

TRUST IN THE GOD OF ALL COMFORT

Note to the speaker:

Talk should deal exclusively with *Scriptural* comfort and hope. It should be positive and uplifting. Highlight how putting our trust in Jehovah, the power of his Word, his spirit, and the wonderful, all-embracing provision of the ransom sacrifice brings comfort and encourages us to remain firm in the faith during these troublesome last days

JEHOVAH PROVIDES NEEDED COMFORT FOR THOSE WHO TRUST IN HIM (7 min.)

All humankind needs comfort (Ro 8:22)

The entire human family experiences many troubles throughout life, and imperfection leads to death (Job 14:1, 2; Ps 90:10)

How grateful we should be that Jehovah is the God of comfort!

His written Word gives comfort and hope (Ro 15:4)

He sent Jesus as Comforter, with encouraging message (Lu 4:18, 19)

Jesus assured mourning ones that they would be comforted (Mt 5:4; *it-1* 1033)

All who are loaded down can come to Jesus for relief and refreshment (Mt 11:28-30)

PERMANENT RELIEF TO BE REALIZED SOON (4 min.)

Bible prophecy shows that God will soon bring an end to sickness, sorrow, and death on this planet (Re 21:3, 4)

No one will grow old, lose loved ones, suffer from depression or discouragement, or experience tragedies in life. The earth will be transformed into a paradise, just as God originally purposed (Isa 45:18; 55:11)

Jehovah God will make all things new (Re 21:5)

These things will take place shortly, but until they do, we need to keep strong spiritually by exercising full trust and faith in Jehovah

NOW IS THE TIME TO MANIFEST OUR TRUST IN JEHOVAH (15 min.)

Never has there been a greater need for humans to show that they love Jehovah and trust in him

Through a study of God's Word, we know that we are living in the final part of the last days (2Ti 3:1-5)

The God of all comfort has made adequate provisions to help us cope and endure in these difficult times (2Co 1:3)

Our being comforted depends on our putting trust in Jehovah's promises and availing ourselves of his provisions

Regardless of our circumstances in life, God invites us to put our trust in him and in his arrangement for comfort and salvation through Christ (2Th 2:16, 17)

Faith in the ransom sacrifice is vital

Value of Jesus' shed blood covers our sins if we are repentant (1Jo 2:1, 2)

Helps us to endure now, since it enables us to have a good conscience and a favorable relationship with God (1Jo 4:14-16)

Is the basis for surviving Armageddon and receiving life in God's new world (Re 7:14)

By trusting in Jehovah, we receive comfort through his promises and the prophecies found in the Bible

We are helped to endure by confidently looking forward to the resurrection and other developments that will bring great relief to faithful humans (Ps 37:9-11; Pr 2:21, 22; Ac 24:15)

By earnestly praying to Jehovah, asking for his spirit, we give evidence that we trust in him (Lu 11:9-13)

We are comforted and greatly strengthened by his answers to our prayers for help according to his will (1Jo 3:22; 5:14)

Rather than remove a trial, God may choose to give us power beyond what is normal so that we can endure it (2Co 4:7-10; *w92* 2/1 32)

Whatever God permits, we can continue to cope by trusting in him, knowing that eventually there will be an end to all that is bad and hurtful (Isa 65:17)

The examples of faithful servants past and present give us courage to press on (*w93* 9/15 11-14)

Jehovah's visible organization provides timely reminders through conventions and assemblies, visits of traveling overseers, and spirit-appointed elders (2Pe 3:1, 2)

How comforting and refreshing it is to benefit from these provisions!

IMITATE JEHOVAH BY COMFORTING OTHERS (14 min.)

Appreciating how God comforts us moves us to comfort others, giving them reason for our hope (2Co 1:4; 1Pe 3:15)

When we bring to others the good news of salvation, we also benefit ourselves (Ac 15:3; 1Co 9:23; *w97* 10/15 19; relate brief published experience or statement that shows how sharing truth brought happiness to Kingdom proclaimer)

To comfort those who have lost loved ones in death, explain what God's Word says about cause of death; share hope of resurrection (Joh 5:28, 29; Ro 5:12; 6:23; *w00* 7/15 10-20)

Give comfort to the sick, and speak consolingly to those who are depressed, lonely, and despondent (1Th 5:14; w99 5/15 25-8; w94 9/15 21-4)

Assure them that Jehovah is tender in mercy and that he does not forget their faithful service (Heb 6:10)

Their circumstances or condition can be viewed as a test of their faith and endurance

There is comfort in knowing that Jehovah will not let them be tested beyond what they can bear (1Co 10:13)

Make use of Society's publications, such as tracts, brochures, and specific chapters in *Knowledge* book

Make clear that Jehovah is never the cause of suffering, that he knows we are dust, and that he does not ask more of us than we can give (Ps 103:10-14)

Show how God invites us to throw our burdens on him (Ps 55:22)

Cultivate wholehearted trust in Jehovah, knowing that he can help us through situations or conditions that may be unchangeable this side of Armageddon (w00 1/15 24; read and explain Proverbs 3:5, 6)

As we comfort others, we will also experience joy (Pr 19:17; Ac 20:35)

JEHOVAH COMFORTS THOSE WHO TRUST IN HIM (5 min.)

Jehovah has given abundant evidence of his love for us (Joh 3:16)

His promises will be realized through Christ

Never underestimate the value or the power of the ransom sacrifice

Develop and maintain a close personal relationship with Jehovah by exercising faith in the ransom, by reading his Word, and by persisting in prayer

Imitate Jehovah and his Son by reaching out to comfort others with the Scriptural hope of God's Kingdom

Appreciate that brothers and sisters in all parts of the earth are also coping with problems, trusting in God

We can endure if we really trust in Jehovah (1Pe 5:6-10)

Do not give up; keep eyes fixed on the hope ahead, and rejoice in it (Ac 2:25, 26; 2Co 4:16-18)

Trust in Jehovah with all your heart, and be assured of his loving care

(Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section. Not all cited texts need be read or commented on)