2 CORINTHIANS

Matching Practice With Position!

 Sovereignty: God sovereignly raises up those whom He has chosen to lead.

 <u>Servanthood</u>: Those who would be spiritual leaders are those who understand and practice servanthood.

 Suffering: Suffering is the tool which God employs in the life of the Christian to make him a leader. God never uses anyone greatly until He first hurts him deeply! V1-2 "Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy <u>our</u> brother, To the church of God that is at Corinth, with all the saints who are in the whole of Achaia: Grace to you and peace from God <u>our</u> Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." God is sovereign in his authority over His apostolic servants.

The emphasis on God's ownership of His church.

Because God is their Father and Jesus Christ is their Lord then God is providing them the incredible spiritual resources of his grace and peace

V3-7 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort."

1 Pet 4:19 "Therefore, let those also who suffer according to the will of God entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right.

1 Pet 4:14-16 "If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. By no means let any of you suffer as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler; but if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not feel ashamed, but in that name let him glorify God."

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V8-10 "For we do not want you to be ignorant, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again."

V11 "You also must help us by prayer, <u>so</u> <u>that</u> many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many." Ps 73:15 "If I had said, 'I will speak thus,' Behold, I should have betrayed the generation of your children".