

"OUR ONLY COMFORT"

One day soon, we will be gathering again for worship. One of the questions we will be asked to answer will be this one: **"What is your only comfort in life and in death?"** The leader will pause and we in the congregation will recite the answer in unison:

"That I am not my own, but belong - body and soul, in life and in death - to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to Him, Christ, by His Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him."

Each time I read this, I am ready to take a deep breath and then let go of the anxieties that I have. Anxieties that are the result of my attempt to understand and control everything in my life over which I have no control. **"I am not my own, but belong- body and soul, in life and in death- to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ."** That is a perspective I forget and when I do, my anxiety mounts.

Each time I read this, I know I need to realize just what it is that Christ has done for me. "Count your many blessings," says the Spirit of God.

- He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood
- He has set me free from the tyranny of the devil
- He watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my father in heaven
- He works all things together for my salvation
- He assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly wiling and ready from now on to live for Him.

Each time I read this, I am convicted because my confession with you on Sunday has not been remembered on Monday. May God help us all to see *confessed* faith affect our level of *comfort*.

May the Lord be with you all,

Pastor Ken



QUESTIONS:

1. As your mind races through the news `headlines, what is your comfort?
2. Make a list of your personal blessings starting with these listed here.