

# Getting To Know God

## PART 8 - GOD OF ALL COMFORT

### God Comforts Those Who Suffer

**Focus Verse: 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17** “Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, (17) comfort your hearts and establish you in every good work and word.”

Life is hard. It can be a long, exhausting struggle that beats us down every day. We can lose our joy and corrupt our peace. In our study today, “Getting To Know God: God Of All Comfort”, I hope to help us reset our mindset. We will focus our thoughts on how God is actively trying in various seen and unseen, known and unknown, ways to comfort our souls. It is His very nature to care for His creation and bring peace.

#### ➡ The Father God We Are Dealing With....

**Romans 8:31-32** “What then shall we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? (32) He who didn't spare his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how would he not also with him freely give us all things?”

#### To Understand Our Father God, We Just Have To Look To Jesus.

**John 14:9** “Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you such a long time, and do you not know me, Philip? He who has seen me has seen the Father. How do you say, ‘Show us the Father?’”

**John 10:9-18** “I am the door. If anyone enters in by me, he will be saved, and will go in and go out, and will find pasture. (10) The thief only comes to steal, kill, and destroy. I came that they may have life, and may have it abundantly. (11) I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. (12) He who is a hired hand, and not a shepherd, who doesn't own the sheep, sees the wolf coming, leaves the sheep, and flees. The wolf snatches the sheep, and scatters them. (13) The hired hand flees because he is a hired hand, and doesn't care for the sheep. (14) I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and I'm known by my own; (15) even as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. I lay down my life for the sheep. (16) I have other sheep, which are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will hear my voice. They will become one flock with one shepherd. (17) Therefore the Father loves me, because I lay down my life, that I may take it again. (18) No one takes it away from me, but I lay it down by myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. I received this commandment from my Father.”

**John 10:27-30** “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. (28) I give eternal life to them. They will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. (29) My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all. No one is able to snatch them out of my Father’s hand. (30) I and the Father are one.”

**Matthew 11:28-30** “Come to me, all you who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest. (29) Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you will find rest for your souls. (30) For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

**John 14:13-20** “And whatever you may ask in My name, that I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. (14) If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. (15) If you love Me, keep My commandments. (16) And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, so that He may be with you forever, (17) the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive because it does not see Him nor know Him. But you know Him, for He dwells with you and shall be in you. (18) I will not leave you orphans. I will come to you. (19) Yet a little while and the world does not see Me anymore. But you see Me. Because I live, you shall live also. (20) At that day you shall know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.”

## Focus On The Truth Of His Comfort

**2 Corinthians 1:3-6** “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 affliction, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, through the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. (5) For as the sufferings of Christ abound to us, even so our comfort also abounds through Christ. (6) But if we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation. If we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you the patient enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer.”

**Lamentations 3:22-26** “It is because of Yahweh’s loving kindnesses that we are not consumed, because his compassion doesn’t fail. (23) They are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness. (24) “Yahweh is my portion,” says my soul. “Therefore I will hope in him.” (25) Yahweh is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. (26) It is good that a man should hope and quietly wait for the salvation of Yahweh.”

**Psalms 23:1-6** “YHWH is my Shepherd; I shall not want. (2) He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. (3) He restores my soul; He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. (4) Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. (5) You prepare a table for me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. (6) Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of Jehovah forever.”

## Trust That God Sees You

**Matthew 10:29-31** “Aren’t two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father’s will. (30) Even all the hairs on your head are numbered. (31) So do not be afraid; you are more valuable than many sparrows.”

**Psalms 139:1-18** “Yahweh, you have searched me, and you know me. (2) You know my sitting down and my rising up. You perceive my thoughts from afar. (3) You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. (4) For there is not a word on my tongue, but, behold, Yahweh, you know it altogether. (5) You hem me in behind and before. You laid your hand on me. (6) This knowledge is beyond me. It’s lofty. I can’t attain it. (7) Where could I go from your Spirit? Or where could I flee from your presence? (8) If I ascend up into heaven, you are there. If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, you are there! (9) If I take the wings of the dawn, and settle in the uttermost parts of the sea; (10) Even there your hand will lead me, and your right hand will hold me. (11) If I say, “Surely the darkness will overwhelm me; the light around me will be night;” (12) even the darkness doesn’t hide from you, but the night shines as the day. The darkness is like light to you. (13) For you formed my inmost being. You knit me together in my mother’s womb. (14) I will give thanks to you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Your works are wonderful. My soul knows that very well. (15) My frame wasn’t hidden from you, when I was made in secret, woven together in the depths of the earth. (16) Your eyes saw my body. In your book they were all written, the days that were ordained for me, when as yet there were none of them. (17) How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is their sum! (18) If I would count them, they are more in number than the sand. When I wake up, I am still with you.

**Romans 8:16-18** “The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God; (17) and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ; if indeed we suffer with him, that we may also be glorified with him. (18) For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which will be revealed toward us.”

**Romans 8:33-39** “Who could bring a charge against God’s chosen ones? It is God who justifies. (34) Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, yes rather, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. (35) Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Could oppression, or anguish, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? (36) Even as it is written, “For your sake we are killed all day long. We were accounted as sheep for the slaughter.” (37) No, in all these things, we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. (38) For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, (39) nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from God’s love, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

## When You Feel Overwhelmed

**1 Peter 5:6-11** “And God will exalt you in due time, if you humble yourselves under his mighty hand (7) by casting all your cares on him because he cares for you. (8) Be sober and alert. Your enemy the devil, like a roaring lion, is on the prowl looking for someone to devour. (9) Resist him, strong in your faith, because you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are enduring the same kinds of suffering. (10) And, after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace who called you to his eternal glory in Christ will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. (11) To him belongs the power forever. Amen.”

**Psalms 55:22** “Throw your burden upon the LORD, and he will sustain you. He will never allow the godly to be shaken.”

**Romans 8:28-30** “We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to his purpose. (29) For whom he foreknew, he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. (30) Whom he predestined, those he also called. Whom he called, those he also justified. Whom he justified, those he also glorified.”

**Psalms 59:16-17** “But I will sing of your strength. Yes, I will sing aloud of your loving kindness in the morning. For you have been my high tower, a refuge in the day of my distress. (17) To you, my strength, I will sing praises. For God is my high tower, the God of my mercy.”

**Psalms 9:9-10** “Yahweh will also be a high tower for the oppressed; a high tower in times of trouble. (10) Those who know your name will put their trust in you, for you, Yahweh, have not forsaken those who seek you.”

## God's Comfort Is Your Sure Fortress— A Fortress Of His Love

**Psalms 91:1-16** “He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. (2) I will say of Yahweh, “He is **my refuge** and **my fortress**; my God, in whom I trust.” (3) For **he will deliver** you from the snare of the fowler, and from the deadly pestilence. (4) **He will cover** you with his feathers. **Under his wings** you will take refuge. His faithfulness is **your shield and rampart**. (5) You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day; (6) nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that wastes at noonday. (7) A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it will not come near you. (8) You will only look with your eyes, and see the recompense of the wicked. (9) Because **you have made Yahweh your refuge**, and the **Most High your dwelling place**,

(10) no evil shall happen to you, neither shall any plague come near your dwelling. (11) For he will put his angels in charge of you, to guard you in all your ways. (12) They will bear you up in their hands, so that you won't dash your foot against a stone. (13) You will tread on the lion and cobra. You will trample the young lion and the serpent underfoot. (14) "Because he has set his love on me, therefore I will deliver him. I will set him on high, because he has known my name. (15) He will call on me, and I will answer him. I will be with him in trouble. I will deliver him, and honor him. (16) I will satisfy him with long life, and show him my salvation."

*Psalms 46:1-11* "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. (2) Therefore we won't be afraid, though the earth changes, though the mountains are shaken into the heart of the seas; (3) though its waters roar and are troubled, though the mountains tremble with their swelling. Selah. (4) There is a river, the streams of which make the city of God glad, the holy place of the tents of the Most High. (5) God is within her. She shall not be moved. God will help her at dawn. (6) The nations raged. The kingdoms were moved. He lifted his voice, and the earth melted. (7) Yahweh of Armies is with us. The God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah. (8) Come, see Yahweh's works, what desolations he has made in the earth. (9) He makes wars cease to the end of the earth. He breaks the bow, and shatters the spear. He burns the chariots in the fire. (10) "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations. I will be exalted in the earth." (11) Yahweh of Armies is with us. The God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah."

## When The Wicked Seem To Prosper While You Suffer

**One of the easiest tricks of the Devil is to get us to covet the blessings of the wicked and those who prosper. Two things happen when this occurs. We are essentially destroying our current blessings by being discontent, and also telling God that what He has given us is not enough. We must resist this temptation.**

*Psalms 73:1-28* "Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. (2) But as for me, my feet were almost gone. My steps had nearly slipped. (3) For I was envious of the arrogant, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. (4) For there are no struggles in their death, but their strength is firm. (5) They are free from burdens of men, neither are they plagued like other men. (6) Therefore pride is like a chain around their neck. Violence covers them like a garment. (7) Their eyes bulge with fat. Their minds pass the limits of conceit. (8) They scoff and speak with malice. In arrogance, they threaten oppression. (9) They have set their mouth in the heavens. Their tongue walks through the earth. (10) Therefore their people return to them, and they drink up waters of abundance. (11) They say, "How does God know? Is there knowledge in the Most High?" (12) Behold, these are the wicked. Being always at ease, they increase in riches. (13) Surely I have cleansed my heart in vain, and washed my

hands in innocence, (14) For all day long I have been plagued, and punished every morning. (15) If I had said, "I will speak thus"; behold, I would have betrayed the generation of your children. (16) When I tried to understand this, it was too painful for me; (17) Until I entered God's sanctuary, and considered their latter end. (18) Surely you set them in slippery places. You throw them down to destruction. (19) How they are suddenly destroyed! They are completely swept away with terrors. (20) As a dream when one wakes up, so, Lord, when you awake, you will despise their fantasies. (21) For my soul was grieved. I was embittered in my heart. (22) I was so senseless and ignorant. I was a brute beast before you. (23) Nevertheless, I am continually with you. You have held my right hand. (24) You will guide me with your counsel, and afterward receive me to glory. (25) Whom do I have in heaven? There is no one on earth whom I desire besides you. (26) My flesh and my heart fails, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. (27) For, behold, those who are far from you shall perish. You have destroyed all those who are unfaithful to you. (28) But it is good for me to come close to God. I have made the Lord Yahweh my refuge, that I may tell of all your works."

***Psalms 62:1-12*** "My soul rests in God alone. My salvation is from him. (2) He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress— I will never be greatly shaken. (3) How long will you assault a man, would all of you throw him down, Like a leaning wall, like a tottering fence? (4) They fully intend to throw him down from his lofty place. They delight in lies. They bless with their mouth, but they curse inwardly. Selah. (5) My soul, wait in silence for God alone, for my expectation is from him. (6) He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress. I will not be shaken. (7) With God is my salvation and my honor. The rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God. (8) Trust in him at all times, you people. Pour out your heart before him. God is a refuge for us. Selah. (9) Surely men of low degree are just a breath, and men of high degree are a lie. In the balances they will go up. They are together lighter than a breath. (10) Don't trust in oppression. Don't become vain in robbery. If riches increase, don't set your heart on them. (11) God has spoken once; twice I have heard this, that power belongs to God. (12) Also to you, Lord, belongs loving kindness, for you reward every man according to his work."

### ➡ **The Real Prosperity And Riches That Matter**

***1 Corinthians 1:3-9*** "Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ! (4) I always thank my God for you because of the grace of God that was given to you in Christ Jesus. (5) For you were made rich in every way in him, in all your speech and in every kind of knowledge – (6) just as the testimony about Christ has been confirmed among you – (7) so that you do not lack any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. (8) He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. (9) God is faithful, by whom you were called into fellowship with his son, Jesus Christ our Lord."

# Find Comfort In The Grand Plan

## Refocus On The Long-term Goal Of God

We can sometimes feel like, what is the point of all this suffering, pressure, and pain? We need to widen our scope of view and see it as how God sees it. God has created a long term plan from the very foundation of the universe that stretches to that last great day. If we are consumed with our day or year, we can lose sight of the grand design and forget that we are on a journey to perpetual peace, joy, and happiness. So, let's not get hung up on a bump in the road, but focus on the destination.

➡ **Your Salvation, Peace, Joy, And Happiness Has Always Been God's Plan For You.**

*Titus 1:2* "in hope of eternal life, which God, who can't lie, promised before time began;"

➡ **God Has Chosen You Before He Created The Universe.**

*Revelation 17:8* "The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to ascend out of the abyss and go into perdition. And those dwelling on the earth will marvel, those whose names were not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is."

➡ **Jesus Was Ready To Die For You Before Creation Ever Happen.**

*Revelation 13:8* "And all dwelling on the earth will worship it, those whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain, from the foundation of the world."

Knowing who you are, and wanting to be with you forever, God and Jesus created the universe with the goal of your perpetual happiness in mind. At this very point, God and Jesus knew your entire life and all that you would encounter and deal with, all your success and failures. They still, with a mighty outpouring of love, planned for your permanent future wellbeing. Life on this earth is not the destination; it is just a layover for the eternal, celestial kingdom.

➤ **Please keep in mind; they had you on their minds when they did this.....**

*Genesis 1:1-31* "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

**1<sup>st</sup> Day**

(2) Now the earth was without shape and empty, and darkness was over the surface of the watery deep, but the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the water. (3) God said, "Let there be light." And there was light! (4) God saw that the light was good, so God separated the light from the darkness. (5) God called the light "day" and the darkness "night." There was evening, and there was morning, marking the first day.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Day

(6) God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters and let it separate water from water.” (7) So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. It was so. (8) God called the expanse “sky.” There was evening, and there was morning, a second day.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Day

(9) God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place and let dry ground appear.” It was so. (10) God called the dry ground “land” and the gathered waters he called “seas.” God saw that it was good. (11) God said, “Let the land produce vegetation: plants yielding seeds and trees on the land bearing fruit with seed in it, according to their kinds.” It was so. (12) The land produced vegetation – plants yielding seeds according to their kinds, and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. God saw that it was good. (13) There was evening, and there was morning, a third day.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Day

(14) God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be signs to indicate seasons and days and years, (15) and let them serve as lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth.” It was so. (16) God made two great lights – the greater light to rule over the day and the lesser light to rule over the night. He made the stars also. (17) God placed the lights in the expanse of the sky to shine on the earth, (18) to preside over the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw that it was good. (19) There was evening, and there was morning, a fourth day.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Day

(20) God said, “Let the water swarm with swarms of living creatures and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky.” (21) God created the great sea creatures and every living and moving thing with which the water swarmed, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. God saw that it was good. (22) God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth.” (23) There was evening, and there was morning, a fifth day.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Day

(24) God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: cattle, creeping things, and wild animals, each according to its kind.” It was so. (25) God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the cattle according to their kinds, and all the creatures that creep along the ground according to their kinds. God saw that it was good. (26) Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, after our likeness, so they may rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move on the earth.” (27) God created humankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them, male and female he created them. (28) God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and



multiply! Fill the earth and subdue it! Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that moves on the ground.” (29) Then God said, “I now give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the entire earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. (30) And to all the animals of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to all the creatures that move on the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food.” It was so. (31) God saw all that he had made – and it was very good! There was evening, and there was morning, the sixth day.”

### 7<sup>th</sup> Day

**Genesis 2:1-25** “The heavens and the earth were completed with everything that was in them. (2) By the seventh day God finished the work that he had been doing, and he ceased on the seventh day all the work that he had been doing. (3) God blessed the seventh day and made it holy because on it he ceased all the work that he had been doing in creation. (4) This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created – when the LORD God made the earth and heavens.

### Life Abounds

(5) Now no shrub of the field had yet grown on the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to cultivate the ground. (6) Springs would well up from the earth and water the whole surface of the ground. (7) The LORD God formed the man from the soil of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

### The Garden Of Eden (Pleasure)

(8) The LORD God planted an orchard in the east, in Eden; and there he placed the man he had formed. (9) The LORD God made all kinds of trees grow from the soil, every tree that was pleasing to look at and good for food. (Now the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil were in the middle of the orchard.) (10) Now a river flows from Eden to water the orchard, and from there it divides into four headstreams. (11) The name of the first is Pishon; it runs through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. (12) (The gold of that land is pure; pearls and lapis lazuli are also there). (13) The name of the second river is Gihon; it runs through the entire land of Cush. (14) The name of the third river is Tigris; it runs along the east side of Assyria. The fourth river is the Euphrates. (15) The LORD God took the man and placed him in the orchard in Eden to care for it and to maintain it. (16) Then the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat fruit from every tree of the orchard, (17) but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will surely die.”

## Fellowship In Bloom

(18) The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a companion for him who corresponds to him." (19) The LORD God formed out of the ground every living animal of the field and every bird of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them, and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. (20) So the man named all the animals, the birds of the air, and the living creatures of the field, but for Adam no companion who corresponded to him was found. (21) So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep, and while he was asleep, he took part of the man's side and closed up the place with flesh. (22) Then the LORD God made a woman from the part he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. (23) Then the man said, "This one at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one will be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." (24) That is why a man leaves his father and mother and unites with his wife, and they become a new family. (25) The man and his wife were both naked, but they were not ashamed."

**As we know, sin came into the world and created the painful existence we now live in. This life is not the destination of our travels. It can overwhelm us if we think of it as being the destination. Like the believers of old, we must always remember that we are just passing through. This life is but a layover before we reach our final destination.**

### ● We Are Pilgrims.

**Hebrews 11:13-16** "These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them and embraced them from afar, and having confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. (14) For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own. (15) If indeed they had been thinking of that country from which they went out, they would have had enough time to return. (16) But now they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed of them, to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them."

### ● We Will Experience Affliction On This Layover.

**Acts 14:22** "strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that through many afflictions we must enter into God's Kingdom."

### ● But Just Like Jesus, Comfort Your Souls By Looking To What Is To Come.

**Hebrews 12:2** "looking to Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right of the throne of God."

**Roughly 6000 years of pain and suffering will have passed, and then this glorious day of renewal will come upon the chosen people of God and His creation. This is the Joy that was set before Jesus as He walked the earth. This is the Joy set before Jesus and God at the creation of the universe. This is our comfort and promise of the good that is to come our way.**

## All Things Are Made New

**Revelation 21:1-27** “I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth have passed away, and the sea is no more. (2) I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared like a bride adorned for her husband. (3) I heard a loud voice out of heaven saying, “Behold, God’s dwelling is with people, and he will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. (4) **He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; neither will there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain, any more.** The first things have passed away.” (5) He who sits on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” He said, “Write, for these words of God are faithful and true.”

## Free Gifts For The Overcomers

(6) He said to me, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give freely to him who is thirsty from the spring of the water of life. (7) He who overcomes, I will give him these things. I will be his God, and he will be my son. (8) But for the cowardly, unbelieving, sinners, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their part is in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.”

## The Eternal City

(9) One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls, who were loaded with the seven last plagues came, and he spoke with me, saying, “Come here. I will show you the wife, the Lamb’s bride.” (10) He carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, (11) having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, as if it were a jasper stone, clear as crystal; (12) having a great and high wall; having twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels; and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel. (13) On the east were three gates; and on the north three gates; and on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. (14) The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them twelve names of the twelve Apostles of the Lamb. (15) He who spoke with me had for a measure a golden reed to measure the city, its gates, and its walls. (16) The city is square, and its length is as great as its width. He measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand twelve stadia. Its length, width, and height are equal. (17) Its wall is one hundred forty-four cubits, by the measure of a man, that is, of an angel. (18) The construction of its wall was jasper. The city was pure gold, like pure glass. (19) The foundations of the city’s wall were adorned with all kinds of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald; (20) the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoprasus; the eleventh, jacinth; and the twelfth, amethyst. (21) The twelve gates were twelve pearls. Each one of the gates was made of one pearl. The street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

### The Eternal Light Of God

(22) I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God, the Almighty, and the Lamb, are its temple. (23) The city has no need for the sun, neither of the moon, to shine, for the very glory of God illuminated it, and its lamp is the Lamb. (24) The nations will walk in its light. The kings of the earth bring the glory and honor of the nations into it. (25) Its gates will in no way be shut by day (for there will be no night there), (26) and they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it so that they may enter. (27) There will in no way enter into it anything profane, or one who causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life."

### The River OF Eternal Life

*Revelation 22:1-5* "He showed me a river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb, (2) in the middle of its street. On this side of the river and on that was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruits, yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. (3) There will be no curse any more. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will serve him. (4) They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. (5) There will be no night, and they need no lamp light; for the Lord God will illuminate them. They will reign forever and ever."

### Together Forever, Happiness Without End, Amen

*1 Thessalonians 4:16-18* "For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with God's trumpet. The dead in Christ will rise first, (17) then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air. **So we will be with the Lord forever.** (18) **Therefore comfort one another with these words.**"

## Key Tips To Walk In God's Comfort

### ✓ Stay In The Word Of God

*Romans 15:4-5* "For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that through perseverance and through encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. (5) Now the God of perseverance and of encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus,"

✓ Refocus Your Thoughts

*Philippians 4:6-9* “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. (7) **And the peace of God which passes all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.** (8) Finally, my brothers,

- whatever things are true,
- whatever things are honest,
- whatever things are right,
- whatever things are pure,
- whatever things are lovely,
- whatever things are of good report;
- if there is any virtue
- and if there is any praise,

think on these things. (9) Do those things which you have also learned and received and heard and seen in me. And the God of peace shall be with you.”

✓ Decide This Day To Rejoice And Remain In The Joy Of God

*Nehemiah 8:9-12* “Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people, said to all the people, “Today is holy to Yahweh your God. Don’t mourn, nor weep.” For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. (10) Then he said to them, “Go your way. Eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to him for whom nothing is prepared, for today is holy to our Lord. Don’t be grieved, **for the joy of Yahweh is your strength.**” (11) So the Levites calmed all the people, saying, “Hold your peace, for the day is holy. Don’t be grieved.” (12) All the people went their way to eat, to drink, to send portions, and to celebrate, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.”