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Weeping before the Lord Pt 2 Implications of a tender heart

This is our second study from the scriptures on weeping before the Lord. In our previous teaching we established 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. In this study we establish that when our heart is tender we can (i) weep for a city, (ii) sow in tears and bear precious seed, and (ii) weep when we beseech a brother to walk uprightly.

It is from our search of the scripture that we establish our three points–

1. When our heart is tender– we can weep for a city

“And they shall make themselves utterly bald for thee, and gird them with sackcloth, and they shall weep for thee with bitterness of heart [and] bitter wailing. And in their wailing they shall take up a lamentation for thee, and lament over thee, saying, What [city is] like Tyrus, like the destroyed in the midst of the sea?” (Ez.27: 32).

2. When our heart is tender we will sow in tears & bear precious seed

“They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him” (Ps.126: 5 & 6).

3. When a minister’s heart is tender he will weep when he beseeches his brethren to walk uprightly

“(For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ” (Phil.3: 18).

Illustration

I remember the first time I heard of a preacher praying for the lost and weeping for their souls, that they would not go to hell when they die. I was amazed at someone weeping for the lost, for someone they do not know. How could a person that we do not know make us weep? It is not like we can make ourselves cry, it is a response from the heart.

Question of the scriptures

What takes place in the heart that causes a man to weep for the lost?

Answer from the scriptures

The Lord Jesus had compassion, love, kindness and care for mankind– such would have come from His heart, but reflected in His mind also. And the scriptures say– Let the mind of Christ be in us– “If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,..Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus” (Phil 2:1–5). And we know from the Scriptures that we have the Spirit of Christ in our hearts– “But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you” (Rom 8:11). The more tender our heart is to receive and discern the Spirit’s leading, we will know something of God’s heart for the lost, and we feel His heart, and our heart will melt, our heart will weep for the lost, our brethren and Jerusalem, and we will cry out to God – “because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father” (Gal 4:6). May our hearts be tender, and not hardened by sin, that we would weep for the lost!