

THEY THAT MORN

MATTHEW 5

Text: Matthew 5:4

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⁴ Blessed *are* they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Introduction:

Remember - The Beatitudes are all:

1. Spiritual
2. Unpopular
3. Present

"Mourn" means grieve or sorrow and is used:

1. Mourning (lamenting) in general

(Matthew 5:4) Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

2. Sorrow for the death of a loved one

(Mark 5:4) Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him.

3. Mourning for the overthrow of Babylon and her systems

(Revelation 18:11) And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more:

(Revelation 18:15) The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing,

4. Of sorrow for sin or the condoning of it

(2 Corinthians 12:21) And lest, when I come again, my God will humble me among you, and that I shall bewail many which have sinned already, and have not repented of the uncleanness and fornication and lasciviousness which they have committed.

Though sorrow is common for both the saved and the lost - they do not mourn in the same spirit

1. THE REALITY OF MOURNING

- A. There are the Unqualified Mourners

1. Those who indulge the sorrow of discontent
2. The inordinate sorrow for worldly loss
3. The fleshly sorrow for wounded pride
4. Remember - The sorrow of the world worketh death

(2 Corinthians 7:10) For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

B. There are the Blessed Mourners - Mourning that arises

1. From a sense of offending God
2. From a compassion for the lost
3. From an association with burdened brethren

C. The Mourning of Matthew 5:4

(Matthew 5:4) Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

1. Not from a melancholy disposition

2. Nor a sorrow over temporal distress
3. Nor a sorrow in adversity
4. Nor because of disappointed hopes

2. CAUSES FOR MOURNING

A. Sin

1. Sin dishonors God
2. Sin glues itself to the sinner
3. Sin has the power to enslave

(Romans 6:17-18) But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. {18} Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

4. Sin has a day of judgment ahead

(Revelation 21:8) But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

5. Sin is the world about us

6. Sin is in the Church

(Acts 5:1-11) But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, {2} And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it, at the apostles' feet. {3} But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? {4} Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God. {5} And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things. {6} And the young men arose, wound him up, and carried him out, and buried him. {7} And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not knowing what was done, came in. {8} And Peter answered unto her, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? And she said, Yea, for so much. {9} Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out. {10} Then fell she down straightway at his feet, and yielded up the ghost: and the young men came in, and found her dead, and, carrying her forth, buried her by her

husband. {11} And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things.

7. We have our own hidden sins

8. Sin is all about us

(Jeremiah 9:18) And let them make haste, and take up a wailing for us, that our eyes may run down with tears, and our eyelids gush out with waters.

9. Here is the mourning for sin-not merely the consequences of it

B. The Absence of Spiritual Joy

1. The case of David (Psalm 51)

2. The case of Peter at his denial of Christ

(Luke 22:62) And Peter went out, and wept bitterly.

3. many today are without deep joy

(Isaiah 57:20-21) But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. {21} There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.

C. The Afflicted State of the Work of God

1. Do we sorrow for such little progress
2. Do we mourn that we are able to do so little
3. Do we lament our lack of progress

3. FRUITS OF SPIRITUAL MOURNING

A. We learn to mourn more for sin than for suffering

B. Spiritual Mourning Sends the Soul to God

Remember when the prodigal repented, he went to his Father

(Luke 15:11-22) And he said, A certain man had two sons: {12} And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living. {13} And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. {14} And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. {15} And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. {16} And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. {17} And when he

came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! {18} I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, {19} And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. {20} And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. {21} And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. {22} But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:

C. Spiritual Mourning is with Hope

Though our tears drop to earth - our faith reaches to the heavens

D. Spiritual Mourning is Purifying

The tears of holy mourning is like the waters of Jordon wherein Naaman washed and his leprosy was healed (II Kings 5)

E. Spiritual Mourning is Joined By:

1. A hatred of sin

2. Restitution

Conclusion: The Promise of Comfort

(Matthew 11:28-30) Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. {29} Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. {30} For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Jesus Himself will comfort us in mourning - How?

1. He will remove the causes of mourning - death - sickness - unfaithfulness

He will come and take us to a land where none of these can enter

(Revelation 21:4) And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

2. His comfort is pure - not muddled by guilt nor fear

3. His comfort is sweet, holy, and satisfying

4. His comfort is powerful

5. His joy strengthens us for duty - supports us in all afflictions

6. His comfort is eternal

7. His comfort is applied by His Spirit