

1. What is your only comfort in life and death?

That I am not my own, but belong - body and soul, in life and in death - to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

1a. Titus 2:14 NIV84

...our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

#1a Other Verses

1 Corinthians 6:19,20

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? *You are not your own*; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

Romans 14:7,8

For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone. If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we *belong* to the Lord.

Isaiah 41:10

‘Do not fear, for I am with you; do not anxiously look about you, for I am *your* God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.’

1b. 1 Peter 1:18,19

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed...but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

1b Other verses

John 19:30 ...Jesus said, "It is finished."

1 Peter 2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

1 John 3:8b The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

Hebrews 2:14,15 Since the children share in flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death - that is, the devil - and free all those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

Mark 10:45 1 John 1:7 2 Timothy 2:25,26 Colossians 2:15

1c. Isaiah 46:4

Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.

1c. Other Verses

Matthew 10:30,31 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

Luke 21:16,18 ...some of you they will put to death...But not a hair of your head will perish.

Romans 8:35,37-39

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?...No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1d. II Corinthians 1:21,22

Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

1d. Other Verses

1 John 5:13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Romans 8:16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

Ephesians 1:13,14 And you also were included in Christ, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession – to the praise of his glory.

MEETING GOD

Great God, in public and private, in sanctuary and home, may my life be steeped in prayer, filled with the spirit of grace and supplication, each prayer perfumed with the incense of atoning blood. Help me, defend me, until from praying ground I pass to the realm of unceasing praise. Urged by my need, invited by Thy promises, called by Thy Spirit, I enter Thy presence, worshiping Thee with godly fear, awed by Thy majesty, greatness, glory, but encouraged by Thy love.

I am all poverty as well as all guilt, having nothing of my own with which to repay Thee, **but I bring Jesus to Thee in the arms of faith**, pleading His righteousness to offset my iniquities, rejoicing that He will weigh down the scales for me, and satisfy Thy justice. I bless Thee that great sin draws out great grace, that, although the least sin deserves infinite punishment because done against an infinite God, yet there is mercy for me, for where guilt is most terrible, there Thy mercy in Christ is most free and deep. Bless me by revealing to me more of His saving merits, by causing Thy goodness to pass before me, by speaking peace to my contrite heart; Strengthen me to give Thee no rest until Christ shall reign supreme within me, in every thought, word, and deed, in a faith that purifies the heart, overcomes the world, works by love, fastens me to Thee, and ever clings to the cross.

from The Valley of Vision

Remember your place. Your life no longer belongs to you. Your story is no longer just your story. You have been welcomed to the kingdom of Another, and your life is part of the plan and purposes of that kingdom. Don't allow yourself to begin to think that you are in the center of your universe. Remember, you have been chosen to live for the glory of Another, and when you do, you will reach levels of personal contentment and joy that aren't possible any other way. Paul Tripp

Loved with everlasting love,
led by grace that love to know;
Gracious Spirit from above,
Thou hast taught me it is so!
O this full and perfect peace!
O this transport all divine!
In a love which cannot cease,
I am His, and He is mine.(2x)

Heav'n above is softer blue,
Earth around is sweeter green!
Something lives in every hue
Christless eyes have never seen;
Birds with gladder songs o'erflow, flowers
with deeper beauties shine,
Since I know, as now I know,
I am His, and He is mine.(2x)

Mini M&M: Comfort in Life and Death

Things that once were wild alarms cannot
now disturb my rest;
Closed in everlasting arms,
pillowed on the loving breast.
O to lie forever here,
doubt and care and self resign,
While He whispers in my ear,
I am His, and He is mine.(2x)

His forever, only His;
Who the Lord and me shall part?
Ah, with what a rest of bliss
Christ can fill the loving heart!
Heav'n and earth may fade and flee,
firstborn light in gloom decline;
But while God and I shall be,
I am His, and He is mine.(2x)