

# **BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO MOURN...**

By Keith Greer

"Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted." {Matthew 5:4}

What type of "mourning" is Jesus discussing here? Define it as "bemoaning, lamenting; intense sorrow; sincere grief; weeping and crying with tears." Now that we know what mourning is- let us turn our attention to what is to be mourned.

Much can be discovered about one's character by what makes them laugh and weep. What makes you weep? Is God talking about tears shed over the loss of a loved one? Death in general? The pain and suffering of life?

Jesus is discussing the lamenting we must have for sin! Do we grieve over the sad condition of the soul laden with the burden of sin? Do we sorrow when one dies still in their sins?

What good has sin ever done for mankind? It was because of sin that Jesus died on the cross.

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." {Romans 5:8}

"Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness--by whose stripes you were healed." {1 Peter 2:24}

What can produce this type of reaction from sin? Godly sorrow!

"Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death." {2 Corinthians 7:9,10}

We must come to see sin in its true light. Mention the words "Aids" or "cancer", it strikes a nerve of fear in the mind. Why? We understand the terrible pain and suffering, even death, these things can bring to one's life. We must come to sin in the same light.

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." {Romans 6:23}

"For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries." {Hebrews 10:26,27}

Can we sit idly by, while many in the world are headed for eternal punishment, and not

mourn the reality of this truth?

“When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you shall surely die!' and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. Nevertheless if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul.” {Ezekiel 33:8,9}

Why did Jesus weep at the grave of Lazarus? {John 11:35} Could it be the sight of the pain and suffering, associated with death, all brought on by the terrible plague of sin. Please read Romans 5:12.

Christians especially need to understand the cost of sin in one's life. We need to see sin in all of its pain, misery, heartaches, and terrible consequences. Those who do so, God will comfort. How? By understanding He paid the price for our sins. Friend, do you mourn over sin? \*\*\*