

DEDICATION

This booklet is dedicated to the memory of our granddaughter, Jennifer Lee Miller who is presently enjoying, in the presence of the Lord, all the things we hold by faith in prospect,

AND

The memory of Scott Bryan Scheihing, who like the grain of wheat Jesus spoke of, died to bear much fruit,

AND

To all the grieving loved ones who remain behind to hope in the Lord and in the gospel of His grace.

UNIVERSAL INFANT SALVATION

***“A VOICE WAS HEARD IN RAMAH,
WEEPING AND GREAT MOURNING,
RACHEL WEEPING FOR HER CHILDREN;
AND SHE REFUSED TO BE COMFORTED,
BECAUSE THEY WERE NO MORE.”***

(Matthew 2:18 quoting Jeremiah 31:15)

***“But we do not want you to be uninformed,
brethren, about those who are asleep,
so that you will not grieve as do
the rest who have no hope.”***
(I Thessalonians 4:13)

We read these words from Second Corinthians 1:3,4 in the New Testament,

***“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,
who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be
able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the
comfort with which we ourselves
are comforted by God.”***

There is comfort to be found in the Lord.

God is the God of all comfort! Our family has applied God's comfort to the heart-rending sorrow common to those who have experienced the death of an infant or the death of a young child. We have received comfort from the Lord and we desire to share it with you. It is our prayer that the comfort from the Lord that lifted our hearts in the season of our grieving for our departed granddaughter who lived only two months and four days after her birth, may now become a healing balm and solace for you in your affliction.

The truth of God concerning universal infant salvation can be happily applied to *the death of any infant*. This blessed doctrine does not only apply to the children of Christians who die in infancy—but the children of the heathen as well. God has provided for the eternal salvation of the departed infants of pagans and infidels and the most wicked of men as certainly as He has provided for the salvation of the departed infants of the most devoted and faithful Christians.

The truth of God concerning universal infant salvation can be happily applied to the death of any infant *who has died by any means*. God offers real comfort to you if your child died by miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth, by some complication during birth,

or by some known or unknown, swift or tedious and lingering, fatal disease. God offers real comfort to you if your departed loved one was mentally a perpetual infant due to retardation. If your child died as a victim of some circumstance allowed by the Lord for some mysterious purpose, (famine, accident, violence, or some other terrible tragedy—even religious infanticide of which the history of this fallen world is full), God has real comfort for you. If your child died by circumstances I have not mentioned or could not imagine, there is genuine comfort for you.

When we consider the vast proportion of the human race that depart this life at an early age, and the tremendous amount of domestic grief that cries out for God's comfort at such a time, it is not surprising that we are able to find a solid ground for healing and hope from God's holy Word. It has been estimated that, of all those born into this world, one half of that population depart it in infancy. Has God spoken? Has He said anything about those millions of infants who have perished from the earth? Is there a healing word from above for the loved ones who remain behind? Can God bind up a broken heart? We have tasted a soul-cheering comfort from the Lord, and it is this comfort that we pray the Lord will apply to your heart to sustain you in your heavy sorrow.

*“We do not want you to be uninformed, brethren,
about those who are asleep so that you will
not grieve as do the rest who have no hope.”
(First Thessalonians 5:13)*

It is divinely inspired information about the Lord and His salvation that can produce a song even in the house of mourning.

I realize, at this time you may think that your tears of anguish, tears of separation, tears of bereavement, and tears of heart-breaking sorrow will never be dried from your cheeks. It may feel like your heart will be vacant forever. The tie that binds the hearts of the parents to the heart of the child has been severed. Who can measure the pain of the mother who long carried the child under her heart, communicated her very life blood to the baby that she has brought forth in pain and sorrow, the one nourished at her breast, the very one she fondly embraced in love and hope, when that child is no more? Is there consolation for such a heart? Can the deep fountain of those tears ever be dried?

God offers His comfort for time as well as for eternity.

There is a promise in God’s Word, that in the distant future God will finally and forever wipe away all tears from all faces. Is there is a present foretaste of that

reality for time as well as for eternity? Must we wait for Heaven to find relief? Can we find comfort now? Is there a balm for our bleeding hearts for the present moment? Indeed there is! It is spelled out for us on the pages of the Bible. Psalm 46:1 says,

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”

A very present help is exactly what our hearts desire. A very present help in trouble is exactly what God promises to be to us. It is God Himself who desires to comfort our hearts and dry our hot tears. It is the Lord alone, and not the passing of time that must heal our fractured hearts and comfort us. You may think that the last thing you need in your hour of distress to bring comfort to your heart is information, but actually, *inspired information* is exactly what is needed for such a time as this. God tells us that it is those who are uninformed that grieve in a hopeless way. The Lord never suggests that the believer should not grieve, but only that we “grieve not *as those who have no hope.*” It is not a sin to be human and feel deeply in the day of oppressive sorrow. We will certainly weep! The Lord Jesus Himself is weeping with you as He wept at the funeral of his friend, Lazarus. We cannot be stoics! Our very humanity demands that we weep, but *not as those who have no hope.* It is misinformation that causes us to grieve excessively and hopelessly! There is heavenly

information concerning infants that fall asleep in Jesus that is full of consolation for our excessive sorrow that can sustain, comfort and invincibly support us. This information was a breast of consolation for us in November of the year 1994 when our Jennifer Lee was received by the Lord Jesus into the Father's House in Heaven. We pass on our comfort with the prayer that God will turn your sorrow into joy.

WE RECEIVED MUCH COMFORT FROM THE LORD BY THE RICH ASSURANCE THAT OUR BABY IS STILL VERY MUCH ALIVE AND IS WITH THE LORD JESUS IN HEAVEN.

At first we did talk about *losing* our grandchild. We didn't lose her! Something is lost when you do not know where it can be found. She is certainly missed but she is not missing. We know exactly where she is. She is with the Lord Jesus in Heaven. She is gone, but not lost. She is absent from her loved ones on earth, but she is present with the Lord. She has died only in the sense of a temporary separation. She is more alive than her mourners who go about the street. Her body we have committed to the earth to await the resurrection promise, but the living and conscious spirit of Jennifer is enjoying

profound fellowship with God. Now I shall attempt, as clearly as I am able, to show you from the Bible how I know that is true, but first I encourage you to pull out all of the stops and believe it with all your heart. There is genuine comfort for those who know in their hearts that their baby is safe in the arms of Jesus.

The Bible teaches the truth of universal infant salvation.

We call it infant *salvation* because the departed infant has indeed experienced God's salvation. Many people think that because infants are infants, therefore they are innocent and do not need God's salvation. They argue, because their intellectual faculties have not yet been developed, they cannot possibly be held accountable for sin. Infants have never rejected mercy, grieved the Holy Spirit of God, they are not capable of experiencing rebellion against God, how then, can we say that they are in need of God's salvation? Shouldn't an infant who has died before becoming an actual transgressor or committing any personal offense be admitted into Heaven as one who deserves that blessing? The child who has been a stranger to pride, envy, malice, revenge, unbelief; who has no remorse of sorrow or sin—does that one need salvation? Oh, yes, dear friend. Their early death does not exempt them from the curse that God pronounced on Adam and his posterity when he sinned, which the theologians designate as "Original

Sin.” All babies are born with a native sinfulness and a corrupt human nature. They need God’s salvation as surely as the one who has lived as many years as Methuselah needs God’s salvation. Romans 5:18, speaking of the sin of the first man, Adam, says,

“...by the transgression of the one, (Adam) there resulted condemnation to all men...”

In Psalm 51:5 king David confessed,

“Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me.”

Death is universal. Death is the wages of sin. The fact that infants experience the wages of sin which is death is the very thing that this moment is piercing your heart with the most poignant sorrow. Infants, the inheritors of Adam’s fallen nature, need the redemption that is offered through the blood of the Lord Jesus. An angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph, the stepfather of the Lord Jesus, convincing him that the Child conceived in Mary was of the Holy Spirit. In that dream he was told,

“She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”
(Matthew 1:21)

Universal Infant Salvation is based on the sacrificial death of the Lord Jesus.

The Lord Jesus is a Savior and He only saves sinners. If He saves infants, as indeed He does, it follows that they must need His salvation as every sinner needs His salvation. Do not be offended to learn in your hour of profound sorrow that the darling of your heart was in need of the salvation offered in the Lord Jesus. Christianity alone has the power to throw a healing radiance around an infant's tomb. The very passage in the Bible that informs you that our beloved child was in need of God's salvation, also informs you that the Lord Jesus Christ has provided that salvation.

“so then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men.” (Romans 5:18)

If there were no other verse in the Bible but this one alone—just Romans 5:18—the Bible would clearly teach universal salvation, not just of infants, but of all persons. By itself, this passage tells us that by the one sin of Adam, judgment passed on the *entire human race*; just so, the passage informs us by the one redemptive act of the Lord Jesus, salvation was passed on to *the entire human race*. This lonely verse teaches us that everyone born of woman was born guilty before God. It also

teaches us that all human beings are fully justified before God by the one crowning redemptive act of the Lord Jesus Christ. If that were the only verse in the Bible, we would know that our infant has been redeemed by Christ since His salvation was as universal as Adam's sin was universal. However, we know the Bible *does not teach* universal salvation! There are other verses in the Bible that clarify Romans 5:18. We have no right, as students of the Bible, to limit any passage of the Bible, unless God Himself limits that passage in another place in the Scriptures. If God says, "God's salvation applies to *all persons*", we have no right to make exceptions. All means all. If however, God limits that truth in another place—if He says, "God's salvation applies to all persons *except...*", then we must interpret the passage in terms of the full record. We must not say, "God saves all"; we must say, "God saves all *except...*" Has God limited Romans 5:18? Has He spelled out any exceptions? Indeed He has! In Mark 16:16 we read,

"He who has disbelieved shall be condemned".

The salvation of God *does not apply* to unbelievers. They are the exception! God offers His salvation to all *except* those that refuse to avail themselves of God's salvation. Can an infant be numbered among those who are disbelievers? No! An infant cannot believe or disbelieve. If Christ saves the whole human race with the exception of disbelievers, then infants who die as

infants are saved. The entire human race minus the unbelievers includes those precious ones who die before the age they are held accountable for believing. While babies live, they are *safe*; when they die, they are *saved*.

It is a heart-consoling reality that Christ died for little children! The blood of Jesus that is so powerful to wash away the indelible stains of willful transgressors is certainly sufficient to wash away the sentence of original sin in those who die innocent of personal offenses. This is the triumph of the gospel of God's grace. Your baby, like ours, is in Heaven this moment, because the death of our Lord Jesus has set them free from the only sentence of condemnation that could be charged against them.

Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.

In the Gospel record of the ministry of our Lord Jesus we have an account when mothers brought their young babies to Jesus for His blessing upon them. The word used for babies is the word that literally means, "Infant of days". The babies they brought to Jesus were infants indeed. They were only days old. The disciples, for some reason, had a problem with that and they began to rebuke the mothers for bringing their young children to Jesus. It was at that time our Lord Jesus said,

“...Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” (Luke 18:15)

These little babies, so helplessly dependent upon their parents, became for Jesus, an illustration of the children of His kingdom. Jesus was not only teaching that adults must come to the Lord Jesus as helplessly dependent as tiny babies only a few days old, but He also indicated that the kingdom of Heaven was so full of glorified infants who had been redeemed that it could be said that the kingdom of Heaven actually consisted of little children. *“Of such is the kingdom of Heaven!”* The population of Heaven is, in a great measure, made up of redeemed babies. Thousands of millions of babies have gone to be with Jesus in Heaven. However those numberless infants may have died is incidental to the fact that every one of them is there because they have been redeemed by their substitute Savior who died on the cross for their salvation. They know that they do not deserve to be there. They are there only by the grace of God. They are the vast portion of that great multitude that no man can number, of every nation, kindred, tongue and tribe who are standing before the throne and before the Lamb, with white robes, and glory palms in their hands, praising and glorifying God for His salvation. Infant voices offer Him the praise He

deserves. Who can truly praise Him for the swaddling clothes and the manger and for His experience of drinking milk from His mother Mary's breast? Who would understand those things better than a little baby? The angels can praise Him for His holiness and His glory; we, as death-deserving sinners, can praise Him for His grace and forgiveness, but only a baby can properly praise Him for His infancy! We have forgotten what it was like to be an infant! Your baby remembers and is praising Him as He deserves to be praised! Even now, while I write these words, the voices of the children of several of my friends, my own brother, my dear grandchild, two of my nephews—is it possible? Yes, and your child with them, and many others are singing the praises of Him who died to wash away their sin! Let them sing then, as only the redeemed can sing! What earthly home is not made happier by the presence of little children? One of the grand glories of the Father's House in Heaven is that it is filled with little children who have received God's salvation. The vast majority of Heaven's multitude is made up of little babies. I know it is not possible in your present hour of grief, but if you could get the tiniest peek at your baby now, in the presence of the dear Lord Jesus, and in the company of the millions of redeemed sinners and the hosts of holy angels, you would say to your weeping family and friends, "I would not have my baby return here! As much as I love and miss my infant, I would not disturb such glory and joy!" The absence of little children will

be a portion of the agony of those who refuse to know God, for there will not be a single infant or child in hell.

Is it not comfort to have this assurance in your heart? No doubt your troubled mind is filled with unanswered questions concerning your child, but you need not have a moment's distress over the destiny of your baby. Your baby is very much alive and is with the Lord Jesus in Heaven. When King David's baby died on the seventh day of his life, David went into the house of the Lord and worshipped. His hope was expressed in 2 Samuel 12:23

"I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me"

David could worship because he knew his baby had been received by the Lord into Heaven, and that some day he would be reunited with his infant son in glory. David had another son that also died. This son did not die as an infant but as an adult. The history we have of Absalom, David's son, is not very encouraging. He was a very wicked and ruthless man. He was killed in battle while attempting to overthrow his father's kingdom. David wept when his little baby died, but not as he wept when his son Absalom died.

“The king was deeply moved and went up to the chamber over the gate and wept. And thus he said as he walked, “O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!” (II Samuel 18:33)

David could worship at the death of his infant son because he knew the destiny of his baby; David was not at all certain of the eternal destiny of his older son and so we read of his appalling grief.

I pray that the knowledge that your child is alive and eternally safe with the Lord Jesus brings a sea of consolation to your heart causing you to worship the Lord.

WE RECEIVED MUCH COMFORT FROM THE FACT THAT GOD HAD LOVING AND WISE PURPOSES FOR RECEIVING OUR INFANT AT SUCH AN EARLY AGE.

“The Rock! His work is perfect, for all His ways are just; A God of faithfulness and without injustice righteous and upright is He” (Deuteronomy 32:4)

God is as Wise as He is Loving.

I have no doubt, a large part of your heartache this moment has to do with unanswered questions. Why? Why did a loving God allow my baby to die? Is He punishing me for something I have done? Why didn't God prevent this? Could I have done something to avert this tragedy? Was I in some way negligent? If only, this; if only, that! Was there something that someone else could have done to prevent this horrible hour? Why? Why? Why? It seems so arbitrary and cruel. There are so many unanswered questions; there are so many mysteries. These unanswered questions seem only to aggravate our grief and increase our mental torment.

Yes, there are mysteries! Even when we think of what we know to be true: that our baby is safe in Heaven in the arms of Jesus—even that reality is clouded with mysteries. How do babies appear in Heaven? Will they age in Heaven and grow up to be adults? Will we recognize them as we last beheld them? Mysteries! Mysteries! Mysteries! These things have not been revealed and so we can only guess at how it will be.

There is however, something very clearly revealed in the Bible and of this we can be certain. The wonderful fact is that your Loving God had wise purposes for receiving your baby at such an early age. If

we allow the truth of this revelation to sink into our broken hearts it will surely bring wonderful relief. I do not pretend to know what those wise purposes are; I will not be able to explain to you why God permitted this to happen in your family. I only know that God makes no mistakes. I know that He could have prevented it because He has absolute control over all things.

If God were only Love—if that were His only attribute—just Love, then there would be no sorrow on the earth. There would be no heartaches of any kind. If Love was God’s sole attribute, there would be no violence in the world, no war, no injustice, no suffering, and no death of little babies! It is because God is *infinitely Wise* as well as infinitely Loving, that He can permit what He hates. The sovereign Lord is able to turn a curse into a blessing. He can work all things together for His wise purposes and for good. He had wise and loving purposes for taking your child in infancy.

From God’s viewpoint, your baby lived a complete life.

We must not think that a short life is an incomplete life. The psalmist recognized that before we were even conceived and while we were being formed in our mother’s womb, God had already recorded everything about us in His book. He even recorded “the days that were ordained for me.” (see Psalm 139:13-16) Some people have many years ordained for them, some

only a few years; others have only months or weeks or days or hours ordained for them. In the love and wisdom of God, your baby did not die prematurely. From God's perspective, your child had a full life. Every moment ordained by God for your baby for His eternal purposes, your baby enjoyed. The disciples of the Lord Jesus once asked Jesus to give them a satisfying reason why a certain person was born blind. "Who sinned?" they asked. They could think of no other reason that God would allow such heartache on the earth. Somebody must have sinned! Our Lord Jesus gave a very simple answer.

"It was so that the works of God might be displayed in him." (John 9:3)

You will notice in the dedication of this booklet, the name of Scott Bryan Scheihing. I met Scott's parents many years ago as they wrestled with the heartache and mystery of why God allowed their dear son to be stillborn. That seeming tragedy brought our families together in a unique bond of friendship and vital ministry that has blessed hundreds for the past twenty-five years. Scott's death was used by the Lord as a foundation stone in the establishment of a Bible Conference ministry. No doubt God's purpose for Scott's death at birth is much larger than the blessings we can trace in the many lives that have responded to the

Lord through the conferences, but it illustrates the fact that God has wise and loving purposes for all He allows. At the time of his death, who could have guessed how much spiritual blessing would issue from that house of mourning? Even after many years, I am convinced that the little blessing that we have observed does not tell the entire story. Scott was stillborn *so that the works of God might be displayed in him.*

We need to rest in God's Love and Wisdom.

Perhaps, that is why the book of James in the New Testament encourages those whose faith is being severely tested, to ask the Lord for *wisdom*. One would expect, in the day of trial, to be in the special need of comfort or strength or patience, but the Lord invites us to seek *wisdom* from His hand.

“But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.”
(James 1:5)

It was for loving and wise purposes that the Lord received your beloved! You need to rest in His Love and Wisdom as we had to rest in His Love and Wisdom.

I would encourage you to waste no time in placing your confidence in the Lord. He has told us clearly that He cares for us. Psalm 139 informs us that God's

thoughts about us outnumber the sands on the earth. We are told that He has numbered every hair on our heads. God takes no delight in the needless suffering of His creation. He is not cruel. God had wonderful purposes for receiving your baby. Do not torment yourself by trying to guess what those purposes are. It will not help you to imagine all the things that God has spared your child from; what might have taken place if your baby had lived to mature in this sinful world. It is enough to know that the Lord makes no mistakes. He is not afraid to take the full responsibility for receiving your child. While others may speak of disease or fate or negligence, sin or death as the villains that have taken your child, you must know with assurance that it was the Lord who has taken your baby. It was your baby's best Friend, your child's Savior, and no other, that has taken your child to Glory. The Lord will not share His glory with another! If you or I had at our disposal all of the information the Lord has at His disposal—if we were as wise as He, we would speedily acquiesce with His wise decision to take our child home. The Lord, being omniscient, has considered all things actual and all things possible in the world, and He has selected only the very best for your family. Trust Him!

God is calling us to faith.

It is because we are locked into time and space, and we do not see things in the light of eternity, that we suffer so at times like these. Let me suggest a scenario to you so you might discover your own heart. Just suppose you knew of God's plan in advance. Imagine a day before your baby was ever conceived in the womb that God Himself visited you in your home. Suppose, in intimate conversation with Him, He requested of you a special favor. If He had told you in advance of His search for faithful parents to love and care for a tiny baby for Him for a very short time for high and wise purposes which you could never understand, and if He told you in advance that He had selected you to be those parents, would you refuse Him? Would you be willing to hold and caress and support and pour your life into an infant if He told you it would only be for three hours, or three days, or three months, or three years? If you knew in advance the number of hours the child would be in your care, and the exact moment of the Lord's arrival to receive the child again, would you not be thrilled to take on the honor of caring for His child until His appointed time to receive that child again? When the day arrived for the child to go back to the Lord, would you not have the child all cleaned and fairly dressed; would you not be ready with joy, to release the child from your care to His? I would not be surprised if you did not plan a

farewell party to celebrate the child's release. It is because you did not know these things in advance, that you now are broken hearted. It is because you had no idea that the honor would be so short, that you have such profound sorrow. The moment arrived without warning. It came as a shock! It was not expected! It was, from the human standpoint an emergency. It was a horrible and frightening experience. It is as if God has ripped your dear baby from your arms. He did not visit you in advance! He did not prepare you for this day! Yet, the facts have not changed. You were chosen to love and protect and care for that child until God's appointed time. The only difference between my scenario and your experience is that *you did not know in advance*. If you had known in advance, you would have praised Him for the honor of being chosen for such a high privilege. This would be a day of joy and celebration. If you had known in advance of all that you are presently experiencing, you would not need to exercise faith. Since God did not inform you in advance of His high purposes for your child, you are being called to rest in His wisdom and love.

When these truths dawned upon our hearts in the day of our deep grief, our sorrow was turned into joy. May God grant you the comfort He gave to us when we prayerfully considered these things.

I pray that the knowledge that God had loving and wise purposes (which you may never discover on this side of eternity) for receiving your infant brings a sea of consolation to your heart.

WE RECEIVED MUCH COMFORT FROM THE FACT THAT WE WOULD ONE DAY BE REUNITED WITH OUR LITTLE ONE!

We are close to our departed baby in Jesus.

Jennifer, our grandchild, died of SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) on November 12, 1994. The realization of being separated from her brought great pain to all of the family. We knew that we would not see her again on the earth. We desired to be close to her but we knew that it was vain for us to think that she could hear us if we attempted to speak to her; we doubted if she was aware from Heaven of anything we were feeling or thinking or experiencing. I am quite certain she was completely engaged and occupied with better things in the presence of the Lord! We had only her empty place and her many personal belongings to remind us of her short stay with us. We were separated! As you well know, the separation is painful when the strong ties of the heart are broken and our warm love

pours out like water on the dry earth. That separation calls forth tears of choking anguish and loneliness. Yet, we discovered that *we could be spiritually close* to Jennifer. Not in some mystical way! Not by some spiritual communion with her! No! But we could be close in Jesus! Jennifer was touching Jesus from the Heavenly side; we were touching Jesus by faith from the Earthly side. We could be close in Him! She did not seem so far away when we focused on our union with Jesus.

All who are in Christ will be reunited in the Resurrection.

The closeness that we shared with Jennifer by touching Jesus by faith brought us only a small measure of comfort. It was however, the truth of the resurrection and the promise of a wonderful reunion that flooded our hearts with joy and consolation. The Bible tells us that the sting of death is sin. It was exactly that sting that our Savior took to the cross. Sin! Our Lord Jesus removed the sting of death when, on that first Easter morning, He rose up from the dead. It is because He has conquered the grave and lives forevermore that we are promised the same everlasting life. Why did the death of our granddaughter sting so, if the sting of death had been removed? We needed to focus on the inspired record of God!

*“For since by a man came death, by a man also came
the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so
also in Christ all will be made alive”
(I Corinthians 15:21,22)*

Our sad hearts were crying out for a reunion with Jennifer that would bring us again face to face, as one family, gathered under the same roof and all seated around the same table. Our broken hearts could not consent to be perpetually separated although we were close in Jesus. Our farewell to our infant granddaughter was bitter, and poignant was the pain of parting. It did have a sting connected with it. However, when we began to believe the promise of God concerning death and resurrection, the sting departed. Now we are eagerly anticipating the arrival of the day of promised reunion. On November 12, 1994, our granddaughter did not cease to exist. She simply moved! She has a new address now! She lives happily in the presence of the Lord in Heaven. She was geographically separated from us for a season, but God has given us every hope to believe that there is a grand reunion awaiting all those who die in the Lord.

“For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them, in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.”
(1 Thessalonians 4:16-18)

Oh, the glory of that expression that God opened up for our joyful contemplation! It is as enrapturing as it is immense—“*caught up together with them...so shall we ever be with the Lord*”! The separation, though grievous, is brief. The times of sorrowful memories will soon pass. We would be thrilled to meet our Jennifer again in any place, at any time and by any means, as I am sure you would be delighted to be reunited with your baby in any place, at any time and by any means! How wonderful are the good tidings that we, in fact, shall meet at *such a time* and in *such a home* and in *such circumstances* as are promised in the Bible! Heaven is far more than a shining city with grand architecture and precious walls and spires, a golden street and a crystal sea, blinding light and beautiful music. It is the place of reunion! It is a place where we will be reunited with our departed loved ones in Christ and live in their company forever in the presence of the Lord. This hope of reunion was a large part of our comfort!

I pray that the knowledge that God has promised a wonderful reunion in Heaven for all those who fall asleep in Jesus, brings a sea of consolation to your heart.

THE TRUTH THAT YOUR BABY IS VERY MUCH ALIVE AND IS WITH THE LORD JESUS IN HEAVEN IS TRUE *WHETHER WE BELIEVE IT OR NOT*; THAT GOD HAD LOVING AND WISE PURPOSES FOR RECEIVING YOUR INFANT AT SUCH AN EARLY AGE IS TRUE *WHETHER WE BELIEVE IT OR NOT*; THAT WE WILL ONE DAY BE REUNITED WITH OUR LITTLE BABY—*THAT TRUTH IS CONDITIONAL!*

Your baby and mine are safe in Heaven with Jesus because they have been redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus. Our children had only one set of sins to have washed away. Original Sin inherited from us! We have two sets of sins to have washed away. We also have the *Original Sin* inherited from our parents, but in addition to that, we have *Actual Sin* which we have willfully committed numberless times against the Lord. Our babies were safe while they lived because they had not matured to the place referred to in Romans chapter one

where they are *without excuse*. They died before they became accountable for personal transgressions. The salvation of God was freely applied to them by the mercy of the Lord. We, however, are numbered among those that are without excuse. We have actually and willfully sinned against the Lord, and until those sins are washed away by the same precious blood that was applied to the original sin of our infant, we cannot have the slightest assurance that we will be, one day reunited with them. God is not at all reluctant to forgive us all our sins. He proved His love for us by enduring on the cross for us, the penalty our sins deserved.

“He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin, and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed” (1 Peter 2:24)

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)

We are invited by the Lord to have the same salvation freely applied to us by the same mercy of the Lord as our baby received. It is because we are willful sinners without excuse that God requires us to receive the Lord Jesus, and with Him His salvation, by the simplicity of faith. Receiving forgiveness of sins is as simple as receiving a free gift from a lover.

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name...” (John 1:12)

“For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.”
(Ephesians 2:8,9)

“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”
(Romans 5:1)

Dear friend, make your comfort complete! Guarantee your reunion with your precious child by receiving the Lord Jesus into your heart and life. There is a record in the Bible of a man named Enoch. God does not fill in all of the details of his story for us, but we read that after the birth of his son Methuselah, he “*walked with God*”. There was something about the birth of that baby, some revelation that was given to him from God above that caused him, from that moment, to walk with God. It would be a wonderful thing if, as part of your baby’s legacy, through the seeming tragedy of your child’s death, you began to walk with God. Allow your child to lead you to the genuine comfort which can be found only in the Lord.

The comfort we speak of is not imaginary. It is real! It is based on the unchanging Word of God. This comfort is not promised to only a select few. It is for everyone! It is for me! It is for you! The death of a little baby brings us face to face with our own mortality. It forces us to consider the days He has ordained for us. When they have run their course, as surely they will, will we be prepared to join with the many who have been washed clean by the blood of Jesus? The death of a little baby crowds us to Christ for comfort. How short and inadequate is the comfort of man! Our only peace in the dreadful hour is the peace that comes from trusting in Him! The death of a little baby stirs our hearts to long for God and Heaven. Without question the chief joy and attraction of Heaven is the Lord Himself! We will see Him face to face! We will be completely absorbed in the contemplation and worship of Him!

“No longer will you have the sun for light by day, nor for brightness will the moon give you light; but you will have the Lord for an everlasting light, and you God for your glory.” (Isaiah 60:19)

It will not diminish His glory in the least, in fact, it will enhance His glory and the triumph of His grace to be reunited with our redeemed family and friends. If the communion of saints on the earth is precious, how much more precious will it be when we gather in eternity to sing the songs of redeeming love with the believers of all

ages! We not only shall be reunited with those we have loved and released on the earth, but with the multitudes of the redeemed from the four quarters of the earth that we never knew in this fleeting life. We shall all sit down with Jesus and Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of Heaven to feast and fellowship in intimate acquaintance. Our reunion is presented to us in the Bible as a festive scene.

How soothing is the Christian doctrine of Universal Infant Salvation! It invites all the Rachels who weep for their babies to sorrow no more as those who are without hope! God has promised that you shall see, and know and embrace that loved one again.