

Between Comfort and Sorrow
Isaiah 40:1-11

**(v.1) "Comfort, comfort My
people," says your God.**

Galatians 6:7

**Do not be deceived: God
cannot be mocked. A man
reaps what he sows.**

Lamentations 1
(v.2) She weeps aloud during
the night, with tears on her
cheeks. There is no one to
offer her comfort.

(v.9) Her filthiness clung to her skirts; she did not consider her future. Her fall was astounding; there was none to comfort her.

(v.17) Zion stretches out her hands, but there is no one to comfort her.

**(v.21) "People have heard my
groaning, but there is no one
to comfort me.**

**Sovereign Over Us
(Aaron Keyes)**

**There is strength within the
sorrow, There is beauty in our
tears
You meet us in our mourning,
With a love that casts out fear**

**You are working in our
waiting, Sanctifying us
When beyond our
understanding, You're
teaching us to trust**

**Your plans are still to prosper,
You have not forgotten us
You're with us in the fire and
the flood
Faithful forever, Perfect in
love
You are sovereign over us**

**The Tender King is coming to
comfort you**

**I. THE TENDER KING IS
COMING**

**(v.10-11) “See, the Lord God
comes with strength, and His
power establishes His rule.
His reward is with Him, and
His gifts accompany Him. 11
He protects His flock like a
shepherd;**

He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them in the fold of His garment. He gently leads those that are nursing.”

"Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain" (verse 4).

(v.4-5) “Every valley will be lifted up, and every mountain and hill will be leveled; the uneven ground will become smooth and the rough places, a plain.

(v.4-5) “Every valley will be lifted up, and every mountain and hill will be leveled; the uneven ground will become smooth and the rough places, a plain.

**5 And the glory of the Lord
will appear, and all humanity
together will see it, for the
mouth of the Lord has
spoken.”**

a) We have been reconciled.

“The [new creation] is not another world; it is this world, this heaven, this earth; both, however, passed away and renewed. It is these forests, these fields, these cities, these streets, these people, that will be the scene of redemption.

**At present they are
battlefields, full of the strife
and sorrow of the not yet
accomplished consummation;
then they will be fields of
victory,**

**fields of harvest where out of
seed that was sown with
tears the everlasting sheaves
will be reaped and brought
home.”**

-E Thurneyson

**II. THE TENDER KING IS
COMING TO COMFORT YOU**

1. You belong to me

2. I speak tenderly to you (v.2)

**“speak tenderly to
Jerusalem” (40:2)**

Romans 8:1-2

“Therefore, no condemnation now exists for those in Christ Jesus, 2 because the Spirit’s law of life in Christ Jesus has set you[b] free from the law of sin and of death.

Luke 7:11-14

[Jesus] was on His way to a town called Nain. 12 Just as He neared the gate of the town, a dead man was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow. A large crowd from the city was also with

13 When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said, "Don't cry." 14 Then He came up and touched the open coffin, and the pallbearers stopped. And He said, "Young man, I tell you, get up!"

**3. I've paid the double for
your sin (v.2)**

**4. I'm coming to you in your
wilderness (v.3-4)**

**A voice of one crying out:
Prepare the way of the Lord in
the wilderness; make a
straight highway for our God
in the desert.**

**The Tender King Is Coming to
Comfort you**

**1. We prepare the way of the
Lord where we are (v.3-4)**

**(v.3) Prepare the way of the
Lord in the wilderness; make
a straight highway for our
God in the desert.**

**2. We proclaim good news (v.
6-7, 9)**

(v.6-7) Another said, “What should I cry out?” “All humanity is grass, and all its goodness is like the flower of the field. 7 The grass withers, the flowers fade when the breath[d] of the Lord blows on them;[e] indeed, the people are grass.

**8 The grass withers, the
flowers fade, but the word of
our God remains forever.”**

(v9) “Zion, herald of good news, go up on a high mountain. Jerusalem, herald of good news, raise your voice loudly. Raise it, do not be afraid! Say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!”

**(v.10) See, the Lord God
comes with strength, and His
power establishes His rule.
His reward is with Him, and
His gifts accompany Him.**

**3. We Trust this Tender King
to Carry Us (v.11)**

He protects His flock like a shepherd; He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them in the fold of His garment. He gently leads those that are nursing.

Take a moment to be still and say yes, to the Comfort of this tender King

- **Tell the Comforter where you need comfort and why**
- **Tell God which word/phrase in this passage do you most want to be reality for you?**

- **Ask yourself, “What lie am I believing that keeps me receiving this comfort?”**
- **Ask God for grace to defeat that lie, and an opportunity to bring comfort to another this week**