

The Blessed Life  
**Mourn**  
Matthew 5:4

Are You Sad?

Are You Sad?



Happiness is a gift from God.

Not our happy, His happy!

Acts 14:17:



Happiness is a gift from God.

Yet he did not leave himself without witness, for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.

— Acts 14:17

Acts 14:17: Yet he did not leave himself without witness, for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, **satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.**”

(in Lystra)



Acts 2:46: And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, **they received their food with glad and generous hearts,**





Philippians 4:4: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

More than happiness, better, is JOY!

Abiding sense of relationship not about circumstances.



- Jeremiah 13:17: But if you will not listen, my soul will weep in secret for your **pride**; my eyes will weep bitterly and run down with tears, because **Jehovah's flock has been taken**
- Jeremiah 3:21: A voice on the bare heights is heard, the weeping and pleading of Israel's sons because they have **perverted their way**; they have **forgotten Jehovah** their God.



- Jeremiah 22:10: Weep not for him who is dead, nor grieve for him, but **weep bitterly for him who goes away**, for he **shall return no more** to see his native land.
- Jeremiah 13:17: But if you will not listen, my soul will weep in secret for your **pride**; my eyes will weep bitterly and run down with tears, because **Jehovah's flock has been taken**





- Jeremiah 9:10: “I will take up weeping and wailing for the mountains, and a lamentation for the pastures of the wilderness, because they are **laid waste** so that no one passes through, and the lowing of cattle is not heard; both the birds of the air and the beasts have fled and are gone.





- Jeremiah 31:15: Thus says the Lord: “A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her **children**; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are **no more**.”
- Jeremiah 9:1: Oh that my head were waters, and my eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the **slain** of the daughter of my people!



- Jeremiah 31:9 - With weeping they shall come, and with pleas for mercy **I will lead them back**, I will make them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble, for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.



- Jeremiah 50:4: "In those days and in that time, declares the Lord, the people of Israel and the people of Judah shall come together, weeping as they come, and they shall **seek** the Lord their God.



Blessed are they that mourn:  
for they shall be comforted.



Mourn

**"blessed"**

> Happy

**= Approved by God**



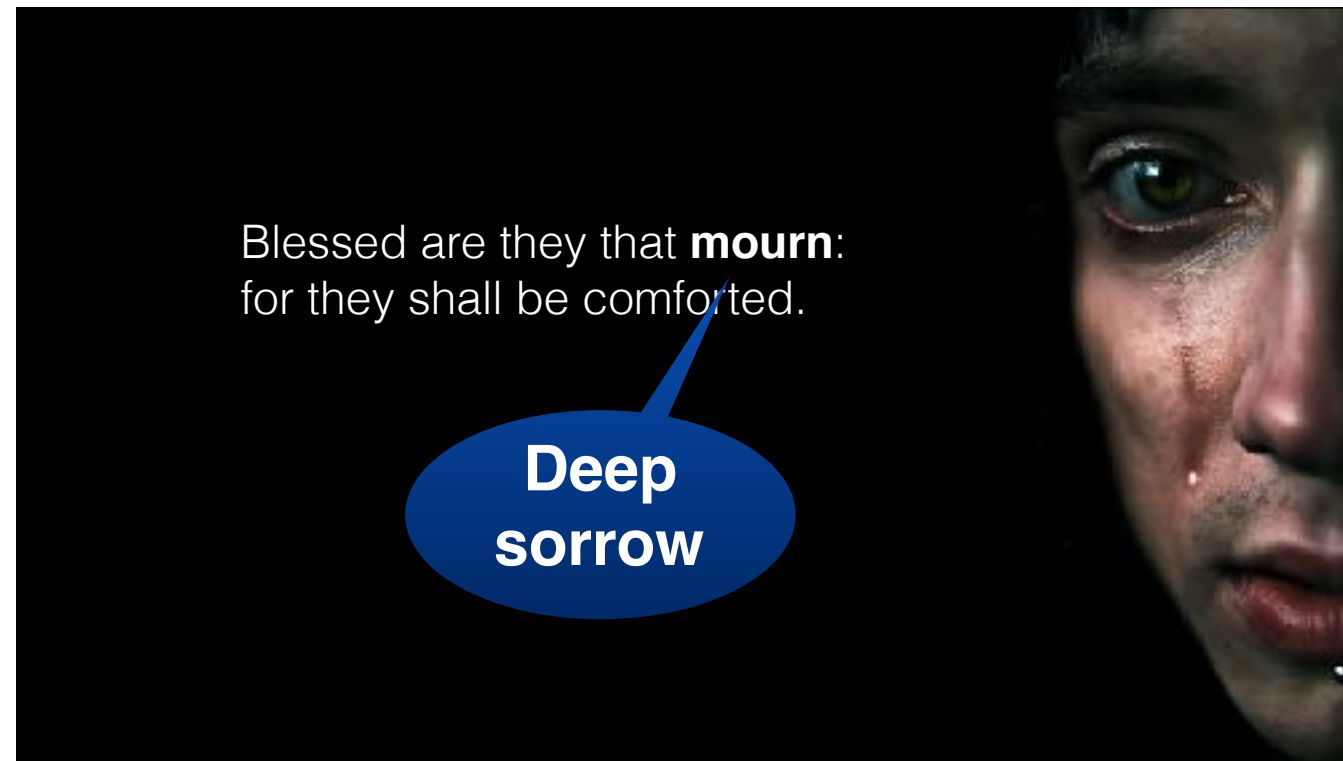
Blessed = to be congratulated, approved by God

Blessed are they that **mourn**:  
for they shall be comforted.



Crying, weeping, lamenting





Deep Sorrow.

More than a momentary emotional response provoked by seeing a sad dog on TV.

This is an understanding of the lack of righteousness in the world that leads to all kinds of suffering.

What made Jesus mourn? lament?



The Example of Jesus



Mark 3:5

Man with withered hand, Jews watching if Jesus break Sabbath.

J: “Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to kill?”

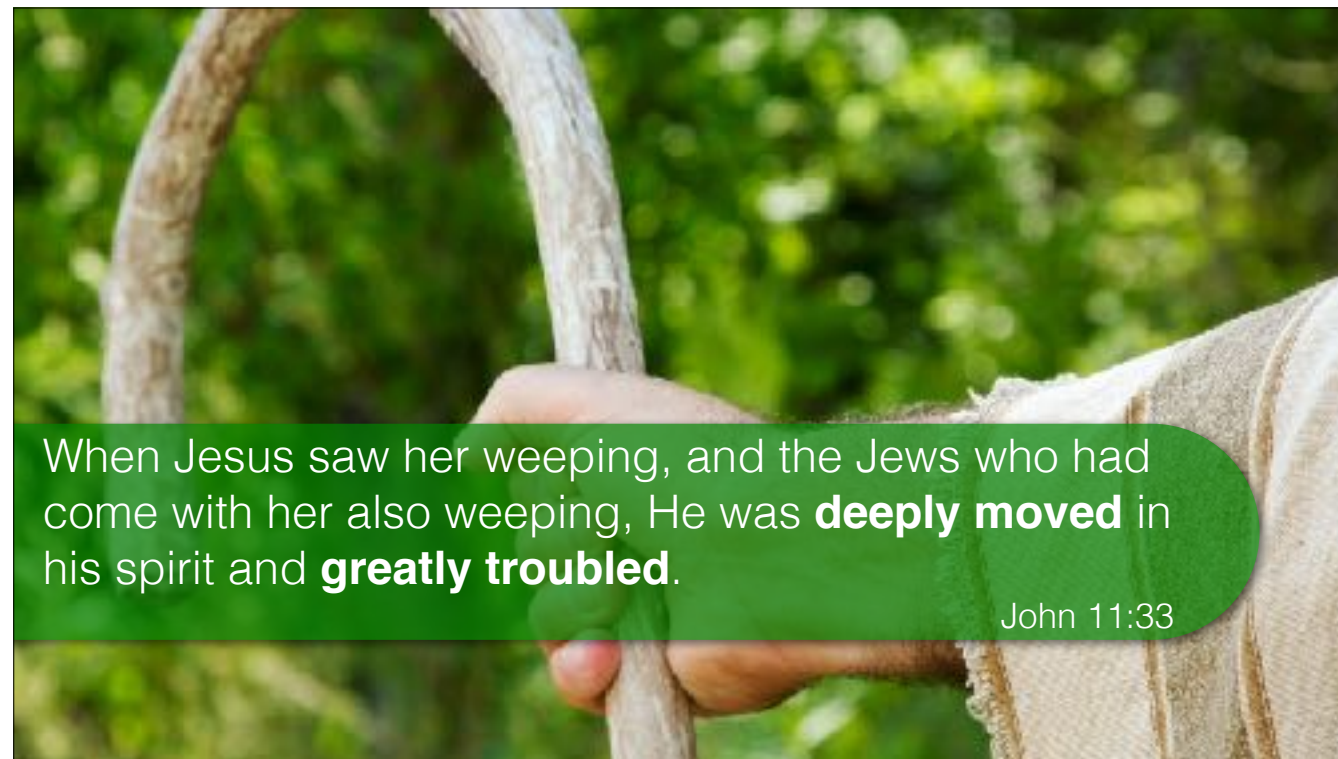
But they were silent.



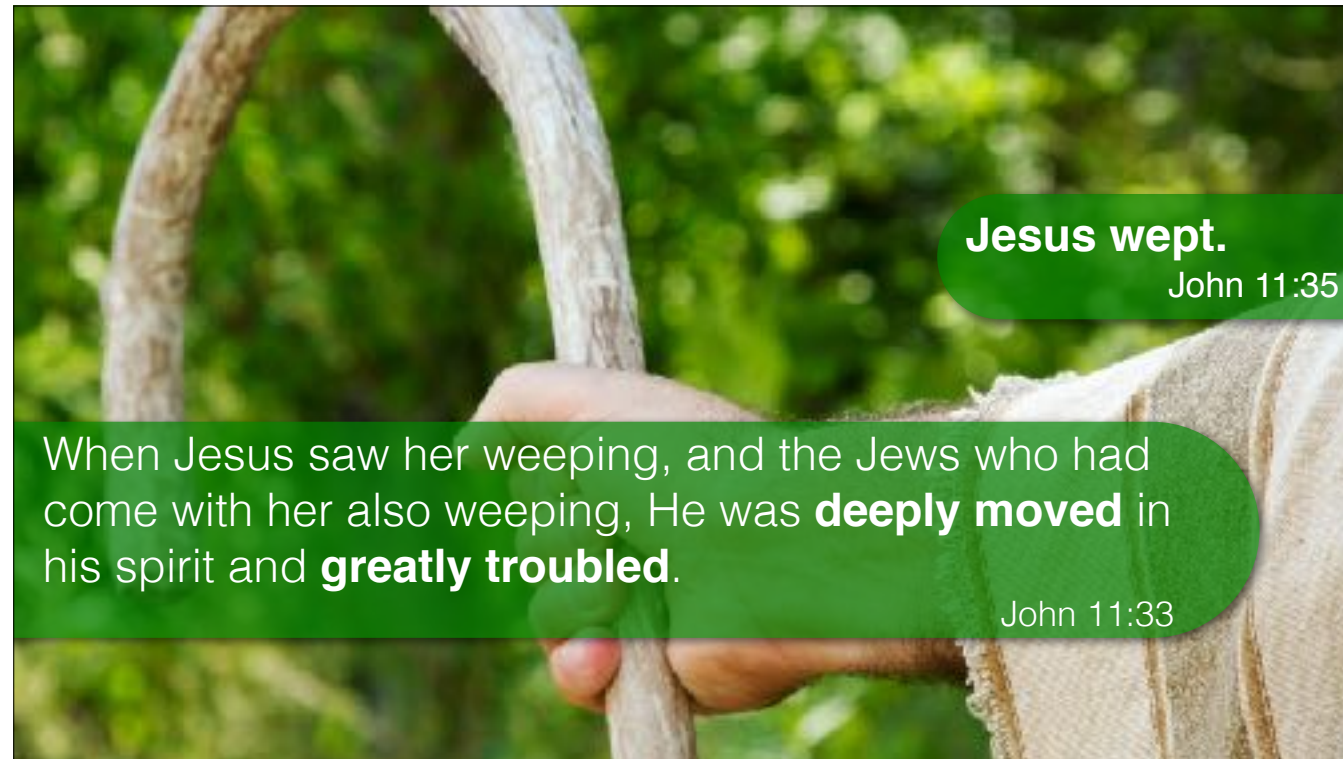


Mark 3:5: And he looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored.

Silent... didn't want to say it was good to do good on Sabbath.  
hard hearted!  
More concerned about traditions than a man who was hurting.



John 11:33: When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled.



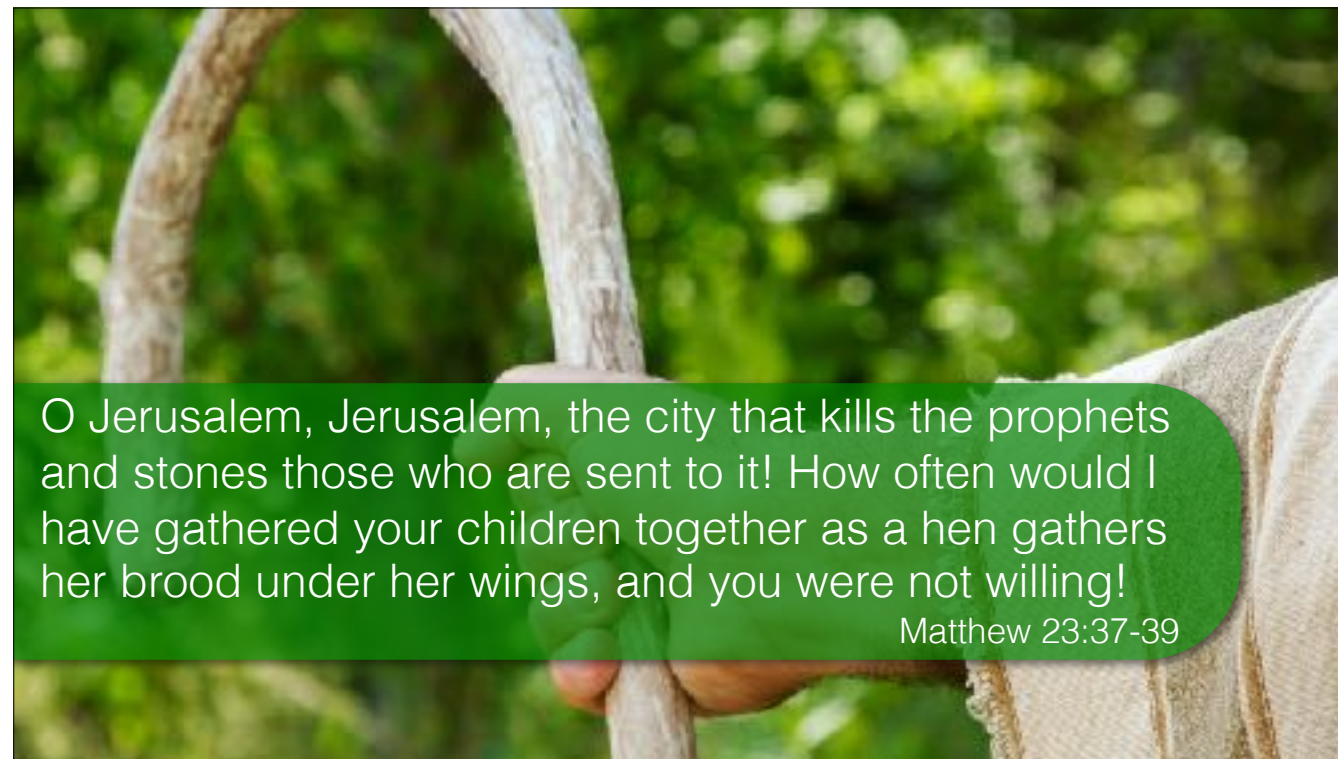
Jesus wept. (John 11:35)

Why? (Are we callous about this short memory verse?)

Death of Lazarus (Why do we face death? Sin!)

Weeping of Martha and Mary

Weeping of Jews

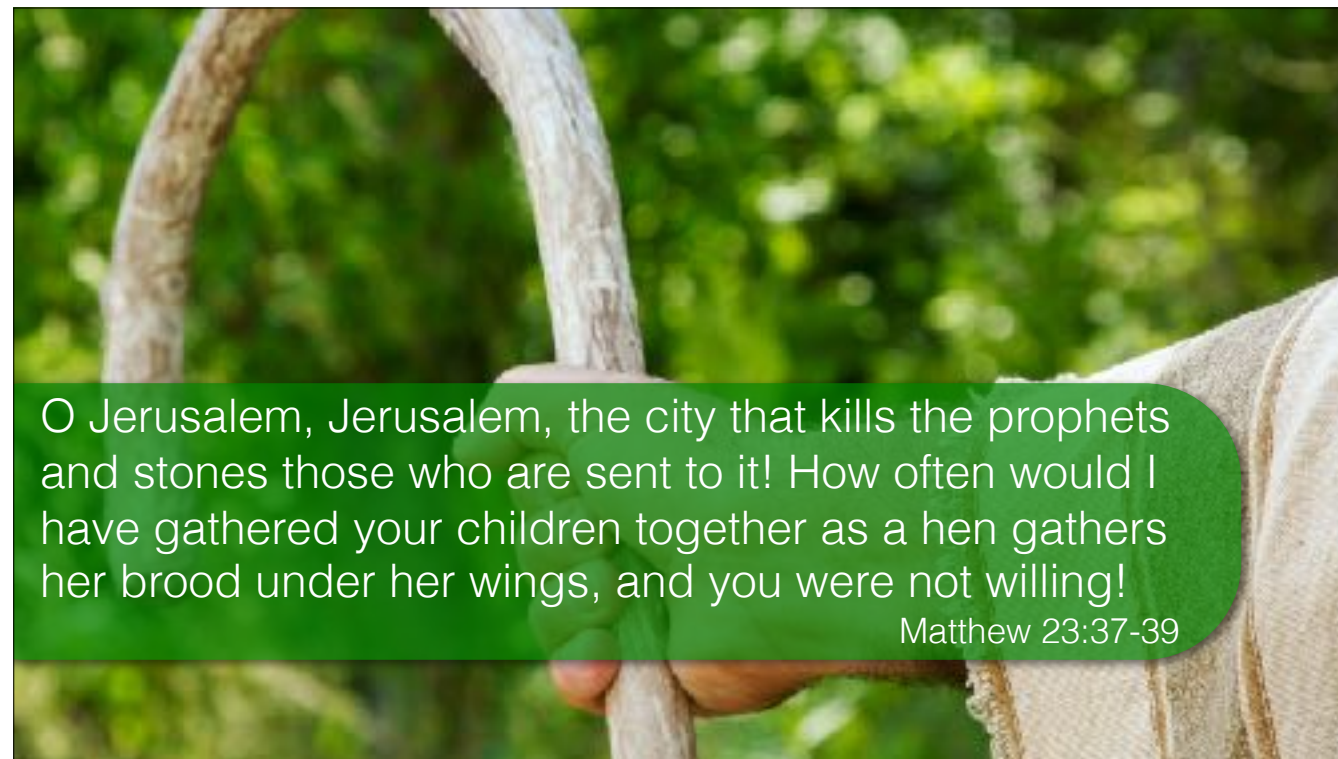


O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!

Matthew 23:37-39

Matthew 23:37-39: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

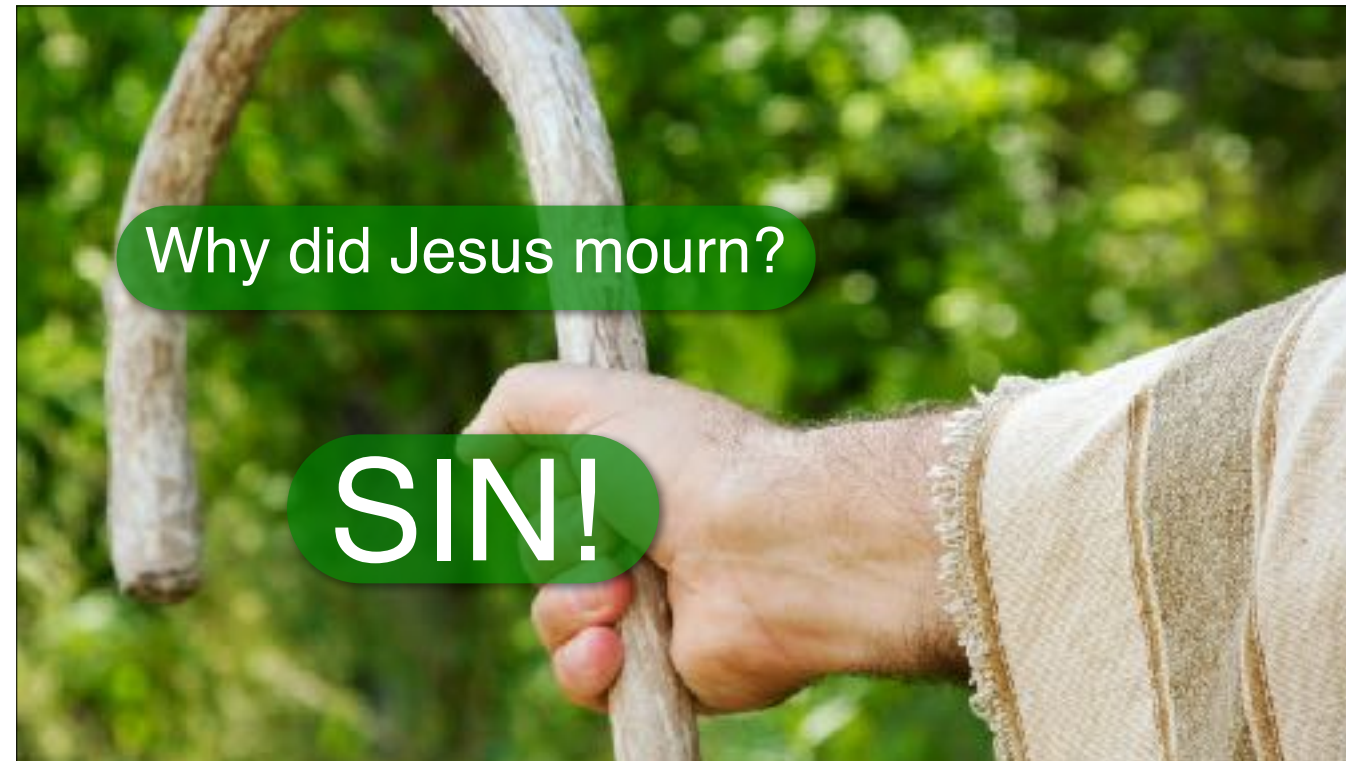




Kills prophets (teach truth)  
Refuse fellowship with God

House left desolate (destruction of Jerusalem)

Pride, Deceived,

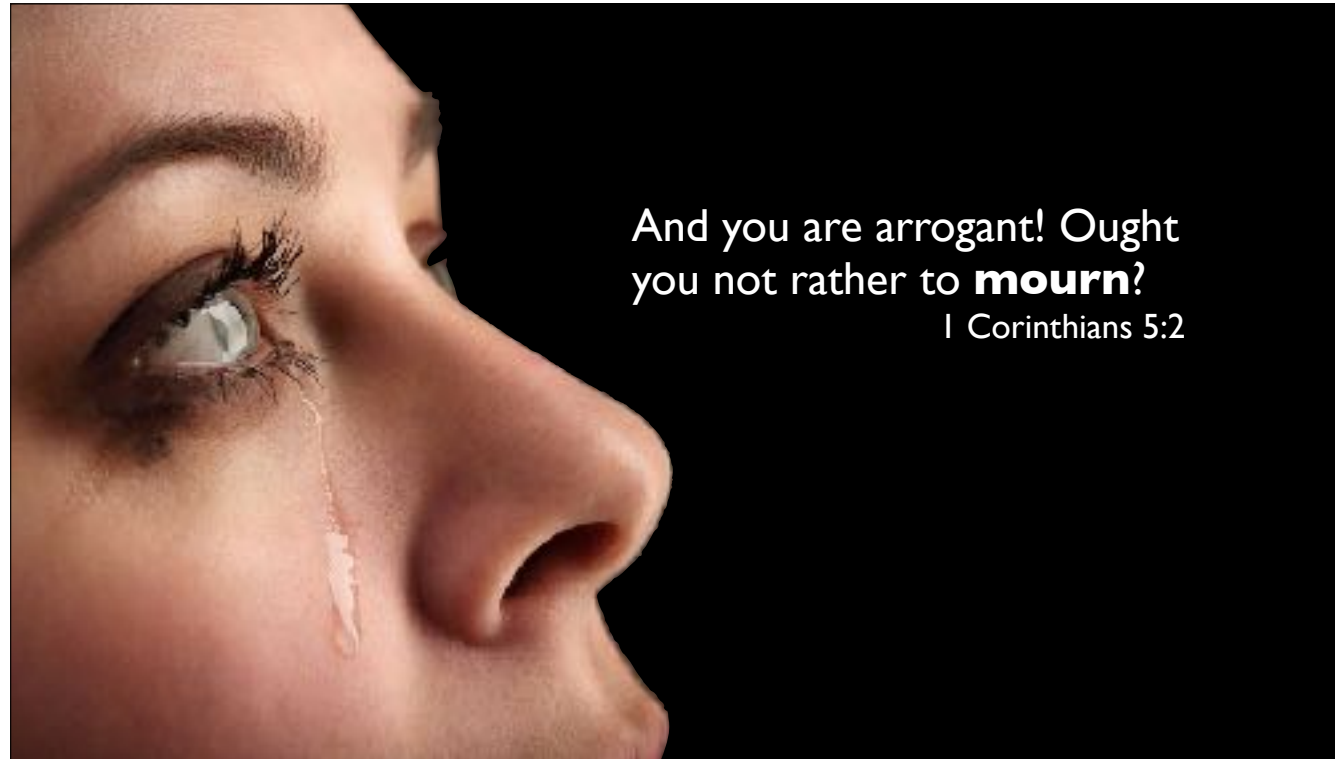


Why did Jesus mourn? Sin, consequences of sin (suffering, death, innocent, etc.), disobedience, rebellion, refusal to come near to God.



Why should I mourn?

1 Cor. 5.



And you are arrogant! Ought  
you not rather to **mourn**?  
1 Corinthians 5:2

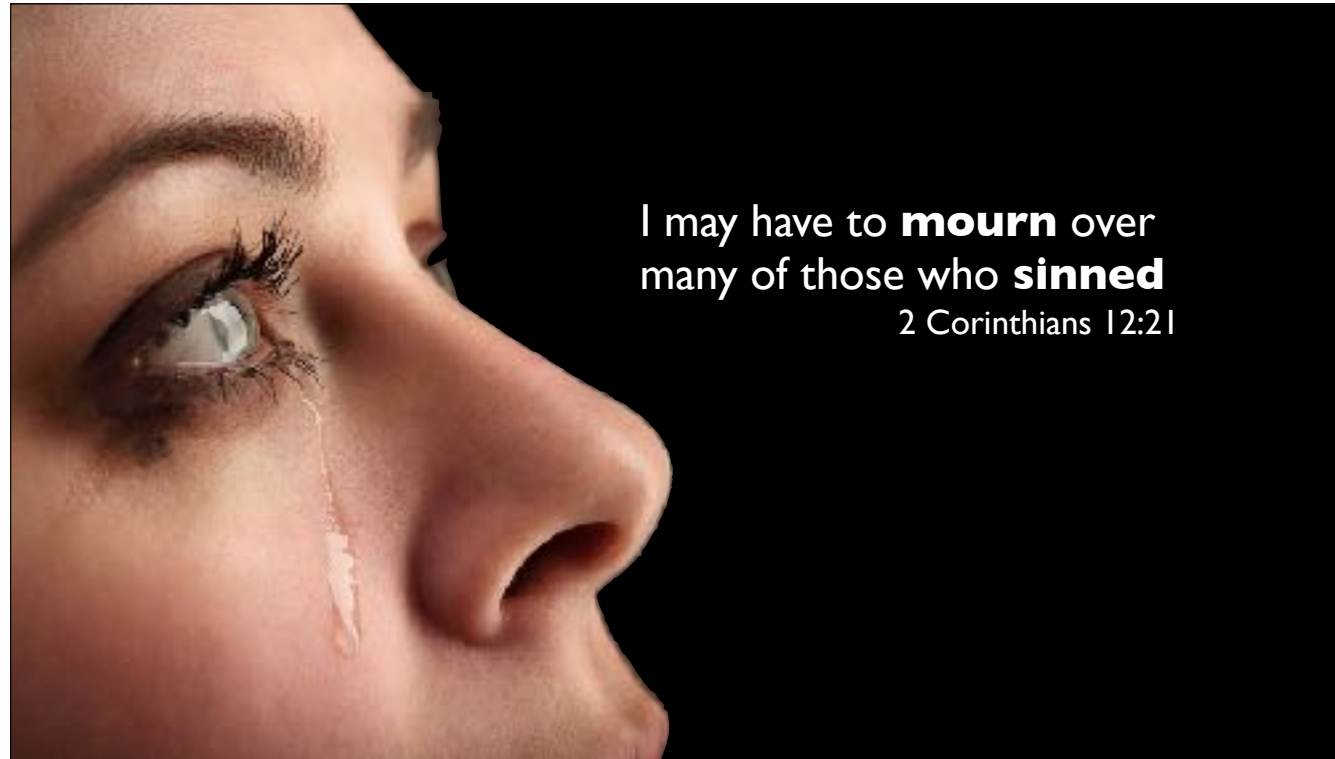
1 Corinthians 5:2: And you are arrogant! Ought you not rather to mourn? Let him who has done this be removed from among you.

Sin

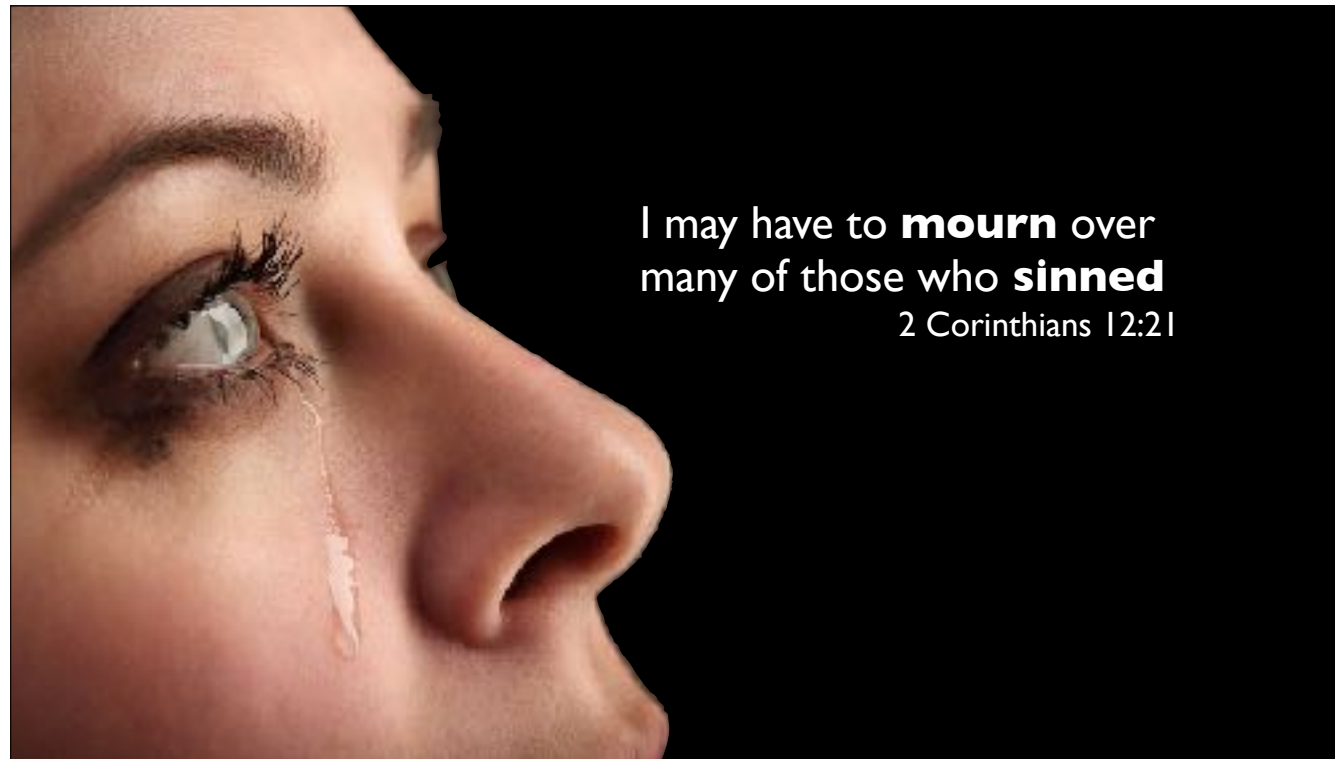
Sin by my brother

Sin in my congregation



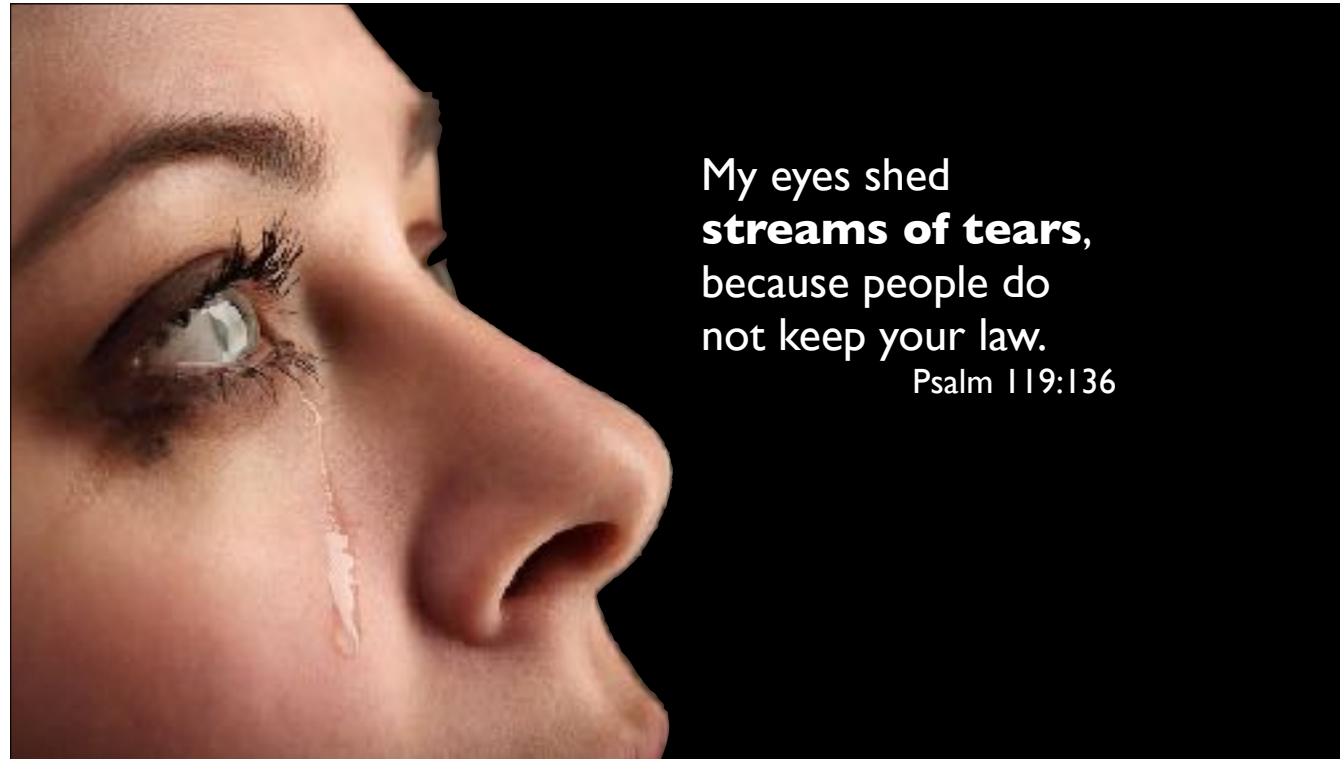


2 Corinthians 12:20: For I fear that perhaps when I come I may find you not as I wish, and that you may find me not as you wish—that perhaps there may be quarreling, jealousy, anger, hostility, slander, gossip, conceit, and disorder.



2 Corinthians 12:21: I fear that when I come again my God may humble me before you, and I may have to **mourn over many of those who sinned earlier and have not repented** of the impurity, sexual immorality, and sensuality that they have practiced.

Sin that is not repented of... no change even when taught and given time



My eyes shed  
**streams of tears,**  
because people do  
not keep your law.  
Psalm 119:136

Psalm 119:136: My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep your law.

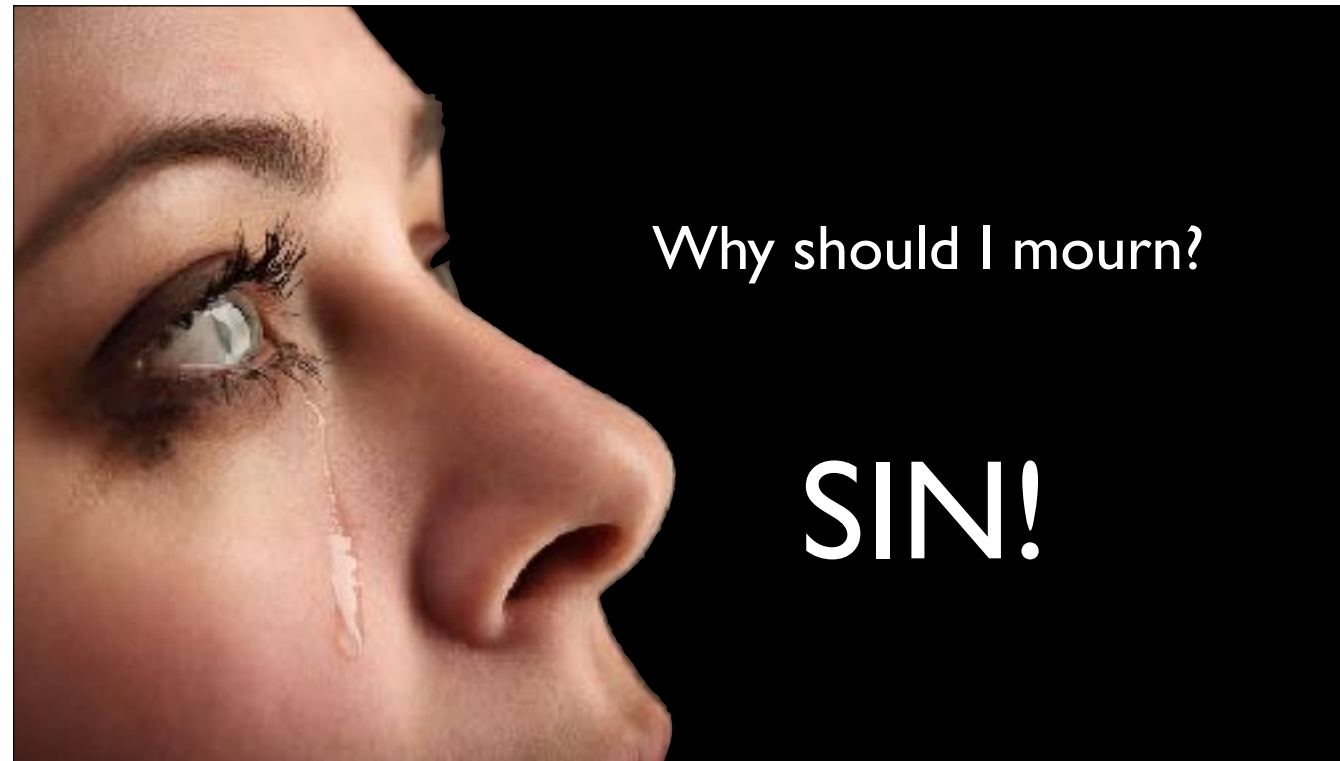
Ode to the beauty of God's law, the benefits (personally) of following the law, the bounty of riches that results from obedience.



James 4:8-9: Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom.

Similar to Mt. 23: hen and chicks





I mourn:

- 1) Sin and the effect of sin in the world: poverty, abuse
- 2) Sin among brethren
- 3) My own sin



Ecclesiastes 3:4 : a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;



It is better to go to the house of **mourning** than to go to the house of feasting, for this is the end of all mankind, and the living will lay it to heart.  
Ecclesiastes 7:2

Ecclesiastes 7:2-4: It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting, for this is the end of all mankind, and the living will lay it to heart.





3 Sorrow is better than laughter, for by sadness of face the heart is made glad.





The heart of the wise is in the house of **mourning**, but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.

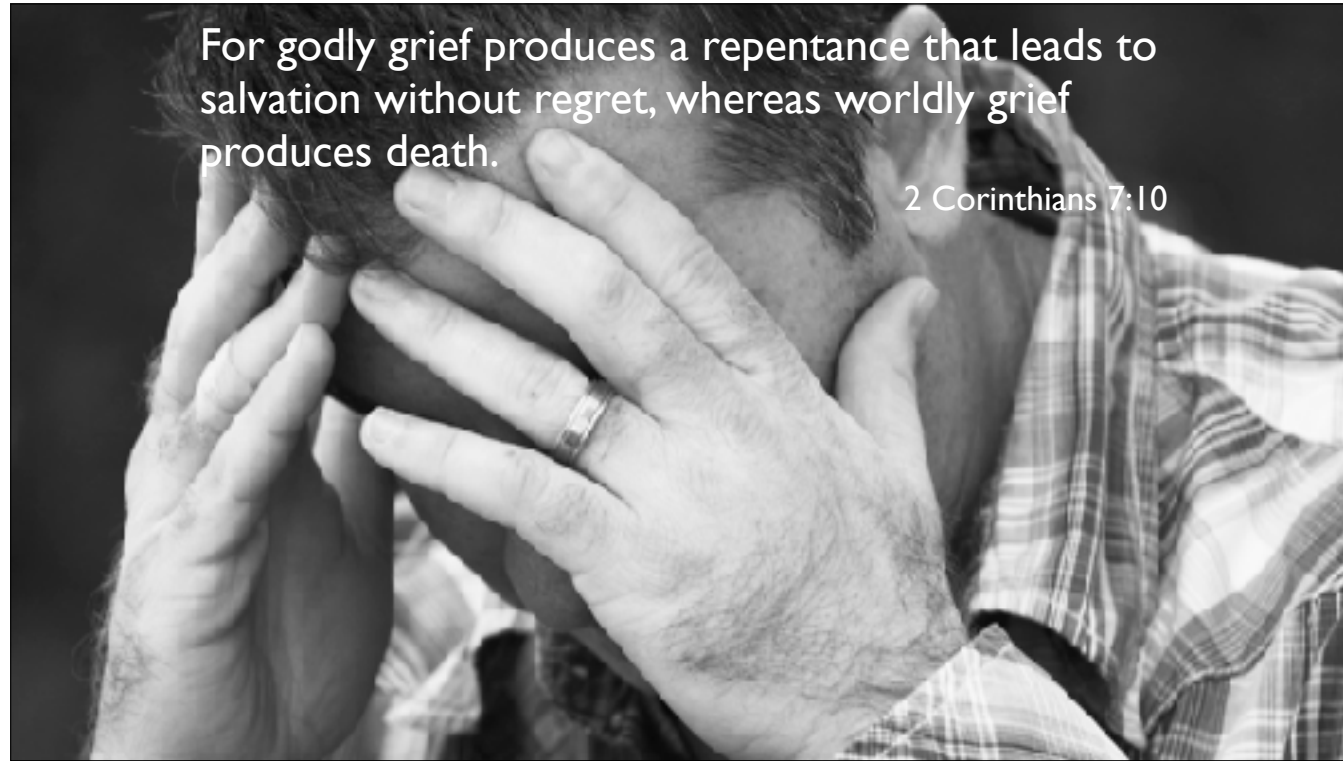
Ecclesiastes 7:4

4 The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning, but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.

There are vital, important lessons to be learned in mourning.

For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.

2 Corinthians 7:10




2 Corinthians 7:10-11: For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death. For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment! At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter.



When was the last time that you mourned because of sin?

sin in the world, consequences of sin, your own sin.

Make time to mourn... not a false, produced mourning.



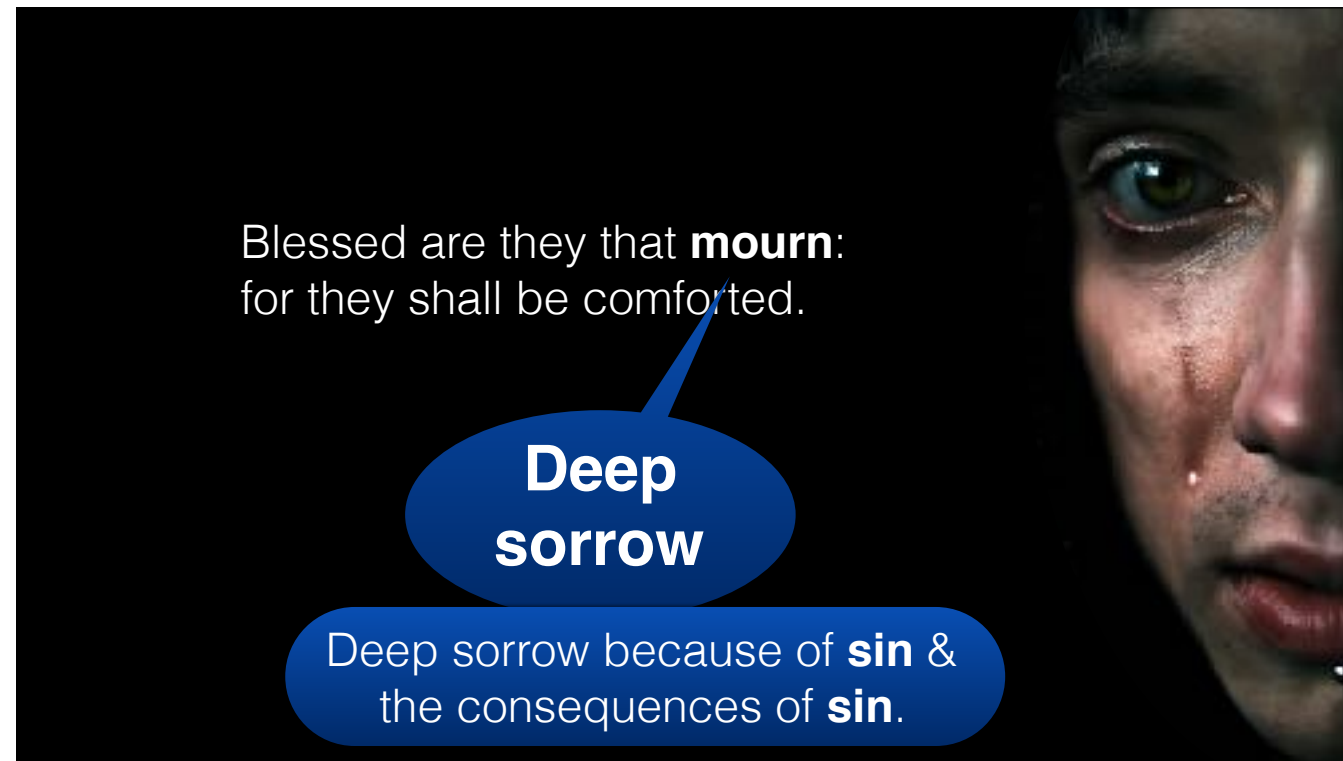
Blessed are they that **mourn**:  
for they shall be comforted.

**Deep  
sorrow**

Deep sorrow because of **sin** &  
the consequences of **sin**.

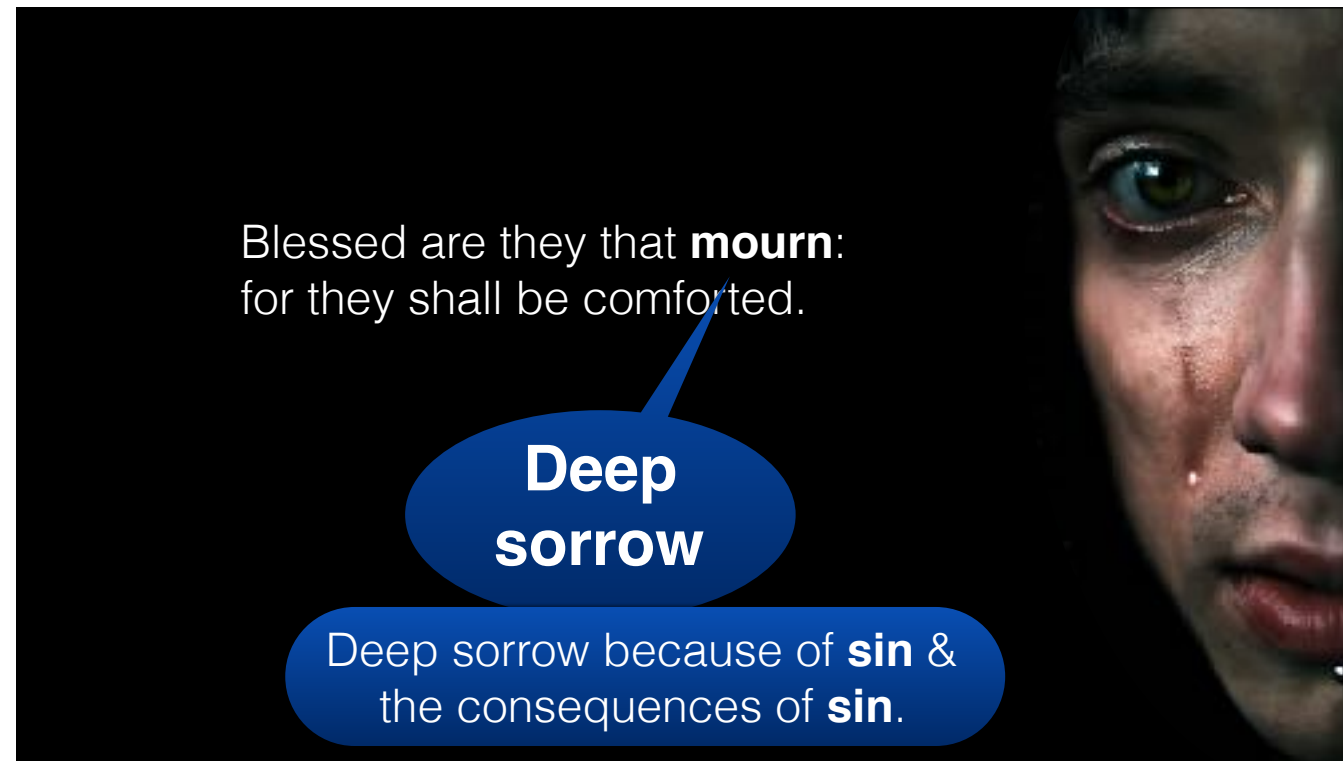
Deep sorrow because of sin and the consequences of sin.





Does the fact that we mourn mean that we are in a perpetual state of sorrow, or even melancholy? Must one who follows Jesus always be sad?

The one who mourns sees this world realistically and understands that things are not the way that our Creator and God intended them to be.

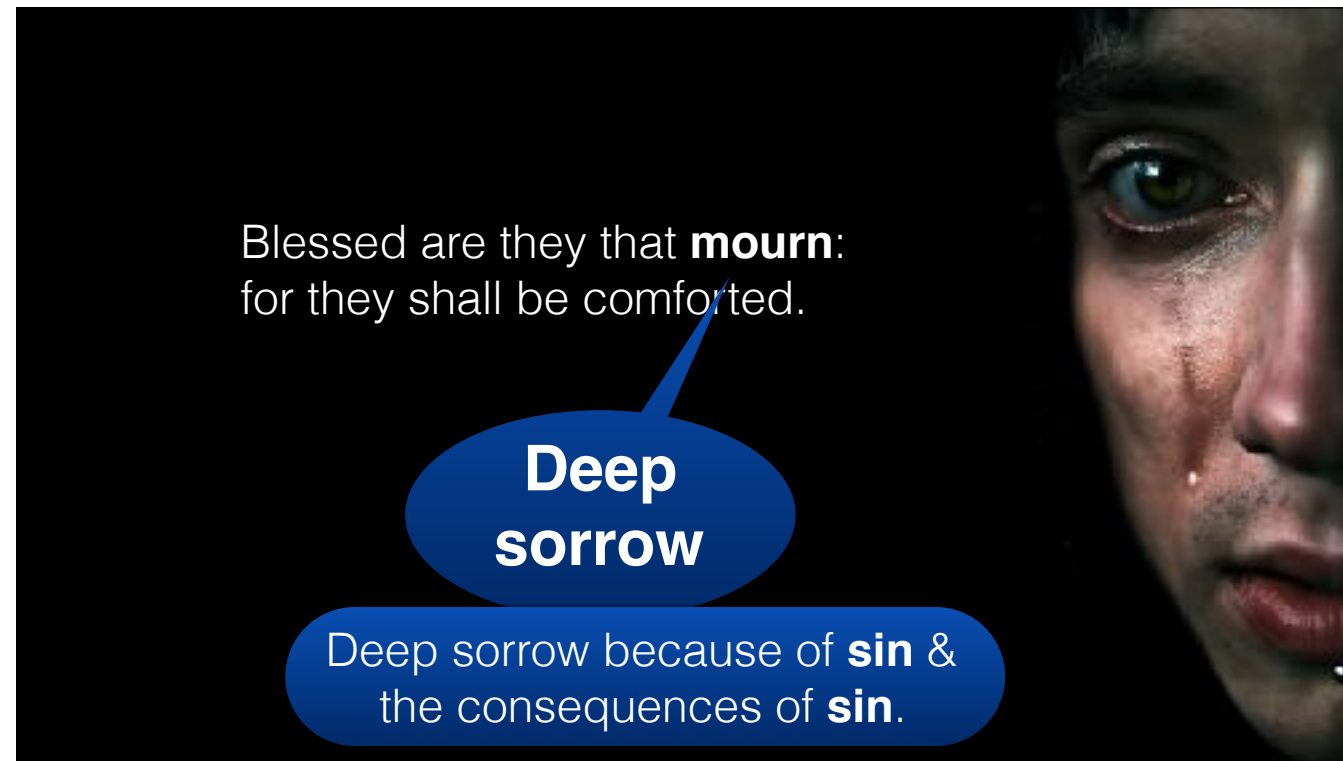


Our God wants us to be righteous, taught us righteousness.

Satan has deceived us and we have sinned; turned to unrighteousness

We see the consequences in every aspect of our society.

Nation, government, cities, families, individuals



We refuse to look at the world and have an attitude that dismisses, excuses, or even ignores the woes of the world.

But we also don't despair, we know that hope that comes to the world through Jesus.

There can be peace, joy, love and redemption for those who turn to Jesus..



- One of the most horrifying episodes in the Bible is associated with the birth of Jesus our Savior. The angels had proclaimed "peace" at his birth (Luke 2:14).
- But King Herod, in his jealousy had determined to kill the young child and furious that he was thwarted in attempting to kill Jesus determined to kill all the male children in Bethlehem 2 years old and younger.

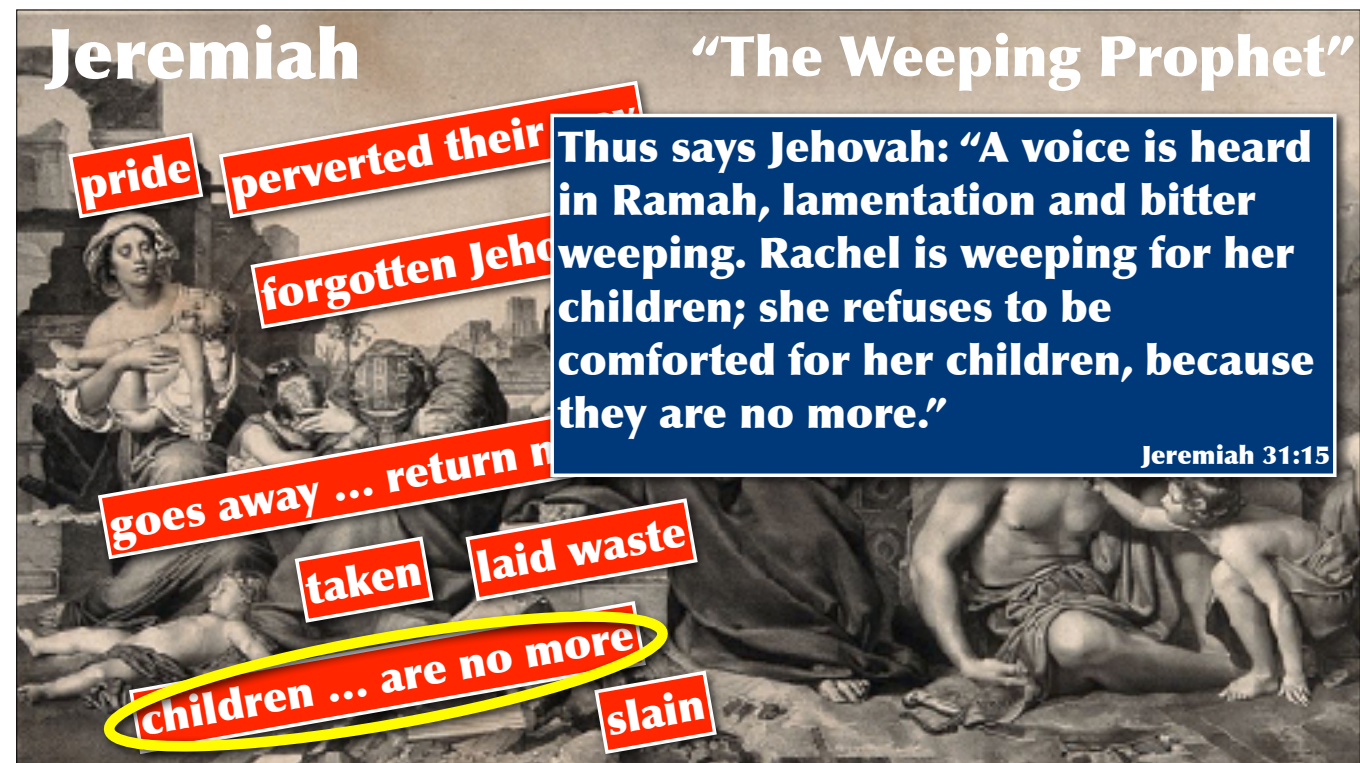




- It's not hard to imagine the terror that day. We don't know how the soldiers carried out this dreadful order, but they cruelly obeyed and an unknown number of innocent infants and children were slain.

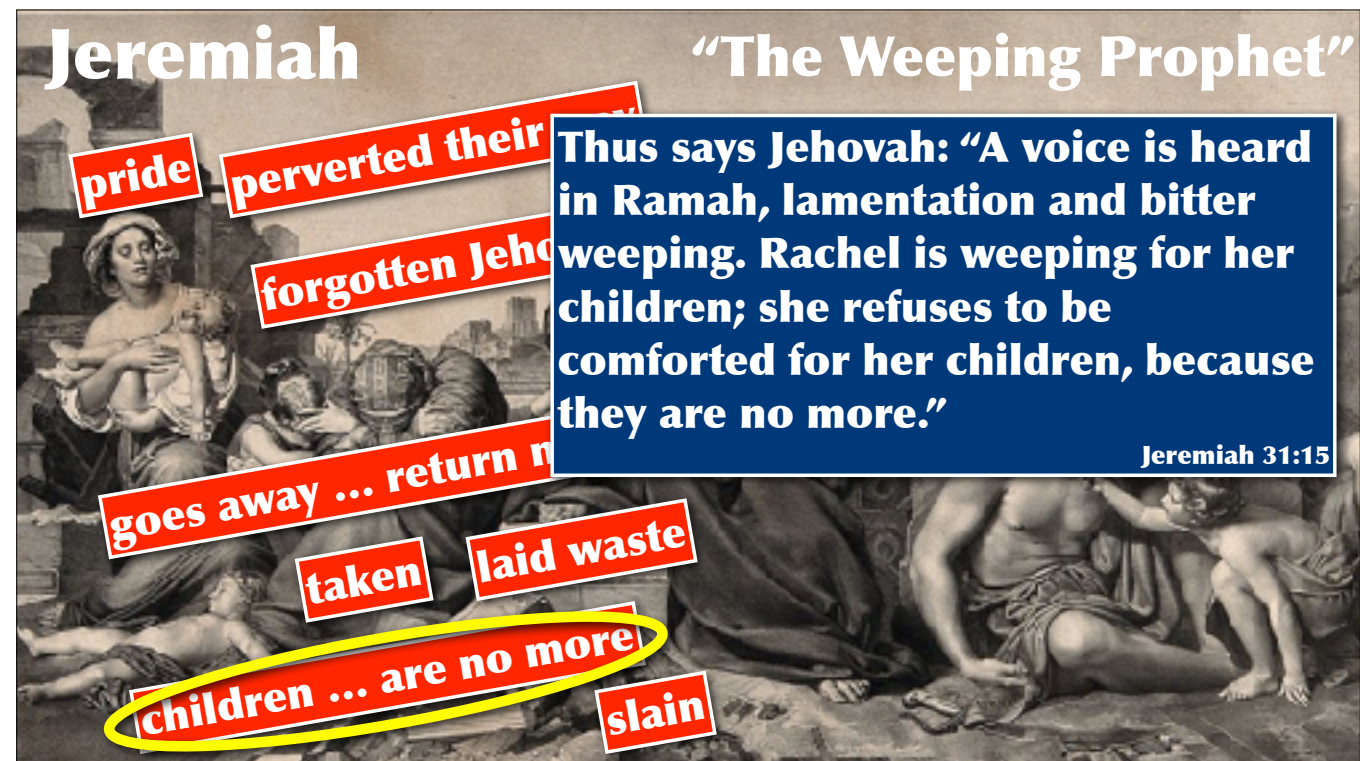


- Matthew quotes Jeremiah's prophecy of the weeping for the children.
- Jeremiah 31:15: Thus says the Lord: "A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more."



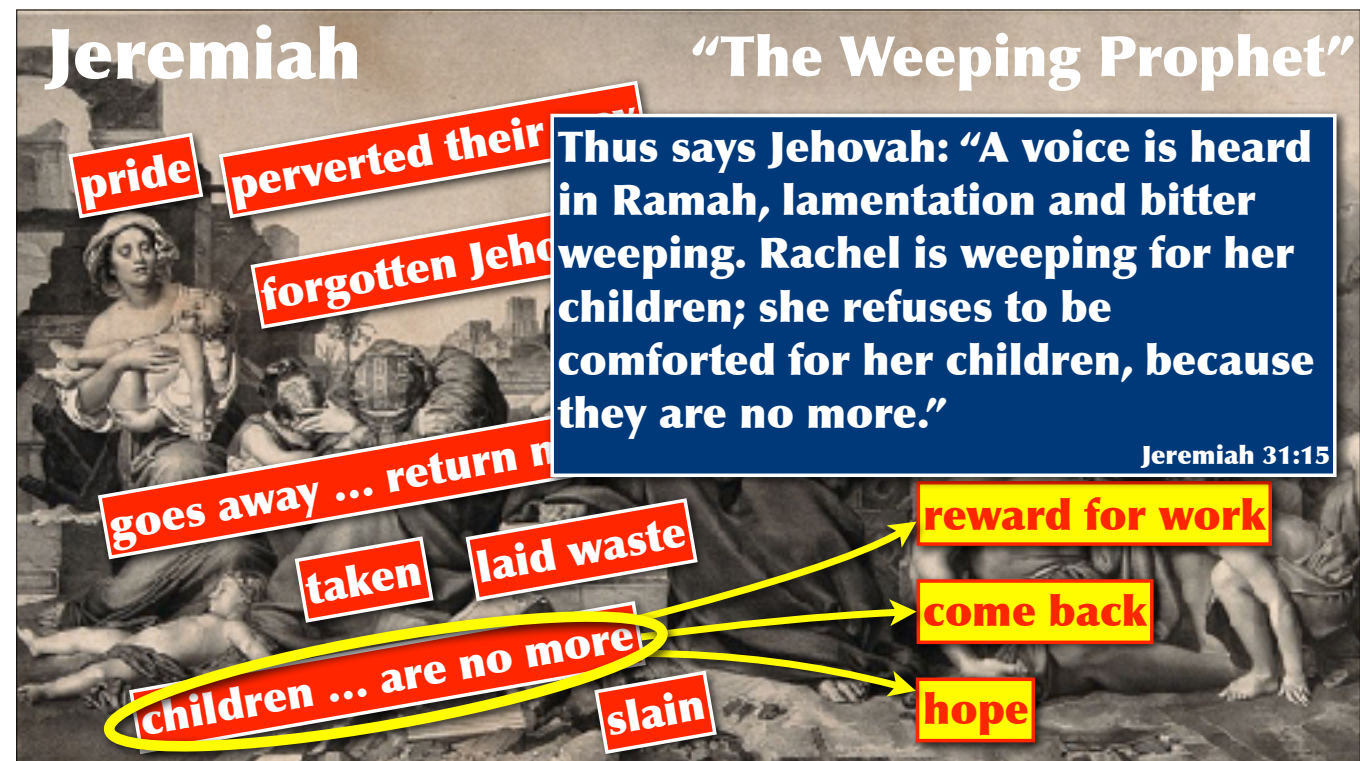
- Matthew reminds us that this dreadful event was prophesied by Jeremiah, the weeping and loud lamentation for those who lost their children for no good reason at all. (Matthew 2:18; Jeremiah 31:15).
- How do you comfort a mother and father whose child is murdered just because they were born at the wrong time and in the wrong place?



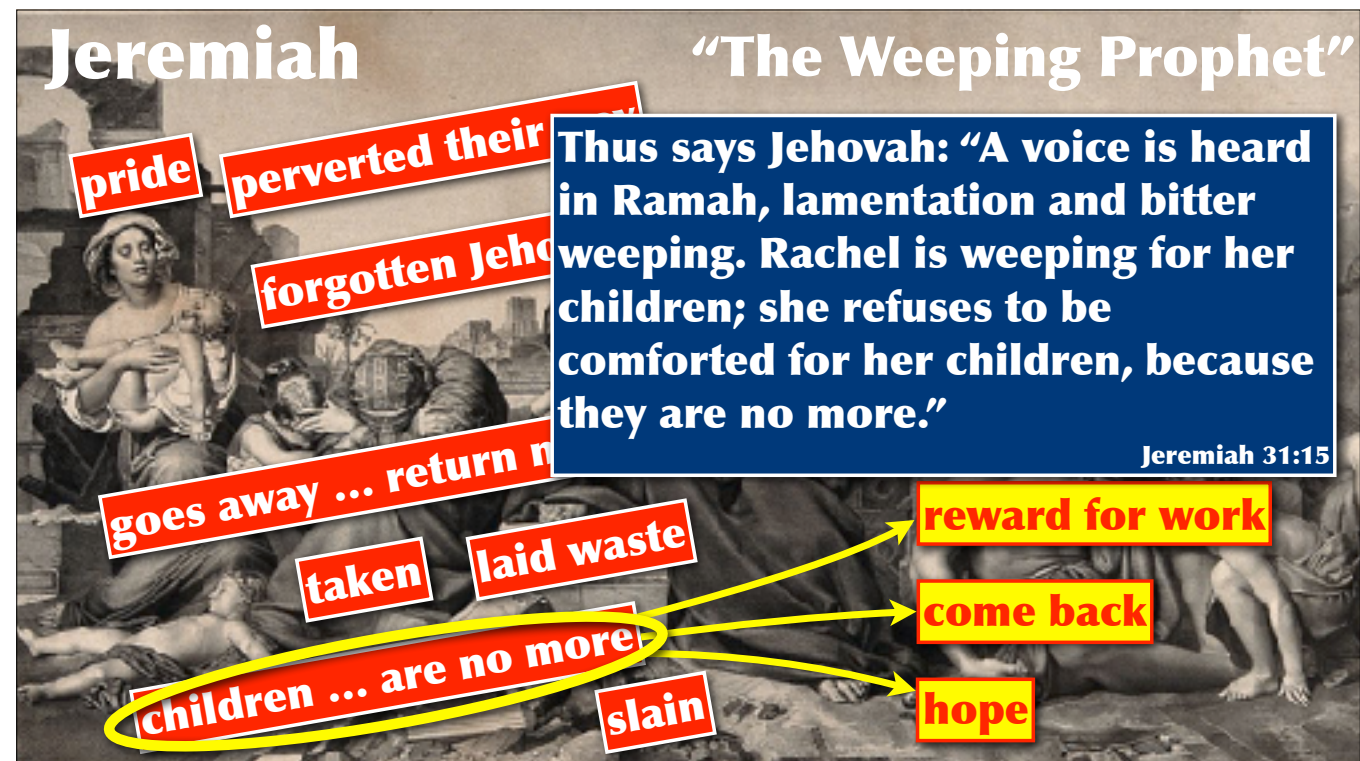


- Although the death of the infants at the murderous hands of Herod lead to mourning, the prophecy of Jeremiah was a also a reminder of the hope for the future.
- Jeremiah 31:16-17: Thus says Jehovah: “Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears, for there is a reward for your work, declares Jehovah, and they shall come back from the land of the enemy. There is hope for your future, declares Jehovah, and your children shall come back to their own country.





- He tells them that they don't need to weep and cry.
- Jehovah tells the people that there is reward for their work;
- that they will come back from the land of the enemy.
- There is HOPE!



- There's clearly a part of me that struggles with telling the victims not to weep, but he's reminding them that there's more to this world than the cruelty of Herod...
- there's hope and joy and peace in Jesus.

Blessed are they that **mourn**:  
for they shall be comforted.



There can be peace, joy, love and redemption for those who turn to Jesus..

**We implore you on  
behalf of Christ,  
be reconciled to God.**

**2 Corinthians 5:20**



Let all that you do be done in love.

1 Corinthians 16:14



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Jeremiah: <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/9/95/>

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## Are You Sad?

Matthew 5:4

Synopsis: Why does God bless those who mourn? Jesus mourned sin and the consequences of sin, reminding us that the reason we mourn is because of sin in the world, among my brethren and (especially?) my own sin. Such mourning reflects the seriousness of our failure to be holy as he is holy and the devastation of sin in this world.

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**"Let all that you do be done with love."**