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## Weeping before the Lord Pt 1 A response from our heart

This is our first study from the scriptures on weeping before the Lord. From our search of the scriptures we establish three points–(1) Like the heathen we weep before God when a loved one dies, (2) we weep when we repent – when a lost person comes to the Lord, (3) we weep when we are afflicted, distressed or afflicted.

### 1. Whether we be heathen or saved we weep for the ones we love when they die

“And Sarah died in Kirjath-arba; the same is Hebron in the land of Canaan: and Abraham came to mourn for Sarah, and to weep for her” (Gen.23: 2).

### 2. Weeping can take place when we repent and confess our sin

“Now when Ezra had prayed, and when he had confessed, weeping and casting himself down before the house of God, there assembled unto him a very great congregation...for the people wept very sore” (Ezra 10: 1).

### 3. We weep when we are afflicted, distressed and overwhelmed

“Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness” (Jas.4: 9).

#### Illustration

I remember witnessing to a young woman who, as the gospel was being preached she had tears rolling down her cheeks, she felt convicted of her sin, and wept. She called on the name of the Lord, and believed the gospel in her heart, the outward manifestation of tears and desire to feed from the word of God and pray were all signs of an inward change of heart.

#### Question of the scriptures

Why do we weep before God?

#### Answer from the scriptures

David wept because his cry entered into God's ears (just think of that for moment).

“In my distress I called upon the Lord, and cried to my God: and he did hear my voice out of his temple, and my cry did enter into his ears” (2 Sam.22: 7).

It was because “the Lord heard the voice of my weeping” (Ps.6:8) that David entreated the workers of iniquity to depart from him.

Hence the Lord is nigh them that are of broken heart

“The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit” (Ps.34: 18).

There are times however, that Israel wept before the Lord but He did not hearken nor give ear– “And ye returned and wept before the Lord; but the Lord would not hearken to your voice, nor give ear unto you” (Deut 1:45).

What does your heart grieve over that takes place in your life, your family or this world? Let us come before our God with a tender heart, with a preparedness to pour out our heart– unloading those things that overwhelm us, that grieve us. When we do it will not be from our head, but our bowels. And God will see and hear, and respond, and our tears will turn to joy! Praise God!!