

(I) DISCOVERING MORE COMFORT THROUGH “RESTORATION”

*“I have seen his ways...and restore comforts to him...” **Isaiah 57:18***

1. God knows our ways

*“For the iniquity of his covetousness I was angry and struck him; I hid and was angry, and he went on backsliding in the way of his heart.” **Isaiah 57:17***

- a) He knows how rebellious we are.
- b) Common ways for God to deal with sin
 - i) Disciplining
 - ii) Cleansing
- c) Restoration as a deeper way to deal with sin and to gain more comfort.

2. Restoration as a concept of extension

*“For I will not contend forever, nor will I always be angry; for the spirit would fail before Me, and the souls which I have made.” **Isaiah 57:16***

- a) As an extension of God’s mercy
- b) As an extension of God’s grace
- c) As an extension of God’s love.

3. Aspects of God’s restoration

- a) God’s healing

*“...and will heal him...” **Isaiah 57:18***

- b) God’s leading

*“...I will also lead him...” **Isaiah 57:18***

- c) God’s peace

*" 'I create the fruit of the lips: Peace, peace to him who is far off and to him who is near,' says the LORD, 'and I will heal him.' " **Isaiah 57:19***

(II) FINDING EVEN MORE COMFORT THROUGH FULLNESS

1. Perfecting work that needs to be done

*"Night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and **perfect** what is lacking in your faith?" **1 Thessalonians 3:10***

2. Our aim - Spiritual Fullness

*"Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, **to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ**" **Ephesians 4:13***

3. The challenge to be fully restored and have more comfort

*"Finally, brethren, farewell. Become complete. Be of good comfort..." **2 Corinthians 13:11***

(III) NECESSARY APPROPRIATE RESPONSES

*"For thus says the High and Lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: 'I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.' " **Isaiah 57:15***

1. Contriteness of heart

2. Humility of spirit