

JESUS CRIED

John 11:35; Luke 19:41; Hebrews 5:7

Introduction: Words have different degrees of meaning and often the word with a lighter, easier, less severe meaning is used but still has the same general idea. The scriptures tell us that Jesus often wept, that He shed tears and we identify with that word, "wept," a meaning being tearful. However if the word "cried" is used it reveals a more intense feeling. Using the word "cry" or "cried" where the word "wept" is used with Jesus, can cause us to perhaps see more clearly just how much Jesus cared for and continues to care for people.

Jesus cried over the death of His friend, Lazarus. Jesus cried over the city of Jerusalem. He had preached for 3 1/2 years, taught, healed, did miracles, healing the blind, deaf, crippled, even raising some who had died. Crowds followed Him, all excited with Him, much being done in their great city, Jerusalem, and were God's chosen people, but they just didn't accept Him as God's Son. Jesus cried over the whole lost, condemned world.

I. JESUS, GOD'S SON, CRIED!

1. Think about it, remember whose heart was broken and cried, shedding tears.
 - The author of the Bible, the builder of heaven, the founder of the Church, the hope of the resurrection, the source of all blessings, the advocate of sinners, the alpha and omega of life, the ancient of days, the anointed one, the balm of Gilead, the bread of life, the morning star, the corner stone, the commander of God's armies, the counselor, the guide, the fountain of life, the hiding place, the high priest, the Immanuel, the king of kings, the Lord of lords, the slain Lamb, the atonement for sins, the Lion of Judah, the man of sorrows, the conqueror of sin, the mediator between God and man, the messenger to man, the Messiah, the prince of life, the prince of peace, the Redeemer, the rock of ages, the rose of sharon, the scepter of Israel, the Great Shepherd, God's only begotten Son, the Savior of mankind.
2. Not just feelings of sadness or a tear or two, but actually crying!
3. This one, the Son of God, looks over the great city of Jerusalem and cries because it is lost and the world around it is lost.
 - Here is the mightiest of the mighty, crying over man's sin and his doom and destiny.
 - Here is the Son of God, who held the universe in His hands, who controls all things, crying.
 - He came to save, not to conquer.
 - He came to die, not to call down the wrath of heaven.

II. WHY DID JESUS CRY?

1. Jesus didn't cry for His own self or situation.
 - He knew the crown of thorns, the cross, the nails, the sword in the side, the tomb were coming.
 - He didn't cry over a life of seemingly defeat because the world rejected Him.
 - He was not crying over the city buildings or its reputation and coming destruction.

2. Jesus was crying because of the spiritual attitude, the spiritual condition of mankind.
 - He cried because of their sins, their unbelief in Him, their being dead in trespasses and sins, and because the wrath of God was already upon them if they didn't have the love for God in their hearts, because they were a people with no hope, a people without God.
 - No wonder Jesus cried.
 - We ought to be crying with Jesus as well.
 - Think of the sorrow, pity and crying we show when a friend or loved one dies.
 - We need to see as Jesus saw, people, friends, family dying without Jesus.
3. Jesus cried because He saw where mankind was headed.
 - He saw beyond the grave, the tombs.
 - He was thinking of where those people who were without God would spend eternity.
 - Think about it! Every unsaved person then, as well as now, is going to Hell.
 - This thought ought to cause every Christian to cry with Jesus and try to do something to help.
4. Jesus cried because the people refused and rejected Him.
 - Perhaps the most hurtful and saddest thing a person can do to Jesus is to refuse to listen to Him and to reject His words of salvation, hope and love.
 - If Jesus cried over Jerusalem because the people refused and rejected Him, what do you think He feels for your (our) own community, town, state and country?

III. JESUS CARED AND STILL DOES

1. While Jesus was here on earth, He showed how much He cared for people as He healed, taught, loved and even raised the dead. There was no question as to whether Jesus cared or not.
2. Today, Jesus still shows how much He cares for all people.
 - He knows the number of hairs on each head, knows every detail of every life, is very interested in own tears, illnesses, injuries, worries, sadness, heartaches, joys and inner most thoughts.
 - He has given us the Bible, which reveals His promises, assurances, encouragements, warnings.
 - He preserves, provides and protects every believer, every day of his/her life.

CONCLUSION:

1. The Church, Jesus' Bride, is to take up where He left off when He ascended back to Heaven.
 - The Church is to care for the lost as He cared for the lost.
 - Does the Church really care for the lost?
 - Does the Church ever cry over the lost?
 - Has the Church really joined Jesus in deep concern and compassion for the lost?
2. Every one of us is of deep concern to Jesus. He died for all of us and offers salvation to all of us and wants every one of us to spend eternity with Him.
3. What do you think the Church should do? What do you think that YOU should do?