

Jesus Christ is the believers Refuge and Strong Consolation.

**Hebrews 6:17-20** “Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath: (18) That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: (19) Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; (19) Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.”

We want to look Jesus Christ is our refuge. The word “refuge” means -to flee- and it is also means -we flee to a place or man for safety. Since Jesus Christ is our place of safety that we fled too, He is our “strong consolation”. V.18. The words “strong consolation” means that Christ is our Powerful Fortress or Powerful Solace or Let’s think of this word as a place of comfort in a time of distress or sadness. But the Lord said, “*by two immutable things*” V. 18 The other is “it was impossible for God to lie”. God is Truth, and that Truth is His Holiness, our strongest faith is standing firm in our biblical walk. We cannot trust Him in our salvation, but in every detail of our life. This is our “strong consolation”, this is our comfort zone, and this is our safe place in times of sadness and distress. Paul wrote in **Titus 1:2 - 3** “*In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; (3) But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour;*” He, whether He is God the Father, or God the Son, or God the Holy Spirit, He must be our “strong consolation” in our everyday life. Everything we have or need is in the Man Jesus Christ. **Ephesians 1:21 - 23** “*Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: (22) And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, (23) Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.*” It is He, and only He who is our all and in all, **Ephesians 3:17 - 21** “*That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, (18) May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; (19) And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. (20) Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in*

*us, (21) Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.”*

A. Jesus Christ is our “strong consolation”.

1. He was dead and rose from the grave, He was seen by over 500 people, He ascended and sits on God’s right hand, alive and strong.
2. We must understand that the consolation of every believer is not our own strength or power, just as our salvation was not our own.
3. Listen closely to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm, *“The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.”* – This is our strong consolation!

B. The fact that He is our Strong Consolation means He is our Refuge.

1. A refuge is a safe place in times of trouble, Jesus Christ is our safe place. This is why we can have a strong consolation.
2. We find spiritual strength in Jesus Christ, if we do not then we are not properly trusting Him.
3. In every trial, trouble, persecution, and even in death He is our Refuge or safe place. *“Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast”* V. 19

C. Why do only a few come to Him?

1. It is God’s Sovereignty. God does everything by His Sovereign will, all of our blessings are a gift from God.
2. People are not saved because God has not saved them, people are not church members because God has not put them in the church, people do not understand the scriptures because God has not taught them. **John 14:26** *“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”*

3. **Romans 11:7 - 8** “What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded (8) (According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day.”
4. We must all realize what Paul was talking about with these words, “*But by the grace of God I am what I am*” 1 Cor. 15:10 God hath made me everything I am, therefore the faith that I have in Jesus Christ was given to me.

D. We must all come to Jesus as our Refuge with a Strong Consolation.

1. Jesus told us in **Matthew 11:27 - 28** “All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him. (28) Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”
2. The reason so many do not come is because they lack sufficient faith, and our faith is a gift.
3. How strong is your faith, how strong is your Consolation, is Jesus truly your Refuge? Come to Jesus and He will give you everything you need.