

Study Questions

2-5-12

Matthew 5:4 *Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.*

The ability to mourn is a mark of character, remember Peter in Mt. 26:75; Jesus at the tomb of Lazarus in John 11:35; Jesus in Gethsemane in Mt. 26:37-38; Isaiah and Jeremiah at the sins of Israel in Isa. 22:4 and Jer. 9:1. People mourn because they have loved deeply and lost.

Within what frame of reference does Jesus pronounce this blessing?

What would you say the two keys which open this blessing to our understanding of true righteousness and true happiness are?

Discuss whether or not sin causes all grief. (2 Corinthians 7:10)

Discuss your relationship with the true Source of the blessing. (Matthew 11:28-29)

Read Psalm 51:1-7 – What was King David mourning over?

Name the times when mourning is not necessarily proper. (ex. 2 Samuel 18:33-19:8; 2 Samuel 13:1-2; 1 Kings 21:1-4; 1 Samuel 15:35)

What is the opposite of mourning?

Does Jesus' promise of comfort mean that all our troubles will disappear? All mourners will be comforted? "*For they will be comforted*" Is there a sense of loss or gain?

Are we only to be concerned with our own comfort or are we obliged to offer comfort to others who mourn and suffer? (2 Corinthians 1:3-7)

In Luke 19:41-44 Jesus approaches the city of Jerusalem and weeps over it. Discuss why He is in mourning?