
First Baptist Dyersburg • Sermon Notes

Mournful and in Need of Comfort

Message #3 in the series

IN HIS OWN WORDS

Sunday, February 15, 2026 • Mike Hickman, Senior Pastor

God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted. (Matthew 5:4, NLT)

God blesses you who weep now, for in due time you will laugh. (Luke 6:21b)

What sorrow awaits you who laugh now, for your laughing will turn to mourning and sorrow. (Luke 6:25b)

1. Throughout the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus is talking about our _____ life, not our physical life. This blessing is not about the _____ of a loved one or the loss of something dear to us.
2. What makes us poor and in need of God is the _____ in our life. Jesus' purpose in coming to earth was to _____ us from our sins.
3. Last week we learned that to be poor in spirit is to realize that we lack the _____ spiritual resources to improve our own spiritual condition – that we are _____ dependent on God to meet those requirements because of our sin.
4. How does the Lord reveal our sinfulness to us? Through the work of the _____ as He instructs each one of us through the reading and teaching of the _____.

¹²For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires. ¹³Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable.

¹⁴So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe. ¹⁵This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. ¹⁶So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most. (Hebrews 4:12-16, NLT)

5. As we acknowledge and confess our sin to God – and as we are exposed to His holiness and righteousness – we should be overwhelmed with _____ because of the depraved condition of our lives that is reflected in our sinful choices.

It was in the year King Uzziah died that I saw the Lord. He was sitting on a lofty throne, and the train of his robe filled the Temple. ²Attending him were mighty seraphim, each having six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³They were calling out to each other,

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of Heaven’s Armies!
The whole earth is filled with his glory!”

⁴Their voices shook the Temple to its foundations, and the entire building was filled with smoke.

⁵Then I said, “It’s all over! I am doomed, for I am a sinful man. I have filthy lips, and I live among a people with filthy lips. Yet I have seen the King, the LORD of Heaven’s Armies.”

⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷He touched my lips with it and said, “See, this coal has touched your lips. Now your guilt is removed, and your sins are forgiven.” (Isaiah 6:1-7, NLT)

⁶When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. ⁷Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. ⁸But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. ⁹And since we have been made right in God’s sight by the

blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God's condemnation. ¹⁰For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. ¹¹So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God. (Romans 5:6-11, NLT)

⁷So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. ⁹Let there be tears for what you have done. Let there be sorrow and deep grief. Let there be sadness instead of laughter, and gloom instead of joy. ¹⁰Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor. (James 4:7-10, NLT)

Delight in Your Deep Grief over Sin because God Will Comfort You

Mourning in this context is an act of repentance and sorrow over our sin and sinful condition. We see God for who He is (Isaiah 6) and ourselves for who we are. We are heartbroken, filled with the kind of grief one experiences, for example, in the death of a loved one. It is a James 4:8-10 kind of grief and mourning. You are crushed in your heart and soul over your sin and the price it required in the brutal death of God's only Son. This type of mourning requires a change of heart. Jesus' first concern is not changing our actions but our "spirit." We need to change internally. As James Merritt puts it, "The world tries to change a man from the outside in, but Jesus changes a man from the inside out." ("Joy") Proper actions externally will come only after God has changed us internally so that we mourn over our sin and repent. (Danny Akin, *The Sermon on the Mount; Christ-Centered Exposition*, pages 7-8)

How does a person enter into the blessing of God's forgiveness and restoring grace? The answer, which is the same in the old covenant and the new, is clear: by humble, heartfelt confession. God will not turn His back on a sinner who comes to Him with confession that is free from excuse or blame-shifting. He always greets the humble in heart with the fullness of His forgiving and restoring mercies. God has always been a God of grace, His people have

always been in need of grace, and He has always reminded them of His willingness to respond to them with grace when grace is needed. (Paul David Tripp, *Everyday Gospel: A Daily Devotional Connecting Scripture to All of Life*, Feb. 10)

Psalm 32

A psalm of David.

- ¹ Oh, what joy for those
whose disobedience is forgiven,
whose sin is put out of sight!
- ² Yes, what joy for those
whose record the LORD has cleared of guilt,
whose lives are lived in complete honesty!
- ³ When I refused to confess my sin,
my body wasted away,
and I groaned all day long.
- ⁴ Day and night your hand of discipline was heavy on me.
My strength evaporated like water in the summer heat.

Interlude

- ⁵ Finally, I confessed all my sins to you
and stopped trying to hide my guilt.
I said to myself, "I will confess my rebellion to the LORD."
And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone.

Interlude

- ⁶ Therefore, let all the godly pray to you while there is still time,
that they may not drown in the floodwaters of judgment.
- ⁷ For you are my hiding place;
you protect me from trouble.
You surround me with songs of victory.

Interlude

- ⁸ The LORD says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your
life. I will advise you and watch over you.
- ⁹ Do not be like a senseless horse or mule
that needs a bit and bridle to keep it under control."
- ¹⁰ Many sorrows come to the wicked,
but unending love surrounds those who trust the LORD.
- ¹¹ So rejoice in the LORD and be glad, all you who obey him!
Shout for joy, all you whose hearts are pure!

We cannot be comforted if we have not mourned. This blessing will not be completely fulfilled until we reach
