

# Blessed ~ True Comfort

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**“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.”**

Matthew 5:4

Mourn - A deep, profound sorrow that grips the heart, and often expresses itself outwardly with tears.

“We could interpret our Lord’s comment in this beatitude like this: ‘Blessed are those who mourn’—like they are mourning and weeping over the death of someone they love. That’s the character of the believer’s sorrow.

We are talking about something that grips you and doesn’t let you go... When Jesus says, ‘Blessed are those who mourn,’ He is describing His followers’ spiritual response to sin... All true Christians mourn sin.”

Pastor Tom Pennington

**\*Praise Prayers** ~ *Gracious Father, the mourner’s blessing is sure for those who follow Your Christ. Weeping may indeed endure through the night, but the comfort of sure grace comes in the morning. Our sins are many, but Your lovingkindness, mercy, and gracious forgiveness are exceedingly more—and always everlasting. Our wounds are sorest when we sin against Your love and mercy. Yet, in Your promise to comfort the believer who mourns for their sin, we are astounded by Your love. How can it be that You do not cast aside sinners forever and be done with us? How is it that You forgive every confessed sin that was such an offense against Your holiness? We marvel that Your promise is to receive all who call upon You for salvation! How blessed we are by the comfort of Your forgiveness and in the peaceful reconciliation between the sinner and his Savior. We now praise You for Your wisdom in our present sorrows and rejoice in Your loving, eternal comfort.*

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## Comforted by salvation in the past:

**\*Colossians 2:13** ~ **When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions.**

*We are spiritually blessed! We were dead, but we have been made alive! Our eyes were opened, our hearts were made new, and we were flooded with joy and peace because we had been forgiven! May we never forget!*

**\*1 John 2:12** ~ **I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been forgiven you for His name’s sake.**

*Truly, we are but little children in our knowledge of the depth of the riches of Your glory and grace! We rejoice that our salvation is all the work of Jesus Christ. Bless You for not requiring that we earn our salvation.*

## Comforted in the present through God’s promises:

**\*1 John 1:9** ~ **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Lord, we rejoice in the comfort of knowing You will not reject us when we confess. We are secure in our relationship with You because You are faithful to Your own character and to Your promises to forgive.*

**\*Psalm 86:5** ~ **For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, and abundant in lovingkindness to all who call upon You.**

*We have great reasons to apply self-control in all our mourning, because You are ready to forgive and Your forgiveness is complete. Let us give thanks to our most merciful Lord as we rejoice in Your mercy.*

## Comfort in the future – forever:

**\*2 Thessalonians 2:16–17b** ~ **Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace, comfort and strengthen your hearts. Our Creator and Sustainer has made the eternal promise—comfort is Your assurance and our good hope!**

**\*Revelation 21:4** ~ **“and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”**

*Oh, we can dream of the day when, in tender love, as our Savior, You lift Your nail-pierced hands to our cheeks, and, as the lover of our souls, You wipe away every tear from our weeping eyes. Our sins will have passed away, and we will live to tell of the victory of our great Redeemer’s rescue!*

**\*Confessions** ~ *Oh, Father, there are so many reasons for our hearts to have deep sorrow, but the most profitable grief is the sorrow over sin—a sorrow that seeks Your forgiveness through confession and repentance. This is the blessed weeping that brings joy in the morning. We know by experience that unrepentant sin smothers our awareness of Christ’s love, but godly sorrow over wounding Him—this is the grief that produces change. Lord, give us responsive hearts and broken spirits that agree with You when our motives are stained by pride, selfishness, or even dissatisfaction with Your wisdom and goodness in our lives. You are the great healer of our bruised souls and crushed hearts. Yes, Christ and His cross are good company to those who mourn with sorrow for rebelling against Your perfect standards. Give us eyes to see our spiritual poverty and mourn over it. Reveal every temptation that we may resist its tantalizing offer. Let us never redefine it as good. Open our eyes and keep us from evil. We now pause to silently confess what You bring to our minds.*

**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. Selah. Psalm 32:5**

**\*Thanksgiving** ~ *Give us self-control in all our mourning, remembering that You are ready to forgive and Your forgiveness is complete. Prevent all sorrow over sin from becoming despair. We thank You for Your comfort.*

**\* Elder Intercession** ~ *Our Lord, we ask for Your continued divine blessing upon our faithful leaders and their wives:*

*Insert names here:*


**\*Ecclesiastes 3:4a ~ A time to weep and a time to laugh.**

*May these men live in a daily, consistent pattern of mourning for their sin and turning away from it. Restore them to the freedom of joy after confession because they are forgiven. Refresh these men with laughter.*

**\*Ecclesiastes 3:4b ~ A time to mourn and a time to dance.**

*As they mourn with widows, believers, and sinners, give them wise counsel in each case. Direct them as they guide those with broken and contrite hearts with the comfort they have received from You. Delight them!*

**\*Psalm 119:52 ~ I have remembered Your ordinances from of old, O LORD, and comfort myself.**

*Let them remember Your truths and promises. Use their faith in Your Word to sustain, encourage, and satisfy them. Keep them content, always trusting in Your wisdom, and mindful that Your ways are higher than theirs.*

**\*Proverbs 4:26 ~ Watch the path of your feet and all your ways will be established.**

*Make them alert, watching for all snares and temptations set on their paths. May they be characterized by their living their entire lives as one of repentance and never being led astray from the purity of devotion to Christ.*

**\*Proverbs 4:27 ~ Do not turn to the right nor to the left; turn your foot from evil.**

*May they not toy with sin in their minds and turn down the crooked path. Remind them that every path has a destination. May they stay in the center of the highway of holiness. Keep them purposeful to love You most.*

**\*Congregation ~ Psalm 119:28 ~ My soul weeps because of grief; strengthen me according to Your word.**

*May we not rationalize or justify our sin but repent immediately without delay. Give us eyes to recognize our temptations quickly before their sparks light a fire within our bosoms. Strengthen us for the battles we face.*

**\*PrayerSHOP Warriors ~ Proverbs 4:23 ~ Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life.** ~ *May we choose what pleases Christ in all our thoughts and affections so that godliness is what flows from our hearts. Remind us that our sin is truly an affront against You. May we hate and mourn over it.*

**\*Benediction ~ 2 Corinthians 1:3 ~ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort.**

*Let us always rejoice in what You have done for our souls! Forever forgiven! In Jesus’ name. Amen!*