

As we look forward to the future and its challenges, we may be troubled, feel anxious care, experience ultimate concern over what we perceive to be the basic needs of life; or over the questions of the purpose, meaning, and significance of life; or over the uncertainty, contingency, and finiteness of life; or over the question of what death is, and what lies beyond it. On the basis of what Christ has done for us, and on the authority of what God has said to us, we can say confidently that God stands ready to meet our needs; to fill our lives with purpose, meaning, and lasting significance; to assure us that He is in control of the uncertainties, contingencies, and even the length of our lives; and to comfort us with the thought that He Himself will receive us to Himself at death and take us to live with Him forever in glorious freedom and joy.

Let us then take God's assurances to our hearts and believe them, cherish them, and act upon them. Let us put our anxious cares about the future into God's hands, and let Him take care of them. Then we will know by experience the truth of the psalmist's words:

"When anxiety was great within me,
your consolation brought joy to my soul."