

Below are a few verses that describe the cost of following Christ and the Apostle Paul's trials and tribulations he endured to follow Christ. The Apostle Paul was in the will of God and the storms of life still came. Jesus said in Matt. 7:25 the storms are guaranteed to come, but build your life on the application of His teachings for a life that can handle the storms.

Matthew 16:24-26 NASB1995. [24] Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. [25] For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. [26] For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

James 1:2-4 NASB1995. [2] Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, [3] knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. [4] And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Acts 9:13-16 NASB1995. [13] But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he did to Your saints at Jerusalem; [14] and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name." [15] But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel; [16] **for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name's sake.**"

Acts 14:22 NASB1995. [22] strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying, "**Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.**"

1 Corinthians 4:11-13, 16 NASB1995. [11] **To this present hour we are both hungry and thirsty, and are poorly clothed, and are roughly treated, and are homeless;** [12] and we toil, working with our own hands; when we are reviled, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure; [13] when we are slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become as the scum of the world, the dregs of all things, even until now. [16] **Therefore I exhort you, be imitators of me.**

2 Corinthians 1:8-11 NASB1995 [8] **For we do not want you to be unaware, brethren, of our affliction which came to us in Asia, that we were burdened excessively, beyond our strength, so that we despaired even of life;** [9] indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead; [10] **who delivered us from so great a peril of death, and will deliver us, He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us,** [11] you also joining in **helping us through your prayers,** so that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us **through the prayers of many.**

2 Corinthians 11:23-29 NASB1995. [23] Are they servants of Christ?—I speak as if insane—I more so; in **far more labors, in far more imprisonments, beaten times without number, often in danger of death. [24] Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes. [25] Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep.** [26] I have been on frequent journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from my countrymen, dangers from the Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers on the sea, dangers among false brethren; [27] I have been in labor and hardship, through **many ussleppless nights, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.** [28] Apart from such external

things, there is the daily pressure on me of concern for all the churches. [29] Who is weak without my being weak? Who is led into sin without my intense concern?

2 Corinthians 11:32-33 NASB1995. [32] In Damascus the ethnarch under Aretas the king was guarding the city of the Damascenes in order to seize me, [33] and **I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and so escaped his hands.**

Acts 14:19-20 NASB1995 [19] But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having won over the crowds, **they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead.** [20] But while the disciples stood around him, he got up and entered the city. The next day he went away with Barnabas to Derbe.

Acts 27:41-44 NASB1995. [41] But striking a reef where two seas met, they ran the vessel aground; and the prow stuck fast and remained immovable, but the stern began to be broken up by the force of the waves. [42] The soldiers' plan was to kill the prisoners, so that none of them would swim away and escape; [43] but the centurion, wanting to bring Paul safely through, kept them from their intention, and commanded that those who could swim should jump overboard first and get to land, [44] and the rest should follow, some on planks, and others on various things from the ship. And so it happened that they all were brought safely to land.