

MORNING WORSHIP

22 April 2007

Title: THE COMFORT PROMISED TO ALL WHO MOURN

Text: Isaiah 61:1-3

(I) PROBLEM OF MOURNING

(Reference to mourning)

1. Days of mourning (Isaiah 60:20)

2. All who mourn (Isaiah 61:2, 3)

3. Significance of these references

- a) A country that faced utter ruin
- b) No suitable comfort found
- c) Morning seemed perpetual

(II) PROMISE OF COMFORT

1. Ending of days of mourning

"...the days of your mourning shall be ended." **Isaiah 60:20c**

2. Era of the Messiah Jesus

*"The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me,
Because the LORD has anointed Me
To preach good tidings to the poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives,
And the opening of the prison to those who are bound;
To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD,
And the day of vengeance of our God;
To comfort all who mourn,
To console those who mourn in Zion..."* **Isaiah 61:1-3**

Special Ministry of Comfort to the following:-

- a) The poor
- b) The broken-hearted
- c) The captives

d) The imprisoned

e) The mourning

(III) PERSONAL RESPONSE - EXEMPLIFIED BY ISAIAH

1. Rejoicing in God

*"I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
My soul shall be joyful in my God..." **Isaiah 61:10a***

2. Rejoicing in the salvation of God

*"...He has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
He has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
As a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments,
And as a bride adorns herself with jewels." **Isaiah 61:10b***