

## Jesus gives us 4 sources of happiness: money, food, positivity and friends

And then he says: Blessed or Happy are those who **don't have** them.

Like the girls in **Little Women** giving away their **Christmas breakfast**...to a **poor family**. As Christians, sometimes we go without for the kingdom of God.

Be **generous** with the needy...and know that generosity can bring a **lot of joy** into your life.

And... Be very **leery** of selfishly seeking pleasure in this life.

There are good things in store for the saints who suffer pain and sorrow in this life.

And, there are great sorrows ahead for those who have their best life now.

### Luke 6:25

**25** "Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

**Is your life** one grand SELFISH EXTRAVAGANZA? You fill your bank account with money and your schedule with fun. Extravagant vacations and delicious food.

You spend your time with happy people. You love to **hang around** those who laugh and joke. Those who don't take life too seriously.

It's all kicks and giggles for you... But Jesus says...

**(NO CLICK)** **25** "Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

You have claimed your good things in this life, and you have forfeited much better things in the next life.

We covered:

1. Happy are the poor.

2. Happy are the hungry.

Today, is one of my favorites...

**3. Happy are the sad**

Jesus says... "Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

**Blessed** are you **sickly woman** on the 5<sup>th</sup> story of a run down apartment building, for you are right: It's better higher up!

Blessed are you **George Mueller** as you sit at empty tables with 300 children.

Blessed are you **Jim Elliott** as the spear is piercing your heart from the Huaorani Indians.

Blessed are you **Elisabeth Elliott** as you mourn the loss of your husband.

Blessed are you **Prophet Jeremiah** as you weep over the sin of Israel and the judgment that is coming upon them.

There is a **joy in the midst** of this type of sorrow. A joy of knowing that you are in the perfect will of God. A joy of knowing that you are suffering for the sake of righteousness.

A smile creeps up on your face even as the tears roll down your cheeks.

This is the kind of sorrow that **Jesus** experienced as he wept just before the **resurrection** of **Lazarus**. –

**Shortest verse** in the Bible. "Jesus wept"

Jesus **sorrowed** over the death of Lazarus and the sin of Israel, while he **rejoiced** over the resurrection and the salvation that was to come.

**Dustin Kensrue** sings "It is Finished" on his album The Water and the Blood

He describes the great salvation we have as Christians.

**There's no deed** that can redeem us  
There's no rite, no magic word  
Only by the work of Jesus  
Can salvation be secured

He tells of the **joy** that Christians experience in the midst of **challenge** and suffering.

**It is finished!** He has done it!  
Let your weary heart rejoice  
Our redemption is accomplished  
Raise a shout with ragged voice

We raise up our **ragged voices** to praise the Lord and we march forward for **Gospel**.

**And go** bravely into battle  
Knowing he has won the war  
It is finished, lift your head  
And weep no more