





# 2 CORINTHIANS

... a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me ...

2 Cor 12:7

## ? WHAT WAS PAUL'S THORN ?

- **PHYSICAL:** (chronic malaria, migraine headaches, speech impediment, poor eyesight)
- **EMOTIONAL:** "... what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches" (2 Cor 11:28).
- **ADVERSARIAL:** Persecutions, (2 Cor 11:23-27)
- **DISCOURAGEMENT:** (2 Cor 1:8)

**THORN:**  
Something causing pain, annoyance ...

But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you, then it shall be that those whom you let remain shall be irritants in your eyes and thorns in your sides, and they shall harass you in the land where you dwell. (Numbers 33:55)



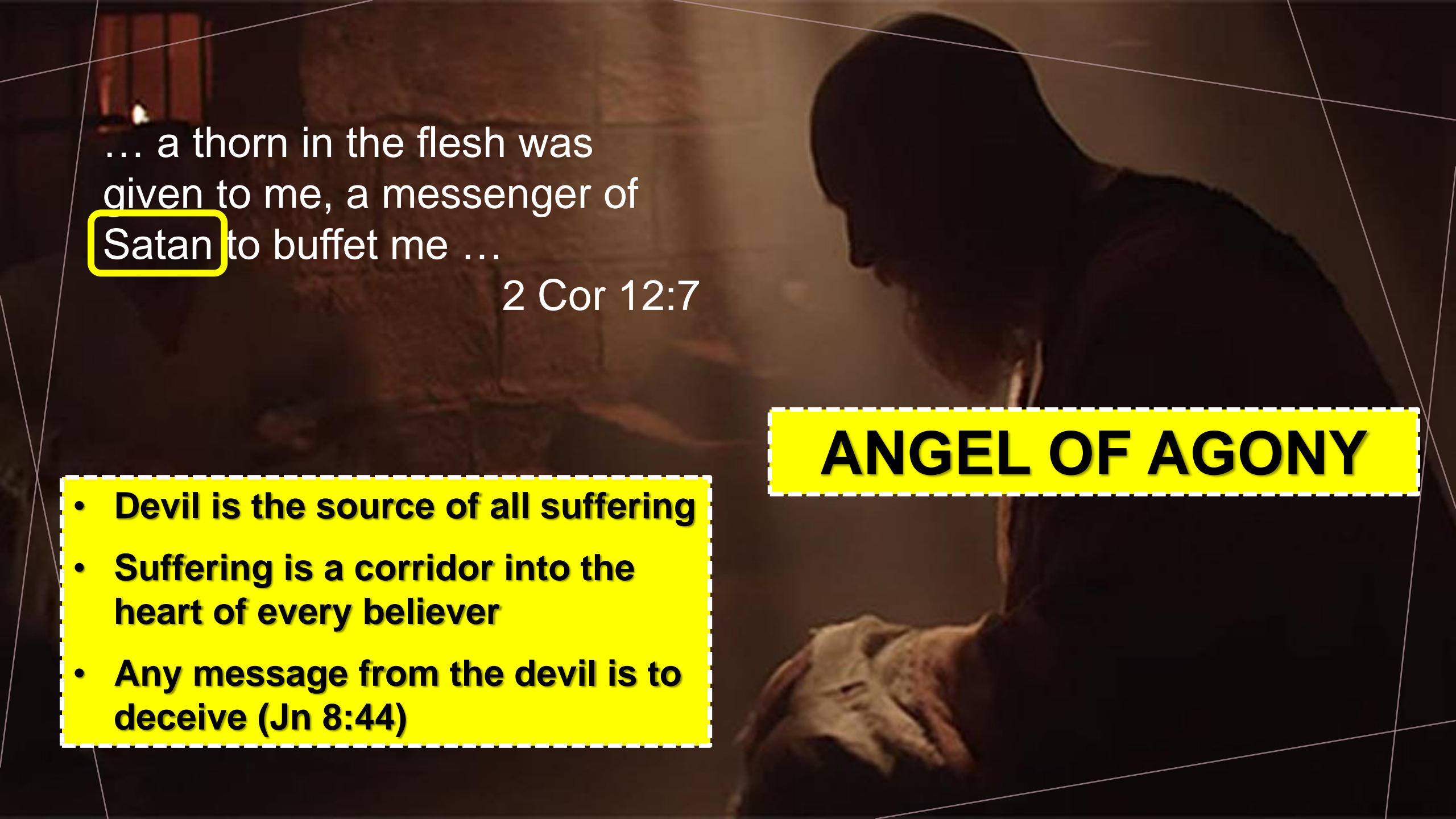
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Suffering

**BUFFET:**  
Strike, beat, *torment*  
(NASB): a continual  
source of torment ...



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## ANGEL OF AGONY

- **Devil is the source of all suffering**
- **Suffering is a corridor into the heart of every believer**
- **Any message from the devil is to deceive (Jn 8:44)**

Concerning this thing I  
pleaded with the Lord three  
times that it might depart  
from me. And He said to me,  
**My grace is sufficient for you**

...

2 Cor 12:8-9



NO





*My grace is sufficient for you*

# When the Thorn is not Removed

Reject Satan's Lying Message

Revive Your Prayer Dependence

Resist the Urge to Become Bitter

Reestablish Spiritual Relationships

Rely Unconditionally upon God



