



Chapter One

The God of all comfort. Who comforts us in our times of tribulation.

Chapter Two

Satan's strategies and Christ's Comfort through forgiveness.

Chapter Three

The Holy Spirit writes upon our hearts, adding His comfort.

***Christians must spread the truth to be part of the ministry of comfort.**

***2 Corinthians 4:1** Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart. **2** But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. **3** But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, **4** whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. **5** For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. **6** For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

V:1-2 Rejecting wrong handling of the Word of God and a spirit of deceit.

Be merciful: when dealing with hidden feelings of shame, underhandedness, and deceit, our goal is freedom through truth.

***The Conscience:** The **good/clear** conscience 1st Timothy 1:19 & 3:9

The **weak** Conscience 1st Corinthians 8:7

The **seared** Conscience 1st Timothy 4:2

The **Evil** Conscience Hebrews 10:22

V:3-4 The blindness in this age has a source; it's the spirit of the antichrist.

Whether it's the culture, media, government, or false religions, behind them all is the lawless one.

V:5-6 Preaching Jesus and the Word of God will penetrate the darkness.

Habakkuk 2:14 The earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord. (V:6 see the connection of the promise of the light of knowledge)

***A Treasure, only God, can protect.**

***2 Corinthians 4:7** But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. **8** We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; **9** persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed— **10** always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. **11** For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. **12** So then death is working in us, but life in you.*

***13** And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, **14** knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. **15** For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.*

V:7-12 The "treasure" reveals the power of God while it lives in a fragile vessel.

The earthen vessel: It's our body, and it never makes it to heaven in this form.

The superiority of the power of God: It is often revealed in His ability to overcome anything that comes to the body.

Our lives are continually being delivered over to death. This is a profound spiritual truth.

V:13-15 Faith in God goes beyond the natural world.

The Spirit of Faith: Gives us our voice that can proclaim truth. If you find it hard to reveal the truth? Ask God to increase your faith.

The Gospel of Grace is summed up in what Jesus did and not in what we do. Grace is evident through the transformation of the inner person. I was once, you fill in the blank, and now I am by the grace of God.

***Don't lose heart. The "Treasure" is eternal.**

**2 Corinthians 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. 17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, 18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.*

V:16 If your focus is on the outward person, you will live defeated.

The inward person is developed day by day by the Holy Spirit.

V:17 The Outward is only for a moment.

The Holy Spirit is creating the person we will be for all eternity starting now.

V:18 The unseen is forever!

Temporary things should only get a measured energy and response.