

WEEPING AND LAUGHING - Lk 6:21,25

062120A

INTRODUCTION

1. Lk 6:20-26 contrast of two kinds of life: kingdom life & life of this age. Life either for *now* [present] or *shall* [future] - v21 & 25
2. Challenge: the "already" of kingdom life: feels inverted but is right-side up.
 - i. Jesus inverts the values of a life lived for *now*
 - ii. The blessed - Rm 8:18
3. v21 & v25 weep//laugh

1st: Why Do We Weep or Laugh?

1. Emotions related to moral quality of character. Humor is revealing: reaction to perceived inconsistencies: flip side of weeping.
2. What we enjoy & what we find unappealing.
 - i. Prv 10:23 *sport* = laughter of 2 kinds of people profiled spiritually
 - ii. Eph 5:3-4 moral transformation of sense of humor
3. Rv 18:19-20 contrast of weeping & rejoicing
4. Lk 6:21a - the blessed *weep now*-Ps 119:136. v23 *glad & leaping for joy*
5. Weeping & laughing = reactions of soul to collision of kingdom of God invading kingdom of darkness - a reaction of conscience.

2nd: When Did Jesus Weep or Laugh?

1. Jesus' emotional stability due to prayer life: compassion, sorrow, anger, joy.
 - i. Jesus: sinless human emotions reveal immutable "heart" of God.
 - ii. Jesus laughing? F.W. Farrar, *The Life of Christ*, p.103. Jesus' joy found in obedience - birth, life, enthronement [Hb 1:9]: *gladness*.

2. Causes of Jesus' Joy: 1] do Father's will; 2] find the elect; 3] anticipate exaltation; 4] THE most joyous occasion:
 - i. Lk 10:17-20 - joy in conquest
 - ii. Our salvation occasions Jesus' joy - v21-22 *J rejoiced greatly in the Holy Spirit* - expressed in prayer.
 - iii. Jesus shares His joy w/ us - v23-24. A beatitude: *blessed*
3. When did Jesus weep? THE most distressing occasion - Jn 11 - Laz's funeral - v25-26: prospect of resurrection, revelation that Jesus is the res.
 - i. v33-45 quiet tears then convulsing & weeping: death is enemy.
 - ii. Jesus entered Jerusalem *wept over city* [Lk 19:41 - wail lament]: prophesies destruction of 70AD & Final Judgment.
 - iii. Gethsemane [Lk 22:39ff]: wept so hard burst blood vessels; then thru trials, torture, cross - but no mention of weeping: *For the joy set before Him endured the cross* [Hb 12:2]
4. Jesus' joy is unique - Jn 15:11; 17:13 - *My joy - It is finished!* Victory!
 - i. Zeph 3:17 *a victorious warrior* returned from battle into arms of wife.
5. Christian's joy: triumphing in battle, anticipating glory - Isa 65:17-19. Rv 21:4 *wipe away every tear*; Mat 13:41-43 *there will be weeping*
6. In conflict, Jesus weeps. Having conquered, Jesus laughs.

3rd: When Will You Weep and Laugh?

1. You will weep & laugh: when?
2. Jms 4:7-10 turn from laughter of arrogance to sorrow of repentance
3. Weeping disciples repels worldly fools: prospect of pain?
4. You will weep & laugh - what kind? why? when?
5. Sorrow is inevitable - but for the Christian, so is laughter - eternal laughter [Ps 126:2; 30:5b]