

**Shalom!** May the name of the Lord Jesus Christ be praised. It's another day, and the Lord has given us the breath of life. We must thank Him for this, no matter how sick or weary we may feel, or how difficult our circumstances may be. As long as we have breath in our lungs, we should continually praise God for His grace and mercy.

Today, I want to talk about why the Bible frequently uses phrases like: "Blessed are those who mourn... for they shall be comforted..." and "Blessed are those who hunger now... for they shall be filled..." These verses reflect a deep theological principle that challenges the values of this world and highlights God's eternal perspective.

## **1. The Principle of the Opposite: What We Go Through Today Will Be Opposite Tomorrow**

In many parts of Scripture, we find that what we experience today often contrasts with what is to come. God has set natural principles that, when carefully examined, can reveal spiritual truths. For example, before rain falls, you may notice the temperature rising suddenly, creating a heavy atmosphere. After this momentary increase in warmth, the rain begins to fall, accompanied by wind and cold. Similarly, before sunset, you might see an unusual increase in light, only for darkness to take over shortly thereafter.

These patterns are not just natural but also spiritual. They show us that before something good or bad happens, the opposite often occurs. It's a divine principle we see throughout Scripture: seasons of hardship or sorrow are often followed by seasons of joy and blessing.

## 2. The Role of Suffering and Preparation in God's Blessings

God often allows His children to experience difficulties before they receive His blessings. This prepares us spiritually and emotionally to handle the blessings He has prepared for us. Consider the following biblical examples:

- **Joseph's story** (Genesis 37-50) — Joseph's journey was filled with hardship: betrayal by his brothers, slavery, and imprisonment. Yet, God's plan for him was greater, and after years of suffering, he rose to a position of authority in Egypt, ultimately saving his family from famine.
- **The Israelites in the wilderness** (Exodus 16-17) — The people of Israel had to endure hardships in the desert before reaching the promised land. These trials were designed to purify them and teach them to depend on God.
- **Job** (Job 1-42) — Job's story is one of profound suffering. Despite losing everything—his health, wealth, and family—he remained faithful to God. In the end, God restored all that he had lost, even blessing him with more than he had before.
- **Nebuchadnezzar** (Daniel 4) — The king's pride led to his humiliation, yet through a period of suffering, he came to recognize the sovereignty of God.

This pattern is crucial in the life of every believer. Jesus Himself endured suffering before receiving glory, and we, too, will often face trials before God's blessings are fully realized in our lives.

### **3. Jesus' Words of Comfort and Hope for the Suffering**

Jesus clearly states that those who suffer for His sake will be comforted, and they will experience blessings beyond what they can imagine.

*Matthew 5:4 (NIV) says, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."*

This mourning is not just about grief in a general sense, but it refers to those who are sorrowful for their sins, for the state of the world, or for the persecution they face for standing firm in their faith.

Moreover, Jesus promises that those who hunger and thirst for righteousness will be filled.

*Matthew 5:6 (NIV) says, “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.”*

This is a promise that when we seek God and His righteousness, He will satisfy our spiritual needs.

*Luke 6:21 (NIV) further expands on this idea: “Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.”*

This verse assures believers that in the end, God will turn their mourning into joy, their hunger into fulfillment, and their tears into laughter.

#### **4. The Rewards for Faithfulness and Sacrifice in Christ**

If today you are enduring hardship for the sake of Christ—whether in your health, finances, or any aspect of life—take comfort in knowing

that great reward awaits you. The Apostle Paul, who faced persecution and suffering throughout his ministry, writes in

*Romans 8:18 (NIV), "I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us."*

Similarly, Jesus promises that those who forsake everything for His sake will receive far more in return.

*Matthew 19:29 (NIV) says, "And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life."*

This promise highlights the eternal rewards that await those who make sacrifices for the kingdom of God.

## **5. The Inheritance of the Earth by the Meek**

*Matthew 5:5 (NIV) states, “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.”*

This verse points to the future fulfillment of God’s promises. The meek—those who are humble and gentle in spirit—will one day inherit the earth. This promise refers to the coming Kingdom of God, where believers will reign with Christ in peace and righteousness.

The Bible teaches that while the world often rewards the proud and the arrogant, the humble will receive God’s eternal inheritance.

*Psalms 37:11 (NIV) says, “But the meek will inherit the land and enjoy peace and prosperity.”*

This is a picture of the New Earth where believers will experience perfect peace under the reign of Jesus Christ.

## **6. The Consequences of Worldly Pursuits**

On the other hand, if you gain the world but neglect your soul, you have already lost. Jesus warns in

*Matthew 16:26 (NIV), "What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?"*

The pursuit of worldly pleasures, material wealth, and temporary satisfaction cannot compare to the eternal value of your soul. In the end, all these things will pass away, but the soul's eternal destiny remains.

Jesus makes it clear that those who live only for this world will face eternal separation from God.

*Mark 8:36-37 (NIV) says, "What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?"*

## 7. The Call to Repentance and Salvation in Christ

If you find yourself far from Christ, today is the day to make a change. Don't wait until it's too late.

*2 Corinthians 6:2 (NIV) says, "I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation."*

If you feel the Holy Spirit tugging at your heart, do not ignore it. Repent, turn to Christ, and receive His forgiveness.

*Acts 3:19 (NIV) urges us, "Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord."*

If you have not been baptized properly, it's essential to follow the biblical example.



*Acts 2:38 (NIV) says, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."*

Baptism by immersion in water in the name of Jesus Christ is the correct biblical practice, as shown in **John 3:23** and **Acts 2:38**.

Once baptized, the Holy Spirit will seal you as a child of God, guiding and protecting you until the return of Christ.

## **8. Conclusion: The Hope of Future Glory**

If you are weeping now, know that there is joy ahead.

*Romans 8:18 reminds us, "I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us."*

As Christians, our suffering today prepares us for the glory that will be revealed in us. The promise of eternal life, the restoration of all things, and the joy of being with Christ forever is what we are called to look forward to.

May the Lord bless and protect you.

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