The Comfort the Father Gives His Children

I. Introduction

A. The Holy Spirit through Paul refers to the Father as the "God of all comfort." Consider some things Scripture teaches connected to this theme. **2 Corinthians 1:3-5**; **Psalm 46:1**

II. God's Strength

A. Appreciating (and fully receiving) the comfort God gives requires us to appreciate who *He* is. For instance, the faithful child of God is comforted by the power and might of our Father. **Joshua 1:9**; **Ephesians 6:10**; **Psalm 23:1-4**

III. God's Awareness

A. God's all-seeing nature is also greatly comforting to His faithful children. Whatever trial the Christian faces, *God knows*. **Proverbs 15:3**; **Revelation 2:9, 3:8**

IV. God's Understanding

A. Not only is God fully aware of all we face, but He also perfectly understands what is best for us. **Isaiah 55:8-9**

V. God's Care

A. It is further comforting to know that our mighty, ever-aware, and wise Shepherd *cares* for us greatly. **1 Peter 5:7**; **3:12**

VI. God's Constancy

- A. This Shepherd has promised to never leave us nor forsake us. He can be counted on to be *always* mighty, aware, understanding, and caring. **Hebrews 13:5-6**
- B. This dependability is tied to the fact that God's character is unshakeable. We can lean on His "everlasting arms," trusting Him as our steady Rock. **Deuteronomy 33:27**; **Psalm 90:2**

VII. The Guidance God Gives

A. Appreciating (and fully receiving) the comfort God gives always requires us to pursue what He offers. For instance, His Word is a source of comfort and edification that we must *enable* to build us up. **Acts 20:32**; **Philippians 4:8**

VIII. The Provisions God Gives

A. The guidance God gives through His Word demonstrates His perfect wisdom in providing comfort to His children. For instance, God in His wisdom has designed His church in a way that allows Christians to gain comfort from one another. 1 Thessalonians 4:18; 2 Corinthians 1:4

IX. The Access God Gives

A. The help Christians give one another is based on the choice Christians make to pursue fellowship with God. The access to God we have through Christ is comforting in itself, as is the specific opportunity we have to access God through prayer. Romans 5:11; Philippians 4:6

X. The Peace God Gives

A. The result of God's children petitioning Him when facing trials is an opportunity to receive peace that surpasses all understanding. **Philippians 4:7**; **John 14:27**; **16:33**

XI. The Joy God Gives

A. Besides this peace, God's children are also able to have unspeakable joy. **John 16:22**; **Philippians 4:4**

XII. The Anchor God Gives

A. God's faithful children also have a hope that anchors the soul. The obedient can look forward to eternity in God's direct presence. **Hebrews 6:19**; **1 Thessalonians 4:14-18**