Daily Devotion #132

Comfort and Peace

*2 Corinthians 1:3 – “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort.”*

There are times in life when all people need predominantly two things: comfort and peace. Sometimes life gets so overwhelming that nothing else will meet the needs we have. No matter how much we may be hungry for food or thirsty for something to quench our parched lips, nothing works more effectively than being comforted and at peace. Try as we may, there is no amount of money or things this world affords us that will bring us greater joy than to be comfortable and at peace. At the most trying times, God is the only one who can give us true comfort and peace. These two acts of God are precious commodities.

Just this week I have been aware of the need to be with my dad. He has wonderful people caring for him, and I am truly thankful for that. The other night this came quite clear when the man who spends the most time with dad asked in his prayer for dad that he receive comfort and peace. There are times when God makes Himself well known, and that was one of them. In the midst of my emotional uncertainty and concern for what to do for dad that would be best for him, this saint offered a prayer that was spot on. What my dad needed was comfort and peace.

Can you imagine if our God was a god who did not care about our comfort? Can you imagine Him not being concerned for our peace of heart and mind? This world is riddled with people who do not care, and neither are they concerned with offering peace. But not our God. In fact, as I am writing this, the chaplin for the hospice group is singing to my dad a hymn that dad has loved over the years - Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine.

Can you imagine a God who so cares about our comfort that He would send those who love Him and serve Him to care for our needs in the most trying times and the most needful times? He truly is the God of comfort and peace.

When Paul wrote this letter to the church in Corinth, they were going through very challenging times. They had started in a very difficult time of their lives when the pagan world was running rampant. Many of the people of the new church had come out of that wicked and ungodly lifestyle. All of that prompted Paul to help the church know that their God, the true god, was truly the God of comfort.

Are you at a place in life where there is nothing anyone can do to give you what you need? Is life such that you are struggling to keep yourself at peace and comforted in all that is happening? There is good news for you. When all things seem to be coming apart at the seams and there seems to be no help in your time of need, God is there. God is there to give you all that the world can’t give you. He longs to give you comfort and peace.

And notice this, often His comfort comes through His people, such as the dear man who is singing to my dad. God reveals Himself through others. So, in your time or times of great need, when you need comfort, look to God. And maybe, in your times of challenges, you can be a comfort - from God, to others.. God expects us to love, comfort, and care for each other. And when we do, He uses us to give others peace, which often gives our own hearts peace.

Be at peace today, beloved, knowing that God will comfort you when you need it most.