



*I resolve...*

## **Redemption in Suffering: Hope Church Post COVID-19**

2 Corinthians 1:3-7

December 27, 2020

Pastor Casey Ehlers

### Introduction:

**Jonathan Edward's Resolution (#67):** *Resolved, after afflictions, to inquire, what I am better for them, what good I have got by them, and what I might have got by them.*

### Sermon Text: 2 Corinthians 1:3-7

*A Theology of Suffering:* This text teaches us the way in which God, in his sovereign mercy and comfort, redeems our suffering for his purposes and for the love of one another.

Application: After the “affliction of COVID-19”, what can Hope Church learn about itself and its ministry?

1. The necessity of corporate worship.
2. The ongoing ministry of congregational care.
3. The Gospel as the deepest thing we treasure.

## Sunday Text Questions for 2 Corinthians 1:3-7

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1. How was your “COVID-19 Christmas”? What was one thing that was new or different about it?
2. What biblical truths are present in Jonathan Edward’s resolution?
3. What lessons has COVID-19 taught you about yourself?
4. Re-read 2 Corinthians 1:3-7 – what observations or questions do you have concerning the text?
5. How does the text frame our Christian understanding of suffering?
6. What does this text teach us concerning the sovereignty of God?
7. What have you learned about corporate worship over the past year?
8. How have you been cared for by the church this year? In what (new) ways will you care for your brothers and sisters in Christ post COVID-19?
9. Has COVID-19 revealed any idols in your life?
10. What does it look like in your life to treasure the Gospel above all else?

**Further study this week:** 2 Corinthians 1:8-2:4 (Mon); 2 Corinthians 4 (Tues); 2 Corinthians 5 (Wed); 2 Corinthians 7 (Thurs); 2 Corinthians 11:16-12:10 (Fri)