

HC Q&A 2-3 – How to get comfort that lasts forever

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ: Everyone wants comfort. Man craves for comfort – lasting comfort – true comfort. But man can't get this comfort from sitting on his soft couch, working for lots of cash, having many contacts, advancing in his career, or by getting married. So how does he get it? This is what you will hear about today.

Our headings are:

Things you need to receive eternal comfort

You must start with a full knowledge of your sin

Our goals are: That you will know what you need to have to find true comfort, that you will praise the Lord for providing you with his Word so you can know how to get comfort, and that you will live as those who have received true comfort.

Things You need to receive eternal comfort

2 Q. WHAT MUST YOU KNOW TO LIVE AND DIE IN THE JOY OF THIS COMFORT?

A. Three things: first, how great my sin and misery are; second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery; third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.

1. You need comfort and there are 3 things you need to know to get it.

2. First, you need to know you are intensely sinful and hopelessly imprisoned by your sins with no hope of escape by yourself.

Within this spiritual prison you may experience temporary, earthly comforts, like soup, a comfy couch, and a wife. And we know things of this world are enjoyable – but only to a degree. They are temporary. Soon you will need more soup, a better couch, and your wife may die. **So real eternal comfort is an elusive dream.** It is elusive because you can't do anything to free yourself from the burden of sins to get real comfort. You sin all the time – every day of every week of every year!

Even those born in Christian homes are sinful. No one has a Divine right to comfort. You only have a right to Divine judgments. And the judgment for sin is hell... a place not known for any comforts. Sin kills comfort and you are full of sin.

Romans 3: 9 What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged both **Jews**

and Greeks that they are all under sin. 10 As it is written: **"There is none righteous,** no, not one; 11

There is none who understands; There is **none who seeks after God.** ¹³ "Their throat is an open tomb;

With their tongues they have practiced deceit"; "The poison of asps is under their lips"; 14 "Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness." 15 "Their feet are swift to shed blood; ¹⁷ And the **way of peace they have**

not known. 18 **"There is no fear of God before their eyes."**

¹John 1: 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **10** If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

You are so sinful, God cannot bear to look at you. This was why when Jesus was on the cross God turned away from him. He was guilty with your sins.

Do you really believe God can't look at a sinner as the Bible says? More, are willing to tell someone this? You shouldn't be. This is the only way he will be saved! Man must start with a full sense of his sins. Love him enough to speak!

3. Second, you need to know the 1 way of salvation because your soul is imprisoned and condemned in sin and deep misery.

The Door of freedom- is Jesus Christ – the only means of salvation. Salvation is what gives true comfort to the soul.

John 17: 3 "And this is **eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ...**

Acts 4: 12 **"Nor is there salvation in any other,** for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

And this is not just for NT times. This was for all times. Even the OT prophets believed in Jesus Christ. Hebrews 11, and more!

Acts 10:43 **"To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins."**

Jesus himself confirmed this, showing all prophets spoke of his work of redeeming mankind from sin and death **by his death, burial, and resurrection.**

Luke 24: 19 And He said to them, "What things?" So they said to Him, "The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,²⁰ "and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death, and crucified Him. 21 "But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened. 25 Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! 26 **"Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?"** 27 **And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.**

Do you see how serious the dispensationalist's (those who believe men are saved in different ways) sin is? He attempts to rob all Old Testament saints of salvation, since none can be saved without Christ. So get this message to dispensationalists as well...

4. Third, you need to know how you are to respond when you are set free from your slavery to sin.

Why? Because faith in Jesus Christ will be reflected in godliness. Faith without works is dead faith.

a. You will worship God.

1 Peter 2: 9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light...

b. You will live for God. This will bring **glory to God** and will **help others to find the way** of salvation. Matthew 5: 16 "**Let your light** so shine before men, that **they may see your good works and glorify your Father** in heaven.

c. You will fight against fleshly desires. Apostle Paul said you must "mortify" the flesh because there is an ongoing battle in you. Sin wants to reign over your life, but by the Word of God and the Spirit of God in you, you must dethrone it...even kill it.

Romans 6: 12 Therefore **do not let sin reign** in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

Colossians 3:5 **Therefore put to death your members** which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

Know how to live or you will end up in the same prison again. You don't want to be there, do you?

Know what others need so you can lead them out of prison. Are you willing to lead them out?

5. It is not sufficient to have 1 or 2 of these requirements; you need all 3.

If you don't believe you are sinful, you won't look to the Savior. If you don't believe in the Savior, you won't work and worship him. If you don't work and worship the Savior, it means you are not set free from sin. Memorize this!

You must start with a full knowledge of your sin

3 Q. HOW DO YOU COME TO KNOW YOUR MISERY?

A. The law of God tells me.

1. Start with a full knowledge of your sins – which only God's law gives you?

2. But what is the law of God?

a. Specifically, the 10 commands are the law of God. The laws are summarized in this: Love God, and Love your neighbor. All the law and the prophets speak of God's law.

Matthew 22:38 "This is the first and great commandment. 39 "And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 "**On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.**"

b. Generally, the whole Bible is God's law and explanations of God's law. So the more you read God's Word, the more you will learn of your sin. **The less you read God's Word the more you will think you are better and that you know more than you do. You will have no answer to your spiritual problems.** How many people stay Arminian because they don't really study God's Word! So encourage the non-believer to read the Bible. Give him one. Get one from the cupboard.

3. First, let's talk about the law specifically – the 10 commands!

a. What are specific parts of the Bible that show you need the 10 laws to see your misery?

Romans 7:7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "You shall not covet."

Without the 10 commands, how would you know what is wrong? You may have some sense some things are wrong because you have the image of God – like someone in an isolated place might know it is wrong to kill – but you wouldn't instinctively know the full extent of your sins because the image of God in you is tarnished. You would not know the broadness of the commands—things required, things forbidden,

and how you may sin by thoughts, words, and actions. So you need God's 10 laws.

b. The purpose of the 10 laws was not to show man how he could be saved, but the purpose of the 10 laws was to show man he needed to be saved because of his sin. No one could be declared righteous by obeying the law because no one could obey the law. It is true obeying the law **outwardly is more reachable, but you are required to obey the law with perfect motive in the heart**. The trouble is, the heart is sinful, so your outward actions, though they may seem good, are reprehensible in God's sight.

c. Since no man can keep God's law, and since every other religion teaches of salvation by obedience, every other religion on earth is false and their followers will be condemned by God and sent to hell. **This means you must use the 10 laws in evangelism!** The Gospel is not about getting to heaven!

4. Let's talk about the law in general—which gives explanations of the law and then directs the lost to Christ!

a. There is no other book anywhere, other than the Bible, that speaks of the full extent of man's sinfulness and the essential saving details of the work of Jesus. The rest of the Bible shows explication of the law – and how far man falls short in obeying the law.

b. This means all other books that pretend to tell about how to be saved are books from deceiving evil spirits and deceiving evil men. They hide the truth and tempt men to take the easy way out...and tempt men to look for their salvation elsewhere. **These evil men and their books always promote good works**.

c. This means that you must give the whole Bible to those who don't have it! (New Testaments are okay, but not good enough.) Encourage them to read it. Read it to them! Which other books tells you it is impossible for you to save yourself? Which other books tells you that you don't get a single merit with God for all the good you may do? Only the Bible! I believe **the Devil smiles when someone believes his works, or pilgrimages, or lighting candles, or his charitable giving pleases God**. The Devil smiles because he has another soul trapped in hell for eternity. The Devil makes them think they are religious and so they feel comfortable – like a fish which swallows a bait – until there is a jerk on the line.

Conclusion:

You need to know 3 things to enjoy true comfort: Your sin, how you are set free, and how to show your thankfulness to God. Two out of three will not do. Each one is dependent on the other to give you true comfort. And you MUST start with the knowledge of your sins, which only the Bible gives.

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ:

1. Come to God's Word daily and learn of your sin and misery. No other book – no matter how religious - will tell you that.

2. Come to God's Word daily and learn how God has come near you...and made you his child by the life and death of Jesus on the cross. There is no other name given among men by which you can be saved!

3. Come to God's Word daily and learn how to serve him. Good works can only be done according to the Word of God.

4. Then you will have and enjoy true comfort – your only true comfort – starting in this life.

5. And what about giving out the best Christmas gift ever? Share the gift of salvation with the lost. Lead them to the Savior.

Finally, some people think they are Christians because they go to church. But if you don't know and believe these 3 things: Your sins, how you are set free from your sins, and how you are to respond to God, then you are still in your sins. You need to be saved. Call on God to make you his child – to change you from the inside.