



BEATTITUDES

Happiness for the Hurting (Matthew 5:4)

Sunday, January 21, 2024 AVBC 10:30 am

Μακάριος [*mak-ar'-ee-os*] = *supremely blessed, fortunate, well off, blissful, self-contained happiness*

-James 1:2-4; 4:8-10, Luke 16:19-25

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. (II Corinthians 4:17-19)

1. In this _____ world here is much to mourn.

-Job 5:7, John 16:33

2. God is _____ to the broken-hearted.

The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. (Psalm 34:18)

You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle. You have recorded each one in your book. (Psalm 56:8) (NLT)

Now that we know what we have—Jesus, this great High Priest with ready access to God—let's not let it slip through our fingers. We don't have a priest who is out of touch with our reality. He's been through weakness and testing, experienced it all—all but the sin. So let's walk right up to him and get what he is so ready to give. Take the mercy, accept the help. (Hebrew 4:14-16) (Message)

-II Corinthians 1:3-4

3. The Lord has provided a _____ from heartache to happiness.

- Take the _____ to taste the tears
- Surrender your _____ to the Saviour.

He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away. (Revelation 21:4)

- Turn your mourning into a _____.

All praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the source of every mercy and the God who comforts us. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When others are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. (II Corinthians 1:3-4)

DIGGING DEEPER

(For use in personal/family devotions or with your care group)

Q1: Jesus said that in this world we will have tribulation; like a grape being crushed. Have you felt "squished" by the pressures of life? If so, how?

Q2: "Take the time to taste the tears" Put that statement into your own words.

Q3: Pastor David noted several verses that highlighted God's closeness and care during times of grief. Which of the verses means the most to you? Why?

Q4: The word translated "be comforted" in Matthew 5:4 also appears in noun form and is often translated "counsellor, helper or comforter". Read John 14:16-18, 26-27; 16:5-7. What do you learn about God's comfort and care from these verses?

Q5: God is aware of everything people do to you. Study Psalm 10. What practical principles can you draw from this Psalm to help you handle life's heartaches?

Q6: I Corinthians 1:3-4 reveals part of God's purpose for pain. Has your mess become your message that has helped someone else? If so, how?