

# NOTES

Dear child of mine,

*I am one who comforts you. I bought you and complete you. I delight in you and claim you as my own, rejoicing over you as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride. I will never fail you or forsake you.<sup>1</sup>*

*You are worried and troubled about many things; trust me with all your heart. I know how to rescue godly people from their trials. Let me strengthen you with my glorious power. I did not spare my Son but gave him up for you. Won't I give you everything else?<sup>2</sup>*

*When you go through deep waters and great trouble, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown! When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you.<sup>3</sup>*

*So don't worry. I never tire or sleep. I stand beside you. The angel of the LORD encamps around you. I hide you in the shelter of my presence. I will go ahead of you, directing your steps and delighting in every detail of your life. If you stumble, you will not fall, for I hold you by the hand. I will guide you along the best pathway for your life.<sup>4</sup>*

*I will make you fruitful in the land of suffering, trading beauty for ashes, joy for mourning, praise for despair. I live with the low spirited and spirit crushed. I put new spirit in you and get you on your feet again. Weeping may go on all night, but joy comes with the morning. If I am for you, who can ever be against you?<sup>5</sup>*

*You sometimes say, "The Lord has deserted me; the Lord has forgotten me." But can a mother forget her nursing child? Can she feel no love for a child she has borne? Even if that were possible, I would not forget you! I paid for you with the precious lifeblood of Christ, my sinless, spotless Lamb. No one will snatch you away from me. See, I have written your name on my hand. I call you my friend. Why, the very hairs on your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are valuable to me.<sup>6</sup>*

*Give me your burdens; I will take care of you.<sup>7</sup>*

Your Maker, your Father,  
God

1: Is.51:12; 1 Cor.6:20; Col.2:10; Is.62:4-5; Heb.13:5

2: Lk.10:41; Prov.3:5; Rom.8:26; Col.1:11; Rom.8:32; Judg.5:21

3: Is.43:2

4: Mt.6:34; Ps.121:4-5; Ps.34:7; Ps.31:20; Deut.31:6; Ps.37:23-24; Ps.32:8

5: Gen.41:52; Is.61:3; Is.57:15; Ps.30:5; Rom.8:31

6: Is.49:14-15; 1 Pet.1:19; John 10:28; Is.49:16; John15:15; Mt.10:30-31

7: Ps.55:22