

I-THOU COMFORT

¹³ *“As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem.”*

Isaiah 66:13

¹ *Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins.*

Isaiah 40:1-2

³ *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.*

II Corinthians 1:3-4

¹⁸ *I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.*

John 14:18

I. Comfort - to give strength and hope; to cheer; to ease the grief of trouble; to console; to relieve; to encourage; to soothe and reassure.

* As earthen vessels we are stewards of God’s comfort, so that we in turn might comfort others.

II. The anatomy of comfort

A. Comfort implies two parties: one who gives comfort and one who receives it.

- B. Animals have no capacity to receive spiritual comfort. The holy angels have no need for comfort. Satan and his demons are eternally beyond it.
- C. Only humans made in the image of God (higher than the animals, lower than the angels) have the capacity to receive and give comfort.
- D. Bound in time like animals, yet with a sense of our own eternity like angels (Ecclesiastes 3:11), we suffer distress in a unique “Three-Dimensional Way”: past, present, and future.

¹¹ He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

- E. We remember previous distresses; we face each day’s trouble; and we dread what may come next.

III. Triune comfort

- A. The Father is always with us as he was with Moses.
(Exodus 3:12)

¹² And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

- B. The Son is always present. (Matthew 28:20; John 14:18)
[Mat 28:20 NIV] ²⁰ “and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

C. The Holy Spirit is our comforter. (John 14:16-17; II Corinthians 13:14)

[Jhn 14:16-17 NIV] ¹⁶ *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever--* ¹⁷ *the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.*

[2Co 13:14 NIV] ¹⁴ *May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

IV. A loss of home

A. The people of God had lost their home.

B. Are there any parts of home over which you weep? Parts of home you wish you could dial up once more?

C. Are there any parts of home that are now lost, or broken, or altered for you?

D. Perhaps you have fault in the loss. To those who have lost part or all of their home, God says comfort, comfort.

V. A tsunami of comfort is on the way!

A. A new home is on the way for you.

B. In the form of a person place or thing.

C. True comfort is going to fill the cracks and gaps in our inner being.

D. A mass healing will occur in the body of Christ so that we may bear the majestic mantle of God's anointing.