

An aerial photograph of a rural landscape featuring a complex pattern of agricultural fields. The fields are in various stages of growth, with some appearing as vibrant green and others as golden-yellow. The fields are separated by narrow, winding roads and small clusters of trees. The overall scene is a dense, textured mosaic of natural and cultivated elements.

Crazy Rejoicing, Weeping Labor, & Intense Prayer

Psalm 126 | Dave Gibson

An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. The image shows a patchwork of agricultural fields in various shades of green and brown. A prominent feature is a cluster of trees in the lower-left quadrant, which forms a shape reminiscent of a stylized letter 'C' or a similar symbol. The text 'THE CHRONOLOGY OF CAPTIVITY' is overlaid in white, bold, italicized capital letters across the center of the image.

THE CHRONOLOGY OF CAPTIVITY

An aerial photograph of agricultural fields, showing various crops and furrows. The image is overlaid with a dark green, semi-transparent filter. The text is centered on the left side of the image.

OUTLINE OF *Psalm 126*:

- **Euphoric Rejoicing (vv. 1-3)**
- **Weeping Labor (vv. 4-6)**

“When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; Then they said among the nations, ‘The LORD has done great things for them.’ The LORD has done great things for us; We are glad. Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like streams in the Negeb! Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy! He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.”

– *Psalm 126*

An aerial photograph of agricultural fields, showing various patterns of crops and furrows. The image is dark and has a greenish tint. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

LISTEN!

*One of the hardest things I ever did on a sustained basis
– took 5 years...*

An aerial photograph of a lush green agricultural landscape. The field is divided into various sections by straight lines, likely furrows or paths. A prominent winding path or road cuts through the field, with several trees scattered along its length. The overall scene is vibrant and well-maintained, suggesting a fertile and productive land.

I. BELIEVERS WERE EUPHORIC

Because they had been Redeemed from Exile and Restored to the Promised Land – after 70 years (vv. 1-3).

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Because they had been Redeemed from Exile and Restored to the Promised Land – after 70 years (vv. 1-3).

A. *Vs. 1 – The joy of the people of Israel when God restored them to the Promised Land!*

I. BELIEVERS WERE EUPHORIC

Because they had been Redeemed from Exile and Restored to the Promised Land – after 70 years (vv. 1-3).

B. Vs. 2 – Even the unbelieving nations around them were amazed at God's goodness to them.

I. BELIEVERS WERE EUPHORIC

Because they had been Redeemed from Exile and Restored to the Promised Land – after 70 years (vv. 1-3).

C. Vs. 3 – Acknowledging what the nations see: God has done great things for us, we are glad!

An aerial photograph of a farm with various crops and fields. The image shows a mix of green and brown fields, with some areas appearing to be planted in rows. There are some trees scattered throughout the landscape. The overall tone is somewhat dark and moody.

II. BELIEVERS PRAY

***For the Redemption for the many more who are still
in Bondage (v. 4).***

An aerial photograph of a farm with various fields and trees. The fields are in different stages of growth, with some showing distinct rows of crops. The trees are scattered throughout the landscape, providing a natural border for the fields. The overall scene is a mix of green and brown tones, suggesting a rural, agricultural setting.

III. BELIEVERS LABOR

And find Encouragement in the Truth of Sowing and Reaping (vv. 5, 6).



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A. *Vs. 5 – Principle: Persevere and succeed.*

III. BELIEVERS LABOR

And find Encouragement in the Truth of Sowing and Reaping (vv. 5, 6).

A. Vs. 5 – Principle: Persevere and succeed.

B. Vs. 6 – Reiteration: *Continue to labor despite difficulties and grieving, and succeed.*



APPLICATION

How to Faithfully Sow the Gospel: A simple, five-part primer on Evangelism.



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How to Faithfully Sow the Gospel: A simple, five-part primer on Evangelism. *God never mocks us by commanding us to do things we cannot do.*

BECOMING A GREAT AMBASSADOR FOR CHRIST:

- **Pray for Gospel opportunities.**
- **Learn the Gospel cold.**
- **Learn transition questions.**
- **Be a servant-hearted friend to all.**
- **Open your mouth when God opens the door.**



BIG IDEA

We rejoice in our redemption, pray for more redemptions, and take courage that what we sow, even in great difficulty, will eventually be harvested.

An aerial photograph of a rural landscape featuring various agricultural fields. The fields are arranged in a patchwork pattern, with some showing distinct rows of crops. The colors range from dark green to a more vibrant, yellowish-green. A line of trees or a road runs through the middle of the fields. The overall scene is captured from a high angle, looking down on the land.

Keep Sowing!