

**COMFORT & JOY
FOR A CARING HEART**

2 Corinthians 7:2-16

Prayer of Invocation

God our Father, who did send forth your Son to be King of kings and Prince of Peace:

Grant that all the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of Christ and learn of him the way of peace.

Send forth among all people the spirit of good will and reconciliation. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

For God who comforted the *downcast*,
comforted us by the coming of Titus.

2 Corinthians 7:6

For when we came into Macedonia,
this body of ours had no rest, but we
were harassed at every turn – conflicts
on the outside, fears within.

2 Corinthians 7:5

But God, who comforts the downcast,
comforted us by the coming of Titus,
and not only by his coming but also by
the comfort you had given him.

2 Corinthians 7:6-7

Shout for joy, O heavens; rejoice, O earth; burst into song, O mountains! For **the LORD comforts his people** and will have compassion on his afflicted ones.

Isaiah 49:13

But God, who comforts the downcast,
comforted us by the comfort you
had given him.

2 Corinthians 7:6-7

REPENTANCE
brings
COMFORT & JOY

Even if I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it. Though I did regret it – I see that my letter hurt you, but only for a little while – yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us. **Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.**

2 Corinthians 7:8-10

WORLDLY SORROW

Brings

DEATH

There is, in the world, a great deal of sorrow on account of sin which is certainly not repentance and never leads to it. **Some transgressors are sorry for sin for a time—they are convicted of guilt with a transitory conviction which soon passes away.** Many are sorry for sin because of its temporal consequences—and many more because of its eternal consequences. They are afraid of Hell. If there were no Hell, they would like to continue to live in sin. . . . They are as fond of sin as ever they were, but they sorrow because they see that it is bringing them down to the gulf of Perdition (Hell). **Now, that kind of sorrow is not repentance!**

A moth may burn its wings in the candle and then, full of pain, fly back to the flame. There is no repentance in the moth, though there is pain—and so, there is no repentance in some men, though there is in them a measure of sorrow on account of their sin. **Do not, therefore, make a mistake in this matter, and think that sorrow for sin is, or even necessarily leads to, repentance.**

Charles Spurgeon on Worldly Sorrow