

28 March 2023

Comfort one another with these words

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**Brethren: One of the greatest comforts to our souls as we walk by faith in the Lord Jesus in this present world will be when we live with the daily hope and expectation of the Lord Jesus' return to gather us unto Himself.**

Just before the Lord Jesus' sufferings and death on the cross, when He was preparing His disciples for His death and departure, John, in his gospel records that when Jesus told His disciples, "I am going away to prepare a place for you" ... They were saddened. But then He COMFORTED THEM, when He told them, I will come back for you. John 14:1-3 The Apostle Paul wrote to the Church at Thessalonica and exhorted them, yeah, commanded them to "comfort one another" by reminding each other that Jesus was coming back for them/us! 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, 5:6-10

The word "comfort" here means to come to one's side to help and strengthen them, and to give them aid; to cheer them on!

As you can see from (Verse 18), this "comforting and strengthening" ministry is given to each of us...to encourage each other, and to "stir up and provoke" good thoughts in us, thoughts of hope and expectation of our Lord's return when He comes back to bring us to our eternal home!

Hebrews 10:24-25: Consider one another is written in the present tense; means we should always be "considering one another"

We ought always to be stirring and provoking and exhorting one another to love Christ, to love each other, and to do good works in such a way that Christ would be glorified. And don't miss this: "And so much the more, OUGHT we to be stirring each other and encouraging one another, "AS YE SEE THE DAY approaching!

What day? That DAY when the Lord Jesus returns! Look at these comforting passages: Hebrews 9:28, Titus 2:11-13

**So first, the return of the Lord Jesus Christ is a comforting truth; every one of us should be "looking for Jesus' return" every day!**

And we ought to be comforting one another with these words! But not only is Jesus' imminent return a comforting truth, it is a sanctifying truth.

I would encourage you to immerse yourself in 2 Peter 3 often...it speaks of those who are ALWAYS LOOKING for Christ! What spiritual effect it should have on them, do in them, in you, and in me!

2 Peter 3:1-18, 1 John 3:1-3, Matthew 24:27: "For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so, shall ALSO the coming of the Son of Man be"!

Closing: We must not be ignorant, nor unwatchful of our blessed hope and glorious appearing of our Lord! Comfort one another WITH THESE WORDS! And then, seeing that He promised to come for us, and to you...what manner of persons ought ye to be, in all holy conversation and godliness!