

### **Lesson 3:**

## **Blessed Are Those Who Mourn, For They Shall Be Comforted**

**What does it look like to mourn?**

Note ways the Psalmist is affected by sin.

☛ Psalm 22:1-6, 14, 15

☛ Psalm 51:1-19

### **JESUS' example**

- Jn 11:35 Jesus wept
- Lk 19:41-44 Jesus weeps over Jerusalem
- Is 53 "man of sorrows"
- Jn 8:57 He may have looked older than His age

**We have record of Christ being angry, hungry, and weeping. It is difficult to find record of Him laughing. Why?**

**Does this mean we shouldn't laugh very much?**

### **Mourning**

☛ Begins with a \_\_\_\_\_

- JFB: "Evidently it is that entire feeling which the sense of our spiritual poverty begets; and so the second beatitude is but the complement of the first. The one is intellectual, the other the emotional aspect of the same thing."

☛ Realizes God's \_\_\_\_\_ and our \_\_\_\_\_

- Ps 39,40,139 Contrast between our nature and God's transcendence
- Rm 7:14-18 Paul's ongoing struggle with sin

☛ Notice how really \_\_\_\_\_ sin is

- Psalm 119:136 The Psalmists' reaction to sin, "Rivers of waters run down mine eyes ..."  
Is this our response?

☛ It is \_\_\_\_\_

## **What Does it Mean to Mourn?**

☞ Webster's Definition: to grieve, be sorrowful

☞ Gk word used for "mourn" in Mtt 5:4 is the strongest word regarding grief used in the NT. Refers to the lamenting for a lost loved one. A deep inner agony (like in Ps 32:3-5).

Parallel verse: Lk 6:25

☞ It is a sorrow that leads to \_\_\_\_\_.

- II Cor 7:10 Godly vs. Ungodly mourning
- II Cor 6:10 "As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing"

☞ Sorrow over the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin in:

- The \_\_\_\_\_
- Those \_\_\_\_\_ us
- \_\_\_\_\_
- Stott p. 41

## **Why is mourning important?**

☞ It prepares us to receive God's \_\_\_\_\_

☞ It opens us to receive God's \_\_\_\_\_

- In the present II Cor 1:3,4
- In heaven Rev 21:1-4

**"... they shall be comforted."**

☞ Matthew Henry

Even now they get beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. Sowing in tears, they reap even here in joy. The days of our mourning shall soon be ended, and then God shall wipe away all tears from our eyes. Then, in the fullest sense, shall the mourners be comforted.

## **Why don't we see more mourning?**

☞ Attitudes \_\_\_\_\_

- The "Woe is me!" syndrome.
- "You should always be happy."

- Culturally, we limit our time to mourn

☛ Attitudes Within Us

- Love of \_\_\_\_; Hedonism
- \_\_\_\_\_; not poor in spirit
- \_\_\_\_\_ forgiveness

Before we can be filled with the Spirit  
we must be poor in spirit  
before we can be converted  
we must be convicted  
before we can be joyful  
we must mourn.

**Suggestions for Cultivating this Attitude**

☛ Meditate on the \_\_\_\_\_ (it reflects the gravity of our sin)

- Know God's Law
- Know God's Remedy for our Law-breaking

☛ Study the \_\_\_\_\_ of Our Sin

- Psalms, Newspaper, Deacon Experiences

☛ List the people you love who \_\_\_\_\_ know Christ

- What will happen to them when they die? Lk 6:25

**Questions to Ponder**

☛ How do you react to ungodly things? Think of movies/TV, the behavior of people around you, habits you hold onto. Do you laugh at these things, rationalize them as "only human", or take any pleasure in them? Do you mourn over them?

**Personal Challenge**

☛ For the next \_\_\_\_\_ days:

1. I will ask God to help me with sin \_\_\_\_\_. I will ask him to show me the results of it.
2. I will share about it with someone else who can help me.
3. If I commit it again, I promise to immediately confess it to God and beg for His forgiveness.