

A Place For Tears

*"Jesus wept."
John 11:35 (NIV)*

*'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 (NIV)*

Recently I was in correspondence with a fine Christian person who apologized in their letter for the tears they had shed on my last visit to them. As I recalled the visit, and the subject of our conversation when the tears started, I realized that tears were highly appropriate at that time.

That apology made me wonder how many people are embarrassed by their tears over a sad situation. This world in which we live is indeed a valley of tears. Too often a smile hides a broken heart.

What is so helpful among the many word pictures of Jesus in Scripture are those scenes where we see Him weeping. For good reasons our Lord is called a Man of sorrows (Isaiah 53:3). Jesus knew sorrow in His own life and He also felt the pain in the lives of those He loved.

(Matthew 11:28-30). Jesus wants us to understand that He also weeps with us just as He wept with those who suffered while He was here on earth.

One person said, "Tears are the silent language of grief". This is so true and such a form of expression over grief is very eloquent. However, the land of tears is a lonely place. Most of us find laughter more attractive than tears. Hence we try to keep a smile on our face and weep inwardly.

When you weep you are in the company of Jesus Himself. He knew when to weep and when to laugh. We never read of Jesus laughing in Scripture although we read of Him saying funny things.

Whatever causes the tears to flow – find comfort in the knowledge that the Lord is with you at all

times and in every situation. He has promised never to leave you or forsake you.

If your situation in life causes the tears to flow try to keep in mind the wonderful truth that in a coming day God Himself will wipe away all your tears and give you joy for sorrow. Isaiah 35:10 (NIV) "... and those the Lord has rescued will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away."

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