GOD'S HEART CAN BE HURT TOO

Luke 19:41 Luke 19:42-48

Introduction: Everyone is always asking God for help in their times of troubles and especially when their hearts are heavy and broken from some tragic event in their life. The prayers for relief and intercession in the times of distress are made over and over expecting God to step in and bring some kind of relief. Every one has called upon God at one time or other to help mend a broken heart. Did anyone ever stop to think that maybe God's heart hurts sometimes too from the behavior of His own Children? Jesus said the Father was tender-hearted, that He wants to fellowship with His Children, that He wants to be loved back and that if a person has seen Jesus, he/she has seen the Father.

I. GOD'S HEART WAS HURT MANY TIMES BY ISRAEL IN THE OLD TESTAMENT DAYS

- 1. God's heart did not hurt because Israel cried out for food (Exodus 16:3)
- 2. God's heart did not hurt because Israel complained about not having water (Exodus 17:2)
- 3. What caused God's heart to hurt was just after being freed from hundreds of years of slavery to Egypt His Children, Israel, turned to worshipping a golden calf. *(Exodus 32)*
- 4. God's heart hurt because His Children began to complain that He was a burden to them. (*Micah 6:3*)
- 5. God's heart was broken because His Children's attitude was that they couldn't stand God anymore, and didn't want Him around (*Malachi 3:14*)

II. THE HEART OF JESUS WAS BROKEN

- 1. Jesus' heart was not broken because He didn't have anywhere to live, no place to sleep.
- 2. It was not the crown of thorns shoved fiercely upon His head that broke His heart.
- 3. Even when His disciples fussed among themselves or doubted was the heart of Jesus broken.
- 4. What broke the heart of Jesus was all those people who were rejecting Him and His message of love from a loving Heavenly Father and whose destiny was an eternity in Hell.

III. PAUL, THE APOSTLE'S HEART WAS ALSO BROKEN

- 1. His heart was not broken by the shipwreck or the hunger or the nakedness. *(2 Corinthians 11)*
- 2. Paul often prayed for God to remove a "thorn" from his flesh but God didn't remove it but that was not what caused Paul's heart to be broken (*2 Corinthians 12:9*)

- 3. Even when Paul was stoned at Lystra by a hating, unbelieving, unruly mob and being left for dead, his heart was not broken (*Acts 14:19*)
- 4. What broke Paul's heart was the indifference among church members whom he labeled as "enemies of the cross." (*Philippians 3:18*)

CONCLUSION:

- 1. Most Christians have never thought about God's heart being able to be broken and especially so by their actions.
- 2. Jesus often showed distress and sadness at the rejection, unbelief, open rebellion against Him and what He was trying to do for them. He even cried, more than once.
- 3. What must Christians do to keep from breaking God' heart?
 "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above.." (Colossians 3:1)
- 4. What should a person do when he/she becomes aware that he/she has broken someone's heart? Have you ever broken God's heart? What should you do?