

## POWER OF TEARS

Let us go to Malachi, the third chapter, and verse sixteen for our thoughts for the day.

Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name (Malachi 3:16).

Then, again in Psalm 56:8, we find God's respect for tears. And when God said in His Word that He puts our tears in a bottle and writes them in his book.

Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: are they not in thy book? (Malachi 3:16).

So, beloved, tears are powerful. They are salty. They are like the sea. Like the sea purifies the pollution, the corruption that is dumped into it through its salt water. And as the corruption is carried out into the depths of the sea, it is changed. It is purified. And, then, the sun comes along with its strong uplifting resurrection power. In the natural it draws up fresh, clean, pure, sweet waters that are stored in the clouds and the clouds carry them over upon the earth and dispersed them upon dry and thirsty land. So what a picture that is of our tears before the LORD. God has to send hard times, hard circumstances, testings and trials and temptations to loose the fountains of our head that we in turn might be like the waves of the sea with the salt reaching out to take hold of our hardness, our bitternesses, our indifference, and pouring them out in tears of repentance before the LORD. Tears are powerful before the LORD.

The Word lets us know how powerful the tears are. We find Job crying out in Job, the sixteenth chapter, concerning the situation that he was in. In Job 16:20, Job said:

My friends scorn me: but mine eye poureth out tears unto God. O that one might plead for a man with God, as a man pleadeth for his neighbour! (Job 16:20).

So, when Job was being scorned by his friends, when God had seen the necessity of humiliating Job for the purpose of revealing unto him his spiritual pride, we find that Job lost his

wealth, he lost his children, he lost his possessions. He lost everything and ended up with sore boils from his head to his feet out upon the ash heap. But even in that miserable condition, even in that miserable affliction Job knew one thing. He knew to pour out His tears unto the LORD. So, beloved, God has to send us scornful friends sometimes that harass us, make fun of us, persecute us, ridicule us, scoff and mock for the purpose of sending fresh new salty tears down our face that will sanctify our pride and our hardness and our bitterness. How good God is to give us tears.

It is so beautiful to know that God is the head over all things and that God is a good God. God is a just God. If we are suffering, it is because that God has purposed it so that He might loosen the fountains of our head and let the salty tears come down because salt does purify and salt does preserve. And sometimes, beloved, we are so prone to look to our friends instead of the LORD. We are so prone to look for satisfaction and comfort from the creature instead of the Creator. So God is faithful to let the creature fail us. God is faithful to let the creature scorn us and mock us that He might give us a broken and a contrite spirit, that He might give us a melted heart and a poured out heart, that we might become more like our precious LORD and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ wept and so if we are going to follow in His footsteps then God has to place us in the circumstances that are difficult and trying that we might also learn to weep like Jesus Christ wept. So Job wept in the place of scorning. Now, some people when they get mocked and scorned and persecuted and harassed only become bitter. They solidify their tears as it were. And they do not pour them out to God. Even though Job complained and murmured later on, still he had this one good thing that might be said for him and that is that he poured out his tears unto the LORD. And as long as we are pouring out our tears and weeping at His feet and confessing our failures,

our short comings, we will not become bitter. We will not turn our back on the LORD Jesus Christ. And, again, beloved, in Psalm, the sixth chapter, and verse six, we have a beautiful Psalm of David. How that he poured out his heart unto the LORD. And he said:

I am weary with my groaning; all the night make I my bed to swim; I water my couch with my tears. Mine eye is consumed because of grief; it waxeth old because of all mine enemies (Psalm 6:6).

And King David had a lot of enemies. And the captain of that group was, of course, Saul that continually sought his life prior to the death of Saul and prior to the exaltation of David upon the throne of Israel. You remember in the life of David that different occasions, he had opportunity to take the life of his enemy but he would not do that. He would not return evil for evil but he returned good for evil. And so it meant, though, that he groaned in the night season, it meant that he wept so much that it was like he was in a swimming pool, that he had converted his bed, his couch into a swimming pool. So, beloved, God sends us sufferings that we might learn how to weep.

And how wonderful it is to have a broken and a contrite spirit before God, much better to be in the presence of a person that can weep with gratitude and appreciation to God for His headship and for all the things that He has sent their way. Even if they had been painful through that pain we can find the good Word of God. Through that pain we can find Jesus Christ present, omniscient, omnipotent to help us grow in His likeness and in His image and in His stature and in His nature.

You know, the Apostle Paul had the experience of weeping, too. In Acts, the twentieth chapter, and verse nineteen, he said:

Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews: (Acts 20:19).

So, beloved, the Apostle Paul had many tears, many temptations, many sufferings. And when I

read of his life, I think, surely, I have endured nothing in comparison to Him. And, then, when I read of the life of my LORD Jesus Christ that endured so much for me and went through so much for me to purchase my salvation at Calvary's Cross, then anything that happens to me, I cannot help but weep in gratitude and praise for His goodness and mercy.

Look for the good in every situation that comes to you. It is there. God has provided it and prepared it. Let us pray:

Heavenly Father, we thank You today for the Truth of a broken and a contrite heart. We thank You for the promise in Your Word that unto such You will look. And we thank You for the respect that You have unto the tears of Your people. Bless these living words of Truth and we ask, LORD, that You would write them upon the fleshly tables of our heart because we pray in the precious Name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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