SERIES: LUKE: THE SON OF MAN, THE SAVIOR

HAS COME, WEEK 42

TITLE: HAPPY ARE THE HURTING

TEXT: LUKE 6:21B

INTRODUCTION: (1) THERE IS NO RECORD IN THE

N.T. OF JESUS EVER LAUGHING.

* THAT'S INTERESTING TO ME. HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT THAT?

** NOW WE ARE TOLD OF HIS WEEPING, HIS RIGHTEOUS ANGER, HIS HUNGER, HIS THIRST, HIS CONCERN AND MANY OTHER HUMAN EMOTIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS, BUT NEVER THAT HE LAUGHED.

*** IN ISAIAH 53:3, ISAIAH PREDICTED THAT JESUS WOULD BE A MAN OF SORROWS AND ACQUAINTED WITH GRIEF.

- **** NOW I'M NOT SAYING THIS MORNING THAT

 JESUS NEVER LAUGHED, I THINK HE MIGHT

 HAVE. HE WAS AROUND PETER FOR OVER 3

 YEARS.
- (2) BUT WHAT I AM SAYING IS, JESUS AS GOD THE SON WAS ON A MISSION, TO PUT IT AS MATTHEW 1:18 AND LUKE 19:10 PUT IT, "TO SAVE HIS PEOPLE FROM THEIR SINS AND TO SEEK AND TO SAVE THE LOST."
- * AND SIN AND LOSTNESS AND THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN BOTH NOW AND IN ETERNITY ARE NOTHING TO LAUGH ABOUT.
- ** SIN, WHICH IS REBELLION AGAINST GOD, WANTING MY WAY OVER GOD'S WAY, WILLFULNESS, DEPARTING FROM GOD'S PRESCRIBED PATH HAS BROUGHT GREAT SORROW AND PAIN IN ALL OF OUR LIVES AND IN OUR WORLD.

*** THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN ARE DEVASTATING AND JESUS SAW THAT DEVASTATION AND KNEW WHAT SIN DID, SO THERE **WASN'T A WH**OLE LOT TO LAUGH ABOUT.

**** AND I'M NOT SAYING THAT LAUGHING IS WRONG, I LOVE TO LAUGH. ECCLESIASTES 3:3 SAYS THERE IS A TIME TO WEEP AND A TIME TO LAUGH. BILLY SUNDAY USED TO SAY GOD MUST HAVE HAD A SENSE OF HUMOR, HE MADE THE MONKEY, THE ELEPHANT, THE GIRAFFE, AND SOME OF YOU FOLKS.

- (3) BUT THE ISSUE IS, ALL SOME PEOPLE WANT TO DO IS LAUGH. LIFE IS A JOKE AND LIVE TO WATCH THE NEXT SITCOM, LISTEN TO THE NEXT COMEDIAN, AND NOW THE NEXT CHRISTIAN COMEDIAN.
- * BUT LIFE IMPACTED BY SIN IS NOT VERY FUNNY. AND FOR A LOT OF PEOPLE TO GET AWAY FROM THE SORROW OF SIN AND ITS CONSEQUENCES, THEY WANT TO LAUGH ALL THE TIME, AN ESCAPE FROM REALITY.

- ** YET THE STORY OF MANKIND IN A SENSE IS A STORY OF TEARS AND HEARTACHE AND DEATH.
- *** AND WHEN WE THINK OF HAPPINESS, WE WOULD PROBABLY THINK THAT HAPPINESS AND LAUGHTER GO TOGETHER.
- **** YET THE CONDITION OF THE THIRD BEATITUDE IS WEEPING, BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO MOURN.
- (4) JESUS SAID, HAPPY ARE THE SAD, HAPPY ARE THE HURTING, BLISS COMES TO THE BROKEN HEART.
- * JESUS TURNED THE WORLD'S PRINCIPLES
 UPSIDE DOWN. HE REVERSED THE PATH TO
 HAPPINESS, HE CHANGED THE RULES AT LEAST
 FROM THE WORLD'S PERSPECTIVE.
- ** FOR IN REALITY, HE DIDN'T BECAUSE HE MAKES THE RULES AND HE CAME TO BRING JOY TO THOSE WHO MOURN AND WEEP.

- *** IN FACT IN PROPHESYING ABOUT CHRIST, ISAIAH SAID IN ISAIAH 61:1-3:
- V. 1 "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD GOD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE THE LORD HAS ANOINTED ME TO BRING GOOD NEWS TO THE AFFLICTED; HE HAS SENT ME TO BIND UP THE BROKENHEARTED, TO PROCLAIM LIBERTY TO CAPTIVES, AND FREEDOM TO PRISONERS;
- V. 2 TO PROCLAIM THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD, AND THE DAY OF VENGEANCE OF OUR GOD; TO COMFORT ALL WHO MOURN.
- V. 3 TO GRANT THOSE WHO MOURN IN ZION, GIVING THEM A GARLAND INSTEAD OF ASHES, THE OIL OF GLADNESS INSTEAD OF MOURNING, THE MANTLE OF PRAISE INSTEAD OF A SPIRIT OF FAINTING. SO THEY WILL BE CALLED OAKS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, THE PLANTING OF THE LORD, THAT HE MAY BE GLORIFIED."

- (5) AND JESUS FULFILLED THAT PROPHECY BY HIS MINISTRY AND COMMUNICATED THAT IN A SYNAGOGUE IN NAZARETH, EARLIER IN LUKE IN 4:16-21.
- * SO JESUS CAME TO COMFORT THE SAD, TO BRING GOOD NEWS TO THE AFFLICTED, TO BIND UP THE BROKENHEARTED AND TO COMFORT THOSE WHO MOURN AND WEEP.
- ** JESUS CAME TO BRING TRUE HAPPINESS TO HIS PEOPLE. AND THE HOWS OF THAT HAPPINESS ARE FOUND IN THE BEATITUDES, HOW KINGDOM PEOPLE CAN BE TRULY HAPPY.

*** IN LIGHT OF THAT, I'VE TITLED OUR MESSAGE TODAY, "HAPPY ARE THE HURTING."

**** AND IN LUKE 6:21B, AS WE STUDY THE THIRD OF FOUR **BEATITUDES, WE'LL LOO**K AT JUST TWO POINTS.

- (6) NO. 1 THE PRINCIPLE, THE TRUTH THAT NEEDS TO BE APPLIED "BLESSED ARE YOU WHO WEEP"; AND NO. 2 THE PROMISE OF APPLYING THIS PRINCIPLE, "FOR YOU SHALL LAUGH."
- * NOW WITH THOSE TWO POINTS IN MIND, LOOK AT LUKE 6:21B PLEASE, WHE**RE WE'LL SEE OUR** FIRST POINT TODAY, THE PRINCIPLE.
- I. THE PRINCIPLE, (READ V. 21B)
- A. NOW JESUS SAID BLESSING HAPPINESS COMES THROUGH WEEPING.
- * AND THE GREEK VERB FOR WEEPING HERE LIT.
 MEANS TO MOURN, TO LAMENT, IT HAS TO DO
 WITH WEEPING AS A SIGN OF PAIN AND GRIEF,
 TO WEEP FOR, TO MOURN FOR.
- ** AND IN ESSENCE THIS THIRD BEATITUDE IN **LUKE CORRESPONDS TO MATTHEW'S SECOND**BEATITUDE FOUND IN MATTHEW 5:4 WHICH SAYS: (QUOTE IT)

*** AND MATTHEW'S EMPHASIS IS ON MOURNING AND GOD'S COMFORT WHICH GOES RIGHT ALONG WITH WEEPING AND JOY OR LAUGHING THAT FOLLOWS.

**** NOW WITH THAT SAID, PEOPLE MOURN, WEEP AND HAVE SORROW OVER DIFFERENT THINGS. SOMETIMES OUT OF CONCERN, SOMETIMES OUT OF LOVE, SOMETIMES OUT OF DISAPPOINTMENT, SOMETIMES OUT OF LONELINESS, AND SOMETIMES BECAUSE OF SIN. THERE ARE A MULTITUDE OF REASONS WHY PEOPLE MOURN.

***** SO THE QUESTION COMES UP HERE, WHAT KIND OF MOURNING OR WEEPING BRINGS TRUE HAPPINESS? WHAT KIND OF SORROW BRINGS THE LORD'S COMFORT? IS IT ANY KIND OF MOURNING? WHAT KIND OF MOURNING IS JESUS TALKING ABOUT HERE?

- WELL, SOME SAY LUKE 6:21B AND MATTHEW 5:4 ARE SAYING THAT AFTER YOU HAVE WEPT OVER ANYTHING YOU FEEL BETTER. AND WEEPING OVER SORROW IS A GOOD THING NO DOUBT.
- 1. AND TRUE SORROW TEACHES US MANY THINGS. DISAPPOINTMENT, PHYSICAL PAIN, LOSING A LOVED ONE, AND LONELINESS ARE KINDS OF SORROW AND WEEPING THAT CAN HELP US AS INDIVIDUALS.
- * FOR THERE ARE THINGS WE CAN LEARN THROUGH SORROW THAT WE WILL NOT LEARN ANY OTHER WAY AS BELIEVERS.
- ** AN OLD ARAB PROVERB SAYS "ALL SUNSHINE MAKES A DESERT." AND IF WE DON'T HAVE RAINY GLOOMY DAYS OUR LIVES WILL DRY UP AND BE ARID, A DESERT.

*** AND SOME OF THE KINDEST, MOST GRACIOUS, MOST SENSITIVE PEOPLE I KNOW ARE INDIVIDUALS THAT HAVE LOST CHILDREN, MATES AND PARENTS BEFORE THEIR QUOTE "TIME", BEFORE THEY ARE EXPECTED TO DIE, AND PEOPLE WHO HAVE HAD SEVERE PHYSICAL PROBLEMS AND HANDICAPS AND HAVE HURT DEEPLY. PEOPLE WHO HAVE MOURNED AND WEPT A LOT.

**** SO IT IS TRUE THAT SORROW TEACHES US MANY THINGS. BUT I **DON'T BELIEVE** LUKE 6:21B IS TALKING ABOUT WEEPING OR BEING STRENGTHENED AS A RESULT OF MOURNING.

2. JESUS WAS NOT TALKING ABOUT WHAT WE MIGHT CALL SORROW FROM HUMAN CIRCUMSTANCES WHETHER LEGITIMATE OR ILLEGITIMATE.

- * HE WAS TALKING ABOUT THE SORROW BY PEOPLE WHO WOULD BECOME KINGDOM PEOPLE, HIS SUBJECTS. HE WAS TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING SPIRITUAL THAT HAS ETERNAL IMPACT AND SOMETHING THAT HAPPENS THAT STARTS TO LEAD US INTO THE KINGDOM AND THEN HELPS US TO BE THE SUBJECTS OF HIS RULE THAT WE NEED TO BE.
- ** BELOVED JESUS WAS TALKING ABOUT GODLY SORROW HERE, SORROW OVER SIN, WHAT TRULY BRINGS PAIN IN OUR WORLD, A DISEASE IF NOT HEALED BY CHRIST WILL DAMN US, AND ONCE WE ARE HEALED, SAVED, WILL DESTROY US AND TAKE OUR JOY AWAY.
- *** AND BELOVED SIN IS THE ROOT THAT BRINGS SO MUCH SORROW IN OUR WORLD. BUT FORGIVENESS OF SIN BRINGS JOY AND PEACE AND CONTENTMENT IN THE MIDST OF GREAT, GREAT TRIALS!

- **** ONLY MOURNERS AND THOSE WHO WEEP OVER SIN ARE HAPPY BECAUSE ONLY MOURNERS OVER SIN HAVE THEIR SINS FORGIVEN. SIN AND HAPPINESS ARE TOTALLY INCOMPATIBLE.
- 3. WHERE ONE EXISTS THE OTHER CANNOT. AND UNTIL SIN IS FORGIVEN AND REMOVED, HAPPINESS IS LOCKED OUT.
- * BUT MOURNING OVER SIN BRINGS FORGIVENESS OF SIN, AND FORGIVENESS OF SIN BRINGS A FREEDOM AND A JOY THAT CANNOT BE EXPERIENCED IN ANY OTHER WAY.
- ** JAMES SAID IN JAMES 4:8-10:
- V. 8 "DRAW NEAR TO GOD AND HE WILL DRAW NEAR TO YOU. CLEANSE YOUR HANDS, YOU SINNERS; AND PURIFY YOUR HEARTS, YOU DOUBLE-MINDED.

V. 9 - BE MISERABLE AND MOURN AND WEEP; LET YOUR LAUGHTER BE TURNED INTO MOURNING, AND YOUR JOY TO GLOOM.

V. 10 - HUMBLE YOURSELVES IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD, AND HE WILL EXALT YOU." (HE'LL LIFT YOU UP, HE CAN TURN GLOOM AND MOURNING INTO JOY.)

*** AND THEN IN II CORINTHIANS 7:8-10, PAUL TALKS ABOUT GODLY SORROW THAT LEADS TO REPENTANCE FOR SALVATION.

**** II CORINTHIANS 7:8-10:

V. 8 - "FOR THOUGH I CAUSED YOU SORROW BY MY LETTER, I DO NOT REGRET IT; THOUGH I DID REGRET IT, FOR I SEE THAT THAT LETTER CAUSED YOU SORROW, THOUGH ONLY FOR A WHILE -

- V. 9 I NOW REJOICE, NOT THAT YOU WERE MADE SORROWFUL, BUT THAT YOU WERE MADE SORROWFUL TO THE POINT OF REPENTANCE; FOR YOU WERE MADE SORROWFUL ACCORDING TO THE WILL OF GOD, IN ORDER THAT YOU MIGHT NOT SUFFER LOSS IN ANYTHING THROUGH US.
- V. 10 FOR THE SORROW THAT IS ACCORDING TO THE WILL OF GOD PRODUCES A REPENTANCE WITHOUT REGRET, LEADING TO SALVATION; BUT THE SORROW OF THE WORLD PRODUCES **DEATH."**
- 5. NOW A PERSON CAN WEEP BITTERLY AND HAVE SORROW BECAUSE OF LONELINESS, DISCOURAGEMENT, REGRET, EARNEST LOVE AND A MULTITUDE OF OTHER THINGS, BUT THAT KIND OF SORROW WILL NEVER BRING ETERNAL LIFE.
- * SO THEN, THE <u>ONLY</u> KIND OF MOURNING THAT RESULTS IN SALVATION IS GODLY SORROW OVER SIN BECAUSE IT LEADS TO REPENTANCE.

- ** AND UNTIL THERE IS REPENTANCE THERE WILL BE NO SALVATION. IN LUKE 6:21B JESUS WASN'T SAYING THAT THE LONELY OR DISCOURAGED ARE BLESSED, BUT THAT THOSE WHO ARE DISTRESSED AND MOURNING AND WEEPING OVER THEIR SIN WILL BE.
- *** WEEPING, MOURNING THEREFORE IS GOD-CENTERED AND NOT MAN-CENTERED, SORROW IS OVER SIN NOT CIRCUMSTANCES.
- 6. SO WEEPING IS MOURNING OVER SIN, AND THAT IS GODLY SORROW WHICH LEADS TO REPENTANCE FOR SALVATION. THE STARTING **BLOCK FOR ENTRANCE INTO CHRIST'S KINGDOM,** TO BECOME HIS SUBJECT.
- * BUT LET ME ADD, ONCE WE BECOME **CHRIST'S**SERVANTS AND SUBJECTS, THE FAITHFUL
 SUBJECT OF THE KING IS CONSTANTLY BROKEN
 OVER HIS SINFULNESS.

** BELOVED, THE MORE WE MATURE IN CHRIST, THE MORE WE SEE OUR OWN SIN. TO GROW IN GRACE IS ALSO TO GROW IN AWARENESS OF SIN AND WEEPING AND MOURNING OVER IT.

*** AND SENSITIVITY TO SIN AND MOURNING OVER SIN, BEING BROKEN OVER OUR REBELLION AND WILLFULNESS WILL LEAD US TO CONFESS AND FORSAKE SIN AND KNOW THE JOY AND HAPPINESS IN WALKING IN THE SPIRIT AND KNOWING OUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN.

**** FOR YOU SEE AT SALVATION, WE ARE CLEANSED AND FORGIVEN OF ALL OUR SINS EVEN FUTURE SINS, CHRIST PAID FOR ALL OF THEM WHEN HE PURCHASED OUR SALVATION. HIS DEATH WAS DEFINITE IN ITS PURPOSE AND DESIGN, IN WHAT IT WOULD ACCOMPLISH FOR HIS PEOPLE, HIS ELECT.

7. AND CHRIST DIDN'T POTENTIALLY PAY FOR OUR SALVATION AND FORGIVENESS - FOR ALL OUR SINS, HE PURCHASED IT ON CAVALRY'S TREE AND PAID FOR ALL OUR SINS. NOT POTENTIALLY, BUT ACTUALLY.

- * IN REVELATION 5:9&10 IT SAYS:
- V. 9 AND THEY SANG A NEW SONG, SAYING, "WORTHY ARE YOU TO TAKE THE BOOK AND TO BREAK ITS SEALS; FOR YOU WERE SLAIN, AND PURCHASED FOR GOD WITH YOUR BLOOD MEN FROM EVERY TRIBE AND TONGUE AND PEOPLE AND NATION.
- V. 10 "YOU HAVE MADE THEM TO BE A KINGDOM AND PRIESTS TO OUR GOD; AND THEY WILL REIGN UPON THE EARTH."
- ** NOW THE QUESTION I ASK AT THIS POINT IS, FOR WHOM WAS THE ATONEMENT, FOR WHOM WAS CHRIST'S DEATH DESIGNED FOR IN THE PURPOSES OF GOD.
- *** DID GOD THE FATHER SEND JESUS CHRIST THE SON INTO THE WORLD MERELY TO MAKE SALVATION POSSIBLE FOR PEOPLE.
- *** OR DID GOD HAVE SOMETHING MORE DEFINITE IN MIND.

- **** WHAT WAS THE FATHER AND SON'S INTENTION ON THE CROSS?
- 8. WELL, R. C. SPROUL WRITES AND I QUOTE FROM HIS BOOK "CHOSEN BY GOD," WHICH I HIGHLY RECOMMEND, "CHRIST'S ATONEMENT WAS REAL. IT AFFECTED ALL THAT GOD AND JESUS INTENDED BY IT. THE DESIGN OF GOD WAS NOT AND CANNOT BE FRUSTRATED BY HUMAN BELIEF. THE SOVEREIGN GOD SOVEREIGNLY SENT HIS SON TO ATONE FOR HIS PEOPLE."
- * SPROUL WENT ON TO SAY: "THE MISSION OF CHRIST WAS TO SAVE THE ELECT. THIS IS THE WILL OF THE FATHER WHO SENT ME, THAT OF ALL HE HAS GIVEN ME I SHOULD LOSE NOTHING, BUT SHOULD RAISE IT UP AT THE LAST DAY, JOHN 6:39." (END QUOTE)

** NOW SPROUL WAS SAYING THAT CHRIST'S DEATH WAS DEFINITE IN ITS DESIGN AND ACCOMPLISHMENT, DEFINITE IN ITS EFFECTIVENESS, IN ITS RESULT.

*** AND EITHER CHRIST POTENTIALLY PROVIDED FOR FORGIVENESS TO BE DETERMINED BY MAN'S WILL, OR PURCHASED HIS PEOPLE'S FORGIVENESS ACCORDING TO HIS FATHER'S WILL.

**** AND BELOVED, JESUS PAID THE RANSOM PRICE FOR HIS PEOPLE, JESUS CAME TO REDEEM HIS PEOPLE, HE CAME AS A SATISFACTION, A PROPITIATION FOR HIS PEOPLE, TO RECONCILE HIS PEOPLE, NOT POTENTIALLY, BUT ACTUALLY, DEFINITELY, PARTICULARLY A DEFINITE ATONEMENT, PARTICULAR REDEMPTION.

9. LET ME QUICKLY GIVE YOU SOME SCRIPTURES TO CHEW OVER THAT COMMUNICATE THAT. MATTHEW 20:28, MATTHEW 26:28, HEBREWS 9:28, MATTHEW 1:21, JOHN 10:11.

- * JOHN 10:15 SAYS: "EVEN AS THE FATHER KNOWS ME AND I KNOW THE FATHER; AND I LAY DOWN MY LIFE FOR THE SHEEP."
- ** ALSO QUOTE ACTS 20:28 AND EPHESIANS 5:25.
- *** LUKE 1:68 "BLESSED BE THE LORD GOD OF ISRAEL, FOR HE HAS VISITED US AND ACCOMPLISHED REDEMPTION FOR HIS PEOPLE."
- **** GALATIANS 3:13 CHRIST REDEEMED US FROM THE CURSE OF THE LAW, HAVING BECOME A CURSE FOR US FOR IT IS WRITTEN, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE."

***** NOW MY MAIN POINT IS, JESUS PAID FOR EVERY SIN OF THOSE WHO WOULD BE REDEEMED, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE, AND ALL OF OUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN, WE'VE HAD THE BATH OF SALVATION. BUT YOU KNOW WHAT, AS WE WALK IN THIS SINFUL WORLD WE GET OUR FEET DIRTY. SO WE NEED TO WASH OUR FEET, AND THE SPIRITUAL FOOT WASHING FOR BELIEVERS IS CONFESSION OF SIN.

- FOR WHEN WE SIN, WE LOSE OUR JOY, YOU CAN'T BE SPIRITUALLY HAPPY WITH UNCONFESSED SIN. YOU CAN'T LAUGH PER SE. BUT THE MOMENT YOU CONFESS AND FORSAKE SIN, THE BLESSEDNESS IS THERE!
- 10. AND A FRUIT, AN EVIDENCE OF BEING A TRUE BELIEVER IS CONTINUALLY CONFESSING SIN, THAT WHICH AFFECTS OUR COMMUNION, OUR INTIMACY WITH THE LORD.
- * THE MARK OF A MATURE LIFE IS NOT SINLESSNESS, WHICH IS RESERVED FOR HEAVEN, BUT A GROWING AWARENESS OF SINFULNESS. THE SUBJECTS OF GOD'S KINGDOM THE FORGIVEN ONES, THE CHILDREN OF GOD AND JOINT HEIRS WITH THE SON ARE CHARACTERIZED BY CONTINUAL CONFESSION OF SIN, I JOHN 1:6-9 AND PROVERBS 28:13. (QUOTE THEM)

- ** TO FURTHER AMPLIFY THE BLESSEDNESS OF SINS CONFESSED AFTER SALVATION, PSALM 32:1-5 =
- V. 1 HOW BLESSED IS HE WHOSE TRANSGRESSION IS FORGIVEN, WHOSE SIN IS COVERED!
- V. 2 HOW BLESSED IS THE MAN TO WHOM THE LORD DOES NOT IMPUTE INIQUITY, AND IN WHOSE SPIRIT THERE IS NO DECEIT!
- V. 3 WHEN I KEPT SILENT ABOUT MY SIN, MY BODY WASTED AWAY THROUGH MY GROANING ALL DAY LONG.
- V. 4 FOR DAY AND NIGHT YOUR HAND WAS HEAVY UPON ME; MY VITALITY WAS DRAINED AWAY AS WITH THE FEVER HEAT OF SUMMER.

V. 5 - I ACKNOWLEDGED MY SIN TO YOU, AND MY INIQUITY I DID NOT HIDE; I SAID, "I WILL CONFESS MY TRANSGRESSIONS TO THE LORD"; AND YOU FORGAVE THE GUILT OF MY SIN.

*** BELOVED, THE BLESSED MAN OR WOMAN IS ONE WHOSE SINS ARE FORGIVEN, STARTING WITH SALVATION, AND THEN CONFESSING SIN TO KNOW THE JOY OF SWEET COMMUNION WITH OUR MONARCH, OUR KING, OUR LORD.

**** AND THERE IS A WONDERFUL PROMISE FOR THOSE WHO WEEP AND MOURN OVER SIN, AND THAT PROMISE IS FOUND IN THE LAST PART OF LUKE 6:21B, OUR SECOND AND LAST POINT TODAY, LOOK BACK AT LUKE 6:21B PLEASE.

II. THE PROMISE, (LUKE 6:21B)

A. NOW THE PROMISE FOR THOSE WHO WEEP IS THAT THEY WILL LAUGH. THE RESULT OF GODLY MOURNING IS COMFORT, IN MATTHEW 5:4.

- * AND UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS NOT THE WEEPING THAT BLESSES, BUT THE COMFORT GOD GIVES TO THOSE WHO WEEP, MOURN IN A GODLY WAY.
- ** HAPPINESS, OR BLESSEDNESS, DOES NOT COME IN THE WEEPING ITSELF. HAPPINESS COMES WITH WHAT GOD DOES IN RESPONSE TO IT, WITH THE FORGIVENESS THAT SUCH WEEPING BRINGS.
- *** FOLKS, GODLY MOURNING AND WEEPING BRINGS GOD'S FORGIVENESS, WHICH BRINGS GOD'S HAPPINESS AND LAUGHING. LAUGHTER IN THE SENSE OF EXPRESSING JOY, RELIEF AND FREEDOM FOR THE FORGIVEN.

- **** FOR WEEPING IS NOT MERELY A PSYCHOLOGICAL OR EMOTIONAL EXPERIENCE THAT MAKES PEOPLE FEEL BETTER. IT IS A COMMUNION WITH THE LIVING, LOVING GOD WHO RESPONDS TO THE MOURNER WITH AN OBJECTIVE REALITY THE REALITY OF DIVINE FORGIVENESS, LAUGHTER OF THE SOUL, JOY, COMFORT ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 5:4.
- 1. AND FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT THE PRONOUN YOU IN V. 21B INDICATES THAT ONLY THOSE WHO MOURN OR WEEP OVER SIN WILL BE COMFORTED AND LAUGH.
- * AGAIN THE BLESSING OF GOD'S COMFORT IS RESERVED EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE CONTRITE OF HEART.
- ** AND IT IS ONLY THOSE WHO MOURN AND WEEP FOR SIN WHO WILL HAVE THEIR TEARS WIPED AWAY BY THE LOVING HAND OF JESUS CHRIST. THEY WILL BE COMFORTED.

- *** AND ONE DAY IN THE ETERNAL HEAVENLY STATE, "GOD SHALL WIPE AWAY ALL TEARS," QUOTE REVELATION 21:4.
- 2. SO THERE IS ULTIMATE FUTURE COMFORT AND JOY AS WE ARE ULTIMATELY SAVED. <u>BUT</u>, THE COMFORT AND LAUGHING OF LUKE 6:21B IS FUTURE ONLY IN THE SENSE THAT THE BLESSING COMES <u>AFTER</u> THE OBEDIENCE; THE COMFORT COMES AFTER THE MOURNING, THE WEEPING.
- * AND AS WE CONTINUALLY MOURN AND WEEP OVER OUR SIN, <u>WE SHALL BE</u> CONTINUALLY COMFORTED NOW, IN THIS PRESENT LIFE.
- ** GOD IS NOT ONLY THE GOD OF FUTURE COMFORT BUT OF PRESENT COMFORT. PRAISE GOD!

IN WRAP UP: (1) HAPPINESS COMES TO THOSE WHO ARE HURTING, HAPPY ARE THE SAD, BECAUSE GODLY SADNESS AND GODLY SORROW OVER OUR SIN LEADS TO GOD'S COMFORT AND JOY, WE CAN LAUGH AGAIN, QUOTE PSALM 126:5.

- * JESUS SAID IN MATTHEW 11:28: (QUOTE IT)
- ** AND JESUS WILL LIFT THE WEIGHT OF BURDENS FROM THOSE WHO MOURN AND WEEP OVER SIN, AND HE WILL GIVE REST TO THOSE WHO ARE WEARY OF SIN. HE WILL GIVE JOY AND LAUGHTER.
- *** AND **IF YOU DON'T KNOW CHRIST AS YOUR**LORD, YOUR KING, AS YOUR SAVIOR, THE
 ENTRANCE INTO HIS KINGDOM IS FOR THOSE
 WHO COME LOW, WHO ARE POOR IN SPIRIT AND
 BECAUSE OF GRACE, MOURN OVER THEIR SIN.

**** AND I WONDER, HAS THE LORD BROUGHT YOU TO THAT PLACE TODAY, THAT THE BURDEN AND WEIGHT OF SIN HAVE BROUGHT YOU LOW, THEN BOW? FOR YOU SEE WHEN YOU'RE LOW IT'S NOT MUCH FURTHER DOWN TO HIT YOUR KNEES AND TRUST AND RECEIVE THE SAVIOR. (RECEIVE HIS TRUE COMFORT AND KNOW THE BLESSEDNESS OF SINS FORGIVEN, THE JOY OF LAUGHTER).

- THE SUBJECTS OF JESUS ARE MOURNERS.
- 2. <u>BELIEVER</u>, AS OFTEN AS WE CONFESS OUR SINS, HE IS FAITHFUL TO FORGIVE, AND FOR AS LONG AS WE MOURN AND WEEP OVER SIN, HE IS FAITHFUL TO COMFORT.
- * WHEN'S THE LAST TIME YOU WEPT OVER YOUR SIN? WHEN'S THE LAST TIME YOU MOURNED OVER YOUR SIN? WHEN'S THE LAST TIME YOU ACHED OVER YOUR SIN?

** MAYBE IT'S TIME TO DO THAT TODAY. TO SEE THE HEINOUSNESS OF SIN, THAT **IT'S** COSMIC TREASON, THAT IT IS WICKEDNESS, THAT IT IS TRANSGRESSION.

*** AND GETTING A GLIMPSE OF WHAT IT IS THEN BOWING IN REPENTANCE FOR FORGIVENESS AND TO KNOW THE JOY, THE BLESSEDNESS, THE COMFORT AND LAUGHTER OF BEING CLEAN.

**** BELIEVER, KEEP YOUR ACCOUNTS SHORT!

- (3) SIN IS NEVER WORTH IT DON'T BE DECEIVED! SIN TRAMPLES ON GOD'S LAWS, MAKES LIGHT OF HIS LOVE, GRIEVES HIS SPIRIT, SPURNS HIS FORGIVENESS AND BLESSINGS, MOCKS THE CROSS, AND IN EVERY WAY RESISTS GOD'S GRACE.
- * SIN MAKES US WEAK AND MAKES US IMPURE.
 IT ROBS US OF COMFORT AND, MUCH MORE
 IMPORTANTLY, ROBS GOD OF GLORY.

** LET US SOW IN TEARS THAT WE CAN REAP IN JOY. BLESSED ARE YOU THAT WEEP NOW FOR YOU SHALL LAUGH AND BE COMFORTED. HAPPY ARE THE HURTING. (LET'S PRAY).