

Love Your Neighbor
The Beatitudes-Those Who Mourn
First Christian Church—October 15, 2017
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Eeyore...

GOD's Story— Fortunate are Those Who Mourn, Matthew 5:4

"Blessed are those who *mourn*, for they will be comforted."

Suffering: If there is mourning, some kind of suffering has caused it.

"Pain rearranges our priorities." –Kenneth Bailey

- Riding out the Storm... (Romans 5:3-4; James 1:2-4; 1 Peter 1:6-7)

The House of Mourning: Ecclesiastes 7:2-4

- Remembering the Dead—
- Injustice—Ann Frank, "Her tears never ran dry."
- Sorrow that leads to repentance—

"Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn." Romans 12:15

Those of us who have reason to mourn can have 1 of 3 outcomes:

1. The event defines you and you can never really move on.
2. The event destroys you.
3. Or, you overcome the event and grow spiritually and emotionally again.

Our Story, God's Story is not stuck in suffering and grief; it's moving in the direction of this 2nd Beatitude!

- Revelation 21:3-4; 21:3a

BIG Idea: Those who mourn now are blessed because their sorrow is not the end of their story. Their sorrow is producing a depth of character in them that nothing else can. And their ultimate blessing is the comfort reserved just for them from God himself.

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Right On!