

## **THE BELIEVER'S BLESSED TEARS**

(Matthew 5:4)

One of the precious gifts that God has given to us is the gift of tears. Through our tears, we can express our deepest emotions, the heaviest burdens of our hearts, and the gravest agony of our souls. And God treasures and cherishes every tear we shed and every occasion of our mourning (Psalm 56:8). But there is one kind of mourning that God is most delighted with. The Scriptures call it godly sorrow which signifies mourning over sin (Matt. 5:4; 2 Cor. 7:9-10). Here are three manifestations of sin that we should mourn over to receive the blessed comfort of God.

- 1. We should mourn over the sins \_\_\_\_\_.**  
Mourning over one's own sinfulness has always been the authentic mark of genuine belief and true conversion to Christ. A true believer should not treat sin lightly, should not commit sin deliberately nor remember sin cheerfully (Psalm 38:4-6; 51:3-4). When we mourn over the sins within us, God comforts us with the blessing of His forgiveness (1 Cor. 6:9-11; Psalm 130:3-4; 32:1-4).

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- 2. We should mourn over the sins \_\_\_\_\_.**  
The sins of the believers severely grieve and pain the heart of God because the Lord takes the purity of His church seriously (Eph. 5:25-27). The sins of the church bring horrible shame and dishonor to the name of Christ, thus ruining her testimony and witness to the world. Mourning over the sins of the church (1 Cor. 5:1-2; 2 Cor. 12:21) means we neither condemn our sinning brethren (Luke.6:37) nor excuse them to tolerate their sin (Eph. 5:3) but we confront them and reprove their sins, pleading for their godly repentance (Luke 17:3; Matt.18:15-17; 2 Cor. 2:5-11). When we mourn over the sins among us, God comforts us with the blessing of His divine restoration (Jer. 15:19; Isa. 57:18-19).

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- 3. We should mourn over the sins \_\_\_\_\_.**  
The predominant sin of the unbelievers in our generation is the sin of perversion (Isa. 5:20). The unbelieving world perverts and distorts God's view of sin (Rom. 1:25-32). We need to mourn over the sins of the world (Psalm 119:136; Luke 13:34-35; 19:41) by shedding gospel tears for them, praying for their salvation and sharing the gospel to them (Rom. 1:16; 10:1; James 5:20). When we mourn over the sins around us, God comforts us with the blessing of His gospel.

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### **Concluding Reflection:**

*"During Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the One Who could save Him from death and He was heard because of His reverent submission. Although He was a son, He learned obedience from what He suffered and once made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey Him." (Hebrews 5:7-9)*