. (1999). The Outline Bible (2 Co 11:21-31). Tyndale House Publishers.