

Need lots help - Mixed up Age - City Bank Binghamton N.Y sent flowers recently
to Binghamton Savings Bank congratulation upon open new facilities - But unfortunately the card
accompanying flowers read "Dearest sympathy"
later, the florist who made the mistake called the Bank to apologize. What really had the
florist worried - The other
Bouquet intended for a funeral
& carrying the message intended for the
Bank - "Congratulations on your
new location"

"WHERE TO FIND A CURE FOR A TROUBLED HEART"

S. N. P. M. June 5, 77 WXPCT -

John 14:1

Bouquet intended for a funeral
& carrying the message intended for the
Bank - "Congratulations on your
new location"

If you ask me this evening to name the most comforting passage in the
Bible, it would be very interesting to know what my answer would be, and of
course - what would yours be. Where can you find a cure for a troubled heart.

Perhaps a multitude of you tonight would say, preacher, I would pick
(Psalm 23) The pet lamb of the flock, the one that talks about the great
shepherd, where he comes and leads his people by the still waters, and meets
their needs. To me that is the most comforting passage in the Bible, you would
say.

Someone else might mention (Rom. 8:28) and say I believe this has helped me
- we know that all things work together for good to them that love God. For
them that are called according to his purpose. But probably, that text would
not be the answer for somebody else.

There are many (Psalms)⁹⁰ that would come to mind that very quickly we would
covet. Or perhaps some blessed chapter, depicting the (beauty of Heaven.)

But I have chosen to focus our attention upon (John 14.) This perhaps is most
comforting, perhaps the most comforting to be found in the Bible. I am sure
some of you know this by memory. Some of you have heard this read hundreds of
times. Listen to some of the opening sentences in this chapter. "Let not your
heart be troubled. Ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house
are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare

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a place for you and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself. That where I am, there ye may be also. And whether I go ye know, and the way ye know, and Thomas said unto him Lord - we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? And Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

What comfort! And he goes on to talk about the comforter - the Holy Spirit going to be sent. And in V. 27 "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

These verses probably are the best comfort and cure for all troubled hearts.

Think tonight about the deepest sorrows and troubles in the world that come in this world in which we live.

(Tragedy upon tragedy.) Here in our beloved city, on Wednesday - an awful thing took place in which a husband took the life of his wife with a gun. This was a horrifying thing. And quite distressing. And how do people understand it.

Near Edin City (Baltimore) 2 young people just graduated school did car wreck -

robably our (deepest troubles) that we have in the world are brought to us by separation from our loved ones. Jesus had just said to a group of men, in a little while I am going away. And presently we are going to be separated. I am going to die.

Now (when) that announcement was made, they felt that it was a mistake. He has said he is just going away. But he is going to die. Now that certainly horrified them of the thought. That they were going to be separated.

In just a few days, they were going to be separated.

I read about a great man of God who was called to conduct the funeral of a faithful mother. And the grief of her children was so terrible, that he never could forget it. The oldest daughter, did her best to quiet and comfort the several younger children with no success. And presently, she tried a new experience. She went up and down the line of children. All of them were bewildered and heart broken, and she said - stop your crying, children. "Maybe it all a dream. Maybe we are all at home. Maybe we are in our beds asleep. And we'll wake up in the morning and find it to be just a bad dream and mother will be with us. And for a moment, she quieted them down.

Think about the deep stirrings in the heart when loved ones go away. Jesus had just spoke some words that hit the hearts of these twelve men when he told them - I am going. And then he proceeds to comfort them to the point that he would show them the way, the light, and the life - and then he spoke to them John 14. And it opens with the wonderful words . . . (let not your heart be troubled.)

Jesus then goes on and points out the cure for a heart that is troubled.

How may a troubled heart be healed. There is an old answer or question - it is as old as a human heart. How may a troubled heart be cured. It is the question of all humanity. How can we find an answer. Of all the-ages, of all conditions, how may a troubled heart be healed.

A newscaster asked a young woman how she felt about death. She said my cousin died yesterday of cancer. The doctors tried so hard to save this life. And they try to save so many lives.

A hospital chaplain said, I encounter a great many bereaved people. They have sadness in their heart. And he said, I am never really calm inside, as I would try to be outside. As I come to those that are red eyed. And waiting in a waiting room. Confronting the reality of a loved person dying - we move on into grief. And grieving needs to be shared. Yet, this is difficult for people to share their grief sometimes. They feel a bit embarrassed. About putting it off on others. And maybe this is the first time we shed any tears in a decade. And here is a (lonesome road) because grief and a troubled heart is hard to bear.

Jesus knows our sadness, hunger, and thirst. And the scorching heat that goes on within a human being. He knows that we will grieve for those that have died before us. *Jaymes - Sister Broken Hearts*

Even a church with its commitment to Jesus, grieves when a member of the flock - even though we have the promise of ever lasting life. We weep, our eyes are filled with tears.

Robert W. Bailey said that grief is normal and inevitable. One need not to feel any grief or lack of faith because one acknowledges the pain of grief, for a broken heart. We can help each other not to rush, ignore, or delay our broken hearts. We need to break and work through them. We need comfort for those that mourn. And we are comforted only after we mourn - until mourning is done. Then healing cannot take place.

Quite often the broken hearts road is a long lonesome road. It may even have bearing upon our health.

We learn in the book of Genesis that we were created, and we are to fill the earth, and subdue it. And we belong to a group that has great blessings to it.

But the neighbor whom we must learn to love, as we love ourselves. One thing sure (all humans do grieve and suffer.)

When death comes, then usually the first time we hear it - we are shocked and numbed over the event. And literally we are speechless. Sometimes we are tearless. We are so upset.

A. B. Cooper said that one autumn day he went out to a flower show and observed some wonderful blooms. He inquired of the gardener - how in the world do you manage to produce such marvelous flowers. Well sir, we concentrate all the strength of the plant in (one or two blooms). If we were to allow it to bear all the flowers that it could, none would be worth showing. If you want a prize specimen, you must be content with a single chrysanthemum. Instead of a score. For the same reason, God sends trials to prune from our lives the useless blooms of self and popularity. And to comfort us so that he might perfect us into one beautiful blossom of holiness.

So we accept our troubles graciously and grow rich - even by the losses. And we rise above these falls. And we find new life.

Afraid of troubles - no, but we should think. What is God teaching. Not despairing. Never desponded. Nor lightly treat the rod. But fully trust the purposes of God.

Often when God brings pressure into our lives, his purpose is to give us more power.

Incidentally, people often assume, if they had known for some time that another

person would soon die, that the shock will be less. It may be less - but often there is no difference. Because we who are left behind have pain. And most often there is crying. And Jesus' friends wept. And mourned.

It does not do us good to have hostility towards God. That my friends is a promise. If this is inevitable - let us come immediately to try and search out some answers. For the heart break, and the troubled hearts.

I. SHALL WE LOOK TO THE REMEDIES OF (THE WORLD) TO BRING US COMFORT

All around, and all along - there are various answers that people would give us to this question. There is the answer of despair. When trouble came upon Job, wave after wave - all of this was sweeping upon him. We discover first of all, his property was taken away from him. Secondly, he lost his children. And then later on in his experience, he lost his health. Later on, he lost his friends--who went against him. And finally even his wife. She said to her husband Job, trust God and die.

That is the answer of despair. That's not the cure for a broken heart.

Now the poor suicide takes that course.

Different causes make for despair in the human heart. Sometimes there are business reverses. Things do not go right. And a man's spirit is broken. And down he goes and he cannot recover himself anymore. And of course, hopelessness grips his soul. And on occasion, his confidence is shattered. How terrible it is for a man to be in that position.

(Sometimes) we find people that are broken-hearted with ill health. What weakness, men are. And what poor spirits we have when our bodies are in the grip of some disease. What allowances we ought to make for those that are sick. We ought to have pity and patience, and forbearance. For those that suffer pain.

1- (First, despair is not our remedy. But many times people answer this and follow a course of sin. Quite often we find in homes, that mothers and fathers will follow things of despair. And the human heart is filled with sin.

2- The doctrine, (secondly, of the stoic will not remedy. It will only harden the hearts. Those who say to the heart - you have to be steel against feeling. Put your tears away, dry up your crying, and deaden your feelings. Make your heart like a rock.

Be indifferent toward trouble. And be like a rigid stone. And that will be the cure for your heart.

You remember the atheist in the stories of some of those men who were hard hearted against life.

Remember the stories of scientists like Darwin and Huxley. You find the confession in the end of their lives that both of them were notable men of sorrow. And they had steel at their hearts against that which was tender, against that which was gentle. They would not have a warm heart. They would not shed a tear. And they had built upon their hearts that hardness.

Third, the world of pleasure, cannot cure the broken heart. In the Bible we find the Epicureanis - the people who said forget your troubles. Plunge into the realm of pleasure. Go the depth of it. Forget all your troubles. Leap out into the deepest depths of pleasure. And go as far as you please.

Drown it. In all the realm of pleasure. And that will cure the broken heart.

I read an illustration of a woman once, a young woman, who had an unusual sorrowful case. Her husband had been assassinated and all unexpectedly and in a wicked way. She carried that trouble and broken heart. She was a woman of culture, a noble family, and cherished by people in her city. But she walked in darkness because of this broken heart. And could not find an answer for it. And then there were people who came, some of them were friends, when this awful tragedy fell. And they said, let's go away to Florida in the mid winter time. We will take you down there to one of the beautiful hotels. In the midst of orange groves. We'll take you where there is music that will be heard. And where there is gay and beautiful echoes in your ears of pleasures, and you will forget all of this sorrow, in a little while. Come with us and you will soon forget it. That poor, bruised, broken hearted woman went. But she came back a few months later bringing the same broken heart. You cannot find a remedy for a broken heart in that way.

Fourth, you cannot follow the world and ignore and deny that there are broken hearts. There is a proposition out in the world that says denial of it, that it even exists. Why you can deny that you are even sick. There is a religious faith that teaches people to believe such. That this is a fundamental false philosophy that is spreading through the land today. About the broken heart, by just denying that it is there. That what is wrong, is something that is wrong with the flesh, and it is really not there. So we deny this. But you cannot find the remedy simply

by saying that there is no trouble. The facts are here. All about us, is the solemn fact of sin, suffering, the fact of death. The fact of tears. The fact that tragedy comes and sleepless nights. Bewildered, confusion. Again and again, we are beaten down into the dust. There comes disappointment - and just saying that this is not so, is denying the facts.

II. WHAT DOES CHRIST HAVE TO OFFER TO A TROUBLED OR BROKEN HEART.

Where can we get our troubles taken care of. There is just one place - there is just one way. And I think there is just one source. And we started off in this message with the glorious 14th chapter of John. Let not your heart be troubled - you believe in God, believe also in me. Jesus states the remedy for the troubled heart. Jesus, himself, is the physician for a broken heart.

There is no other anchor that we can fasten too. Or recover peace. If you reject Jesus and put his council aside.

He said, I am the way - the truth and the life. No man cometh unto the father but by me. Put your case in my hands, said Jesus. Come with your sorrow. Come with you vexation. Come with your disappointments. Your reverses. Your burden of grief. Come with your tremendous pain. Come he says, and I will not fail you. I will re-enforce you and I will comfort you.

Do you have a troubled heart tonight. Is there in your life one experience, and another, and another - every thought that brings despair to your heart.

Have you a broken heart, no matter what the occasion. There is one good source to get it healed. Because he is the mediator between God and us. He is the one who came down and took his place in the cradle and the crib. And without hesitation

and without reserve, I would submit him to you.

Now all who are listening tonight, I would say to you - stake all that you have upon Jesus Christ. (Living and dying), and in God, vast beyond forever - God helping us. I would not take any other choice.

Now why do I bring this Scripture text to you. And why would I say that this is a great place of comfort for the broken heart. Why should we come to God by Jesus Christ. Why should we look to him as a physician. And why should we turn everything over to him.

First, Jesus is (worth our trust). He is entirely (worthy) of the claim that he offers. Absolute peace and comfort. Tonight if I asked you, (can) you find any fault in anything that Jesus ever did. Are there any words that ever fell from his lips - words of condemnation. Any sayings, or any work that he ever did that was not right.

Did he do anything when he was here in the flesh, way back in those centuries past, that today would be classified as bad, or condemned. Is there anything that you would be able to complain or condemn him for. Jesus' character - is there anything that you could condemn him for. His claim to be the son of God certainly was truth.

Therefore, I would point you to him if you have a broken heart tonight. He is one that you can trust, with your troubles.

Second, he is the only light for this dark world.

I know of no other light to point you too - if you go away from Jesus, and you set him aside. And you do not follow his council. Then you will go on bewildered and broken in this world.

Think about the sun in the Heavens - what it means to this world. And its mid day brightness - it lights up the world of darkness everywhere.

Jesus is that and more when he comes to our lives. When he says I am the light of the world. He is the light of the world. Will you take the world's big questions and answer them, you are utterly bewildered in the darkness.

You take away the three big questions that trouble men.

There is the question of sin - how do you answer that.

The question of sorrow - how do you answer that.

There is the question of death - if you take Jesus Christ away and disregard all he has done, then how are you going to handle these. He is the only sure light. He is the true light that came into the world. He is the one you can trust. He is the sure light.

Third, he has the answer to sin. What will you do about sin. If you disregard

Jesus, then what will you do about sin. Oh, my friend, one tragedy in all this world this hour is the tragedy of sin. The terrible yoke that is on humanity everywhere is the yoke of sin. The most terrible thing on this Sunday night is the fact of sin.

Now what will you do and what will I do with this fact of sin. If Jesus is taken away. No man within himself has the resources to put together broken hearts that have been broken by sin. He is the one that makes life worth living. He makes life in such a way that you can die as you ought to die. And he gives you the personal answers that you need for the moral life.

Jesus came to say that I did not come to call righteous - but sinners to repentance. And if you will commit yourself to me, I will make you a new man.

Jesus came and can save us from sin.

A long time ago there was a great service in progress. And a man in a large American city. And a man brought an ex-registrar of one of America's largest universities. He had gone the depths of poverty, failure, and shame because of drink. How everybody pitied him. His earth yearned to be saved. It was not a time to throw stones at him - they wanted to win him to Christ. That is really no way to win anybody to Jesus. To push them down. But to have patience. And try to win him with love.

So they brought this man to the service, and when the service was over - they waited in a little room to introduce him to the preacher who had been speaking. And he had gone under the power of drink. And here were the traces of a strong man. And he sat there and he said, "I seem to be done for, I seem to have lost the battle. I seem to be unable to get my life out of this dominate passion of drink.

Now you think about that man - he was the son of one of the chief justices of the highest courts in America. He had superb opportunities and quite an honorable record of his own. But now he had fallen to the depths.

The preacher told him a story of Henry Drummond, who tells, who won the same sort of man from the depths of sin to the heights of Jesus Christ. Drummond was resting in a quiet home in the hills of Scotland. After an extended meeting that he had been holding in one of the Scotch universities. He had been there some three or four days in the quiet of that home in the hills. He said to his host and hostess, I must go and get the next train to my next engagement. They said, we are not going to the station with you. It is a journey of three or four miles from the house. We are going to let you go along with our driver. Drink has brought our driver down to the depths. He is an unusual scholar. He told Mr. Drummond, he is a rare gentleman. They told him that we are going to leave him with you. He is in the clutches of helplessness because of drink. So he tells us, he is in the grip of despair about himself. So he will allow you - maybe you can help him. And we'll leave him up to you.

Drummond climbed out of the carriage and got up on the seat with the driver. Just like he should have done, and then in his own innocent, gentle, gracious way - he made his way to this fellow's conscience and heart.

Presently that driver, was confessing his weakness and his failure. He was living in sin, downfall, and defeat. And when Drummond had heard it, all Drummond said to him was this.

What if I could drive beside you - and was the finest horseman that ever drove a team of horses. What if I could control the wildest span of horses, that ever pulled a carriage. No matter how strong. What if these horses driven by you now, were such a span, and they rushed around this mountain road and you couldn't restrain

them. You could not control them. You were helpless. And I said to you - man, give me the reigns and I will control them. What would you do

The man saw the point in one moment and he turned to his new found friend, and he said, oh Mr. Drummond, is that what Jesus Christ supposes to do for a defeated man who is down. Does he just wish me to give him the reigns of my life.

That is it - said Drummond. Let Christ have the reigns. Though your sins be as scarlet, he will make them as white as snow. Though your heart and its weakness be poured out like water. He will fortify you with a power which is above men. And you will go your way, clad with a strength which is super human. From that hour, that defeated fellow walked in the conscious strength of his Saviour. A little later, was at the head of one of the chief places of trust and usefulness in all of Scotland's borders. Christ was there - and was his deliverer from sin.

Does not the Scriptures say, thou shall call his name Jesus. He shall save his people from their sins.

Fourth, Jesus is the answer to your sorrow. If you are without Jesus, you are left helpless in the presence of sorrow. You can hear the under tones of sorrow everywhere. You can see and feel it on every hand.

One day a young carpenter had worked and when they had put away their tools

they said he had just lived a little while. And they had recently brought to completion a lovely little house. And prospects of some rosey morning gleaming before them because they were well and industrious. And their hearts were filled with love and hope. In one brief night, she got sick and died. He said, as they turned away from that fresh grave. "I had just got ready to live and all of this has come."

But ^{was} the man of God to say to him. What would you have said to him. What could I have said to him. Here he was in a position in the morning. And there he was with a shadow of death upon him. There is one who can take life's tears and change them to sweet music.

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I read a story of Dr. Truett once, he was in a big hospital, where a dear mother died. And he was with the husband. And there were several children. The grief was heart breaking. And he said, the little one 12 years old - mothered all the rest. And went to her broken-hearted father and said to him, Papa, Papa, we must do better than this. "I love you and I love Jesus and I'll help you to take care of these children". And the family was taken home and the next morning they got ready for the funeral. The little 12 year old girl, the most motherly child for her years, took care of 5 little ones through it all. He said they went to the funeral service, and they went out to the grave. And he said he felt somebody pulling at his coat. And there was this little 12 year old girl, and she said with an agony that would break your heart - Oh, Mr. Truett, if Jesus loved us - how could he have allowed this". "What could I say, he said. I said, little friend, I cannot explain it. But let me tell you my child, some day when you get to the father's house above, you shall sit down by Jesus and he will explain it all to you. And when he explains it, you will know it was all for the best. What I do, thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter.

You (take Jesus away) and you remove him and you are hopeless to find comfort and to be comforted in the day of broken hearts. Broken by sorrow or broken by sin.

Fifth, Jesus has the answer to (death). Christ is the sure victory - there is one mystery that baffles us and that troubles our hearts. What shall we do - you and I when we walk down through the valley of death. If you take Jesus Christ away - what is there.

Caesar stood up in the Roman Senate and said, if there be anything beyond death. I do not know. If there be anything beyond the grave, I cannot tell. But Jesus went down into the grave and explored every chamber. And on the third day, he came back, from the grave with the keys of death. And he says to you and to me - you turn to me and you need not be afraid of death. And what death can do with you.

Yes, it is like the man who was a believer in Christ and bid his little six year old chubby girl goodbye. Who had curls. And said goodbye, goodbye little tot, forever. And then in a moment, the frail little mother came in and kissed her forehead and stroked her little face, again and again, and blessed God for that little child.¹¹ Life was richer for her and sweeter for her because of that child. But she was grateful when she declared goodbye for just a little while.¹¹ Mother will see you right soon and be with you beyond the sunset and the night.¹¹ Now she could say to all of us tonight, that Christ has the answer to the broken heart. And if we will follow him - let us follow him.

As the poet says -

So I go on not knowing

I would not know if I might

I would rather walk with Christ in the dark

Than to walk alone in the light.

I would rather walk with him by faith,

Than to walk by myself with sight.

I wonder this hour, if you have found the remedy for your broken heart.

In the midst of this sea of life - in the valleys of the shadows. Christ has the answer. Let not your heart be troubled. You believe in God, believe also in me.

2 Cor 1:3