

**10 Funeral
Sermon Outlines
That Comfort and Bless**



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Resources for Pastors and Bible Teachers

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SEVEN WORDS FOR THE TREMBLING HEART

ISAIAH 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you;
Be not dismayed, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you,
Yes, I will help you,
I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.

This passage of Scripture contains seven great expressions of comfort and promise from the Lord for people who are facing circumstances that shake the soul. They are seven words for the trembling heart.

1. Don't Be Afraid

Fear comes when we are uncertain. When we are faced with the unfamiliar and the new. The loss of your loved one brings many changes which you have no choice but to face. The Lord says, "Don't be afraid!"

2. Don't Be Dismayed

This is the state of bewilderment. The death of someone we love brings confusion to world. What do we do? Where do we go? Why did this happen? All these questions press upon our mind and emotions. The weight of them can cause us to be in dismay. The Lord says, "Don't be dismayed!"

3. I am with you

These phrase begins the promises we cling to when we are afraid and dismayed. The promise of God's presence with us is one of the greatest truths of Scripture. It is reiterated throughout the Scripture. Some of Jesus last words to his disciples was "I will be with you!" One of the compound names of Jehovah God is Jeshovah Shammah which means "Jehovah is present." The Psalmist tells us that the Lord is "near to those of a broken heart."

4. I am your God

Listen to this promise with your heart. "I am your God!" Dear broken hearted friend, "You belong to God." You are His and He is your God!" Such a time of grief as this presses us toward the One Who is never at a deficit to help us. As a child runs to their father, we run to our Heavenly Father.

(Insert testimony of the departed if they were a believer. Point out the power of this promise in relation to their going to be with the Lord. They are with Him. They belong to Him. As a child of God, they are at home now.)

5. I will strengthen you

The shocking loss of your loved one weakens you. The organs of your body groan under the weight of it. Your nervous system is stunned and trembles. Your emotions swirl in a whirlwind of feelings. In the middle of all this, you have the Lord's promise that He will give you the strength you need.

6. I will help you

On behalf of the family, let me say to all those present. Your help is so appreciated. Your presence here today, the flowers, the cards, the food, the hugs, the encouraging words all really do help. But all of us here today wish there was more we could do to help. We all realize that there are some things we cannot do. We cannot heal a broken heart. We can place peace in a troubled heart. BUT God can. The good news is that He promises to do so. The Lord says, "I will help you!"

7. I will hold you up

Simply put, when you collapse. He will hold you up.

When you think you can't go on. He will hold you up.

When you are so weak, you can't brave the next step into the future, He will hold you up with His righteous right hand.

Conclusion -- Read the Scripture again and lead in prayer for these truths to be real in all their lives.

THE FUTURE EVENT THAT COMFORTS US NOW

1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18 (NKJV)

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep.

16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

1. The Return of the Lord

" For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven"

2. The Rallying of the Angels

"with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God"

3. The Resurrection of the Bodies of Departed Saints

"And the dead in Christ will rise first."

4. The Rapture of Living Saints

"Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up "

5. The Reunion of all the Saints

"Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds "

6. The Revelation of the Lord

"to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord."

7. The Realization of our Future

"Therefore comfort one another with these words."

COMFORTING WORDS FOR A TROUBLED HEART

John 14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me.

2 "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. (NKJV)

1. A Person (believe in me)

-If you think about all the things the world believes in and lives their lives for, those things are all left behind at the moment of death. For the believer, who we live for, awaits us with greater glory than we have ever seen.

-Faith in Jesus Christ is difference maker for all eternity.

2. A Preparation (I go and prepare)

-We are to prepare to meet the Lord

-We should know the Lord is preparing to meet us

3. A Place (I go and prepare a place for you)

-In Bible days, the groom would prepare the place where he and his bride would live and then he would go get her and bring her to their new home.

-Imagine a young man and woman just married. The young man comes home one day and says to his new bride, "Close your eyes, I am going to take you somewhere for a surprise." She closes her eyes. He escorts her to the car and they begin a journey. He drives her for several miles. The anticipation grows. He finally stops the car. Telling her to keep her eyes closed just a little longer, he walks around and opens her door. He helps her out. He escorts her forward several more steps and stops. He then says the words, she is now so eager to hear, "Now you can open your eyes!" She opens her eyes and before her is the most beautiful dream house she has ever seen. He says, "It's for you. I built it for you." She throws her arms around him and kisses him. She is so excited. They walk on up to the front door where he stops her. He then sweeps her into his arms and carries her in their new home. The door closes behind them as they experience life together in their new home. SUCH AN EXPERIENCE AWAITS ALL OF US WHO ARE BELIEVERS when Jesus comes to receive us to himself and presents to us our new home.

4. A Promise (I will come again)

"I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also."

- Jesus desires that we live eternally with him; he want us to be where he is. This shows us once again his heart for us.

- At the moment of death for the believer, this is what happens -- they go to be with Jesus.

Paul said in 2 Cor. 5:8 *"We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord."*

THE ANSWER THAT HELPS IN HURTING TIMES

Hebrews 13:5 . . .For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."
(NKJV)

1. It Answers the Question, "Where is God in all this?"

2. It Answers the Question, "Will I be alone?"

3. It Answers the Question, "Where will God be tomorrow?"

HIS PEACE FOR YOUR PRESSURES

John 16:33 "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." (NKJV)

1. God's Word (I have spoken)

2. Our Position (in me)

3. God's Peace (may have peace)

4. Tough Times (tribulation)

5. Christ's Victory (I have overcome)

FOUR THINGS TO REMEMBER ABOUT GOD WHEN YOU ARE HURTING

2 CORINTHIANS 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our tribulation, . . . (NKJV)

I want to remind you today that:

- 1. He is God**
- 2. He is Father**
- 3. He is Merciful**
- 4. He is Comforter**

WHAT GOD IS WHEN LIFE GETS TOUGH

Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble.

2 Therefore we will not fear, . . . (NKJV)

- 1. God is our refuge**
- 2. God is our strength**
- 3. God is present with us**
- 4. God is our help in trouble**

THREE TRUTHS TO REMEMBER WHEN DEATH COMES

Philippians 3:20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, . . . (NKJV)

1. The Place of Our True Residence

"For our citizenship is in heaven"

2. The Promise of Our Lord's Return

"from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,"

3. The Power of Our Resurrection

"who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, . . ."

WORDS THAT HEAL

2 Timothy 1:12 . . . for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day. (NKJV)

1. Knowing

2. Believing

3. Keeping

4. Committing

THREE THINGS TO DO WHEN FACED WITH DEATH

John 11:25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. (NKJV)

1. Remember His Resurrection

2. Rest in His Life

3. Believe in His Word