



Today's Sermons
 Morning: Looking Unto Jesus
 Evening: Song Service

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FOR THE RECORD	
Sunday Bible Study	30
Sunday AM Worship	48
Sunday PM Worship	26
Wed. Bible Study	25
Offering	\$1726

While riding a ship on one of the Great Lakes, a passenger became very alarmed at the number of rocks along the shoreline. Fearing that the ship would get too close to one of them, the passenger asked the captain, "Do you know where all those dangerous rocks are?"

"No," replied the captain, "but I know where the safe channel is."

This is true in religion. The safe channel is the one we can clearly see in Scripture.

The name *Christian* is the safe name to wear (Acts 20:28; 1 Corinthians 2:2; Romans 16:16; Matthew 16:18; 1 Timothy 3:15; Acts 11:26; 1 Peter 4:16; Acts 26:28–29; 4:12).

The doctrine of the New Testament is the safe doctrine to teach (2 Timothy 3:14–17; Acts 2:42; 2 John 1:9; Romans 1:16; Galatians 1:8–9; Revelation 22:18–19; 1 Timothy 4:16; 2 Timothy 4:1–4).

Worship that follows the apostles' example is safe worship (Acts 2:42; John 4:23–24; Hebrews 10:25; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 11:23–30; 16:1–2; 2 Corinthians 9:7; Colossians 3:16; Ephesians 5:19–20).

The plan of salvation the apostles taught is safe to teach sinners today (Romans 10:17; Matthew 28:18–20; Mark 16:15–16; Acts 2:38; 8:34–39; 18:8; 22:16; Romans 6:3–4; Galatians 3:27; 1 Peter 3:21).

Following the New Testament carefully, without adding to it or taking from it, is the path that is right and cannot be wrong. If this approach appeals to you, we invite you to investigate the church of Christ (Romans 16:16). "Come and see" (John 1:39).



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Times of Services:
Sunday
 Bible Study:... 10:00am
 AM Worship:...11:00am
 PM Worship:...6:00pm

Wednesday
 Bible Study:.....7:00pm

Radio Program
 Sunday:.....7:30am
 "Back to the Bible"
 AM 580 WSKS
 93.5 FM

**We Extend A
 Warm &
 Cordial
 Welcome
 To All Our
 Visitors!**



Shortly after he opened his first plant, Thomas Edison noticed that his employees had gotten into the bad habit of watching the factory clock, which was the only clock in the plant.

To the indefatigable inventor who never thought about the time a task took, this was incomprehensible. He did not express his disapproval verbally. Instead he had dozens of clocks installed all around the plant. His goal was not to make it easier for his workers to see a clock. He made sure that no two clocks had the same time. Soon clock watching led to so much confusion that nobody cared what time it was.

I have a suspicion that one reason that God does not tell us when the second coming will be is that He knows we are clock-watchers. Just as people were busy thinking about how much time they had left at work or until lunch break, so we might be tempted to focus only on getting ready when the time was near. Instead we are called to be the people of God every minute of every day—not to get ready but to be ready.

Comfort in Corinth

Jim Bullington

Comfort is a nice word; it conjures up various thoughts of calm and ease. That which comforts one person may not be comforting to another. For instance, a color which one person perceives as soothing may have no effect at all on another person. Music that is soothing to one person can actually antagonize another person. Paul offered comfort to the Corinthians, but it was comfort that could be everything but comforting to others. Let's think about it!

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all **comfort**, who **comforts** us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to **comfort** those who are in any trouble, with the **comfort** with which we ourselves are **comforted** by God. For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation [**comfort**] also abounds through Christ. Now if we are afflicted, it is for your consolation [**comfort**] and salvation, which is effective for enduring the same sufferings which we also suffer. Or if we are **comforted**, it is for your consolation [**comfort**] and salvation. And our hope for you is steadfast, because we know that as you are partakers of the sufferings, so also you will partake of the consolation [**comfort**]." (2 Corinthians 1.3-7; emphasis mine - jb).

First just consider the number of times Paul used the basic word for comfort [Strong's # 3870 and 3874] in the quoted passage. In five verses, he referred to the idea of comfort 10 times! It must have been an important matter he was conveying!

Next, notice that He refers to God the Father as the "God of all comfort." For Paul and all faithful Christians, that is a true description of God. Whatever is comforting in the absolute sense is of God. He is the God of ALL comfort.

Then notice that Paul received comfort from God during periods of tribulation. While some may have been troubling to Paul, God was comforting. Others in Paul's place might have blamed God for their tribulations in as much as they arose out of professing faith in God. However, Paul found comfort in Him rather than blaming Him for his predicament.

But notice another marvelous truth – in the midst of persecution Paul was able to offer comfort to others that were "in any trouble." Rather than being consumed with his own troubles and engaging in a pity part, Paul passed on to others the comfort that he received from God. He was absolutely selfless in this kindness.

To further demonstrate this selfless attitude, Paul notes that even the comfort that he received was used for the purpose of the Corinthians' "consolation [comfort] and salvation." What ever blessings that Paul received, He used them to the benefit of others; he did not keep them to himself but he passed them on to others.

As indicated at the outset, different things prove comforting to different people. To those who are evil, God and God's presence is not comforting at all; in fact, He would be everything but comforting to some. The fact that Paul and the Corinthians found comfort in God speaks well of their Christian character. Is God a comfort to you?

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5).

The pressures and anxieties of life can lead us to trust worldly wisdom rather than in our all-knowing God. However, real peace and strength are only found when we place our confidence in Him (Psalm 32:10; 125:1). We should trust the Lord...

In Everything. "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3:6). Some revel in their independence; others think they are self-sufficient (Revelation 3:17). Nothing could be further from the truth! We are insufficient (James 4:10) and are desperate for God's help. "The Lord shall help them . . . because they trust in him" (Psalm 37:40).

For Everything. "Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass" (Psalm 37:5). Every good and perfect gift comes from the heavenly Father (James 1:17). It is easy for us to think that everything we attain is solely through our own efforts, but that is not so, for in God we live and move and have our very being (Acts 17:28).

With Everything. "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:21). Some people cling to possessions or pride as though they were going to have them forever. To the faithful child of God, the Father must come first (Matthew 6:33; Luke 14:25-33).

Through Everything. "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory" (2 Corinthians 4:17). We must trust God even in the midst of trials, for although we may not understand the purpose of those difficulties, He will get us through them. "The Lord redeemeth the soul of his servants: and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate" (Psalm 34:22).

May we truly be able to say, "In God we trust!" – Mike Vestal, Midland, Texas

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart." Proverbs 3:5

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Feb. 8th – Preach & Eat & 1:30 Song Service.
- Feb. 8th – Worship @ Eula's @ 3:00 pm.
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell