

## The Divine Provision of Comfort

### Introduction

A. The message of the Bible is very clear - God desires the best for His children and He has made every provision for us.

What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Romans 8:31,32

B. The Christian may sense alienation and loss of fellowship in his relationship with God. This, however, would be due to the effects of the Fall or perhaps failure to live fully in the will of God. It is important that we recognize the divine terms for living the Christian life: truth, love and holiness.

C. In the Bible the word "comfort" indicates one area where God desires to bless us. The following verses illustrate this important Biblical theme.

I. It is God's Express Will that the Believer be Comforted.

A. God Himself promises to comfort His people, Isaiah 51:12.

I, even I, am He that comforteth you, who art thou, that thou shouldest be afraid of a man that shall die and of the son of man which shall be made as grass?

Observation: During this time the people of God were in political trouble. They had become fearful and had failed to trust God. In this chapter they are reminded of the power of God and exhorted to trust Him. Our comfort is found in God and His will.

B. Christians are comforted through God solving their problems, Acts 9:31.

Then had the churches rest throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified, and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, were multiplied.

Observation: This chapter in Acts describes how God dealt with the first persecutor of the Church. He broke his heart and saved him! What was a great threat to these Christians now became a great help. Saul the persecutor became Paul the Apostle. This caused many to be encouraged, to trust God, and to be comforted.

C. Comfort is one of God's Names - He turns our trials to our comfort, I Cor. 1:3,4.

Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Mercies, and the God of all Comfort, Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

Observation: For the spiritual believer - the truths in these verses far exceeds any amount of money. To be related to the God of Mercy and Comfort Who can use our trials and problems for His glory and our good - and the good of others - is the basis of a life of faith, joy, and hope.

II. The Provision of God for the Believer's Comfort.

A. The Bible is the provision of God for our comfort, Psalm 119:49,50.

Remember the Word unto Thy servant, upon which Thou has caused me to hope.  
This is my comfort in my affliction, for Thy Word hath quickened me.

Observation: The Scripture tells us Who God is, what He has promised us, and what we are to do. This will comfort the believer. Our failure to read and obey the Bible will rob us of divine comfort.

B. God's merciful kindness is the provision of God for our comfort, Psalm 119:76.

Let, I pray thee, Thy merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to Thy Word unto Thy servant.

Observation: As sinners we need the mercy and kindness of God. He can extend this to us in that Jesus Christ died and rose again as our Representative. The debt of our sins has been paid.

C. Faith is the provision of God for our comfort, Matthew 9:22.

But Jesus turned Him about and when He saw her, He said, Daughter, be of good comfort, thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole . . . .

Observation: The comfort of faith is found in knowing what to do with our needs - we can turn to God and pray and receive divine aid. God Himself is the constant resource of every believer.

D. Growth of fellow believers is the provision of God for our comfort, II Cor. 7:6,7.

Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus, and not by his coming only, but by the consolation wherewith he was comforted in you, when he told us your earnest desire, your mourning, your fervent mind toward me, so that I rejoiced the more.

Observation: The church at Corinth had needed correction and Paul wrote to turn them back to God. They had accepted His admonitions and responded. Their repentance, growth, and desire to honor God comforted Paul. All believer's rejoice in seeing the grace of God at work in others.

E. Love is the provision of God for our comfort, Philippians 2:1,2.

If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

Observation: The love Paul is referring to is not only God's love for us, but also our love for Him and then for one another. For the believer to be comforted it is necessary that we understand such love.

F. The return of Christ is the provision of God for our comfort, I Thess. 4:18.

Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

Observation: The Bible reminds us that God is the author of history and is in control. Jesus Christ promised to return. The great truths of His coming for His Church will lead us to be comforted.