

Psalms 119:50

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me.

Analysis

"This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me." The Hebrew *zot nechamati b'oniy* declares "this is my comfort in my affliction." *Nechamah* (comfort/consolation) implies not just sympathy but strengthening, encouragement that enables endurance. *Oni* (affliction/humiliation) describes suffering, poverty, oppression. The source of comfort: "thy word hath quickened me." *Imratekha chiyatni* means "your promise/word has preserved me alive, revived me, given me life." God's Word sustains life during suffering. Romans 15:4 affirms: "whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope." Scripture comforts not by denying suffering but by providing divine perspective, promises, and presence that enable perseverance.

Historical Context

Psalms 119's affliction references suggest persecution for covenant faithfulness—perhaps Babylonian exile, post-exilic opposition, or personal suffering for righteousness. Throughout Israel's history, God's people endured oppression—Egyptian slavery, Philistine aggression, Assyrian/Babylonian conquest, Persian subjugation, Seleucid persecution. In each crisis, Scripture preserved faith. Daniel in Babylon studied Jeremiah's prophecies for hope (Daniel 9:2). The Maccabees faced death rather than abandon Torah (1-2 Maccabees). Early Christians similarly found comfort in Scripture during persecution (Hebrews 10:32-39).

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How has God's Word specifically comforted and sustained you during times of suffering?
2. What is the difference between comfort that merely soothes and comfort that "quickens" (enlivens for endurance)?
3. Which biblical promises or passages have most powerfully strengthened you in affliction?

Interlinear Text

זֶה	נְחֻמָּתִי	בְּעָנִי	כִּי	אֶמְדֶּנֶךָ	תְּחַיֶּנִּי:
H2063	This is my comfort	in my affliction	H3588	for thy word	hath quickened
	H5165	H6040		H565	H2421

Additional Cross-References

Romans 15:4 (Word): For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

John 6:63 (Word): It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

Psalms 94:19 (Parallel theme): In the multitude of my thoughts within me thy comforts delight my soul.

Psalms 28:7 (Parallel theme): The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.

Psalms 42:11 (Parallel theme): Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

Jeremiah 15:16 (Word): Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.

Psalms 27:13 (Parallel theme): I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

Psalms 42:8 (Parallel theme): Yet the LORD will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life.

Psalms 119:25 (Word): My soul cleaveth unto the dust: quicken thou me according to thy word.

Ezekiel 37:10 (Parallel theme): So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.