

**John 11:28-37 | Jesus wept.**

### **Congregational Reading**

#### **Matt. 13:37-43, The Explanation of the Tares**

“The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man, and the field is the world; and as for the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom ; and the tares are the sons of the evil one; and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are the angels.

So just as the tares are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age.

The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

Pastoral Prayer.

**John 11:28--37 | Jesus wept.**

“When she had said this, she went away and called Mary her sister, saying secretly, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.”

And when she heard it, she got up quickly and was coming to Him.

Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha met Him. Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and consoling her, when they saw that Mary got up quickly and went out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

Therefore, when Mary came where Jesus was, she saw Him, and fell at His feet, saying to Him, “Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died.”

When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, He was deeply moved in spirit and was troubled,

and said, “Where have you laid him?”

They said to Him, “Lord, come and see.”

Jesus wept.

So the Jews were saying, “See how He loved him!”

But some of them said, “Could not this man, who opened the eyes of the blind man, have kept this man also from dying?”

I want to encourage everyone to sit still and listen to this message. I want to encourage you to share this message with your family and friends.

This might be one of the most important messages I think I have given. I often see people fidget

and get stirred in their spirit and then get up and leave at certain points of the message. It's often interesting given I'm fully aware of the spiritual response taking place in those moments.

Also, I just want to say, I preach this message, I do not require commentary. I do not require conjecture.

If you want to affirm with Amen, that's fine. But I don't need anyone to give a pew expansion on the points that I'm emphasize.

I know that they are right and I know they are what is needed at this very moment.

**That is why I am the Pastor here.** I am not wondering. I am not suggesting. I am preaching. I am stating with as much clarity and conviction in the power of the Holy Spirit the Truth of God.

I am exhorting those in the faith and refuting those who contradict in the most practical of expressions.

It is a true thing to witness the Holy Spirit both encourage the conscience of the believer and condemn those who contradict.

To be redeemed you must sit still and listen. You must hear the word of God. The Spirit of God must work on the soul.

The person who is unwilling and incapable of sitting still in the midst of the Spirit of Truth is very indicative of what is going on internally in their life.

**This message today is going to be both long and sobering.** Jesus is about 7 days away from His long and sobering walk to the cross.

I actually feel inside that this very message might serve as a **spiritual catalyst** for our church. That will be determined by God's will if it is.

**It is only appropriate** that we have the same internal response of soberity by knowing the truth of this situation.

**I hope** that today's sermon is not offensive, though I know that it will be. To many people, but I do hope that it serves to open the eyes and ears.

I often aim to take you back to an **original understanding** of the text and then apply that to a **current reality**.

Giving you a Biblical understanding and then using a real world application.

Today you get **so many other options**; you get people you give you real world understanding with real world application, you get Bible understanding with no real world application.

For me, I hover over an **area of offending** people because of the Bible understanding that applies to real world application. And this often offends people because it highlights a number of things going on in their personal life.

Therefore, they fidget and get moved in their spirit and leave because of their **lack of congruence with the Truth of the Spirit**.

Today, I think that might end up being the case. But my hope is that people would turn away from the things that I highlight.

**Today**, we are dealing with an **issue of worship**. Today, we are dealing with **an issue of imagery**. We are dealing with priorities. An issue of contradiction, unbelief, grieving without hope.

In religion you have people that worship all kinds of things.

People will worship buildings. I went to a church that had the best architecture and design and then one of the staff came out and I talked to them and I realized they had prioritized design and architecture over doctrine. Leading people to a big building instead of Big God.

People will worship statues and images created by men. Praying to and singing songs to dead idols.

In our age those **seem like relicts**. For our generation that just seems like a thing of the past. We really have too much technology to be caught up on antiquated church design and statues.

In our age technology has taken over. Technology and digital imagery has gripped the minds of many in religion.

They would prefer their pastor be a man 2000 miles away on their TV screen, rather than a real life person that can shepherd them in their actual life problems. The reason for that is that it would require that they humble themselves and mature out of their self-pride.

Technology has **served to provide a buffer** between what is real and what is not.

The technology has **served to insulate** the individual person from having to deal with the pressing reality of **their own self-pride, self-righteousness, lack of knowledge**, the embarrassment of their profound inabilities. Making them insecure, but often leading to false assurance.

This buffer of technology, **builds a false assurance** and a **false confidence**, where people will confidently talk about matters and make assertions about things they no idea what they are talking about.

This is a problem of worship, a problem of belief, problem of contradiction, a problem of imagery and seeing Christ. **Ultimately Idolatry.**

In this passage today, we have to address the issue of; **Why is Jesus deeply moved and troubled? Why did Jesus weep?**

**Jesus is an eternal figure;** Does Jesus weep when people die? Does Jesus weep at funerals when He is in a close relationship with those people?

**Jesus is a real and an alive figure today;** Is Jesus still deeply moved and troubled? Does Jesus still weep? And if He does, why does He?

We see that Jesus wept. We see Jesus' empathy. Jesus has an affinity for those who are broken and suffering.

**In this story,** Martha is broken hearted, Mary is broken hearted, and Lazarus is dead. Jesus has affection for them. But is that the reason Jesus weeps?

It's not. I will tell you up front, the reason Jesus weeps is not because of benevolence or a humanitarian mission.

We see throughout the OT God weeping over His people, Israel. We see throughout Jesus ministry, His sorrows and griefs, His weeping, and it has nothing to do with temporal concerns.

We see in the next chapter a celebration of sorts occurs.

**I. Deeply moved in spirit and was troubled. v. 28-33** 'When she had said this she went away and called Mary her sister, saying secretly, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and was coming to Him. Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha met Him. Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and consoling her, when they saw that Mary got up quickly and went out they followed her, supposing that **she was going to the tomb to weep there.**

Therefore, when Mary came where Jesus was, she saw Him, and fell at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus therefore saw **her weeping**, and the Jews who came with **her also weeping, He was deeply moved in spirit and was troubled'**

**Jesus was deeply moved in spirit and was troubled. Q: What was it that caused Jesus to be deeply moved and be troubled?**

**Variety and consistency in translation.**

**NASB: 'deeply moved in spirit and was troubled'**

**NET: 'he was intensely moved in spirit and greatly distressed'**

**KJV: 'he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled'**

**NKJV: 'he groaned in the spirit and was troubled'**

**ESV: 'he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled'**

**NIV: 'deeply moved in spirit and troubled'**

**TPT: 'he shuddered with emotion and was deeply moved with tenderness and compassion'**

**My point for bringing this up is that the translation that you read from needs to demonstrate accuracy with the original wording. Something like the Passion translation doesn't do that.**

**"deeply moved/intensely moved and greatly troubled/distressed"** is the most consistent literal translation.

**When it says here that Jesus was 'troubled'** we have to look to Scripture to understand what John is telling us. Is John telling us that Jesus is troubled because Lazarus is dead?

**Is John telling us that Jesus is troubled** because Mary and Martha are crying and distressed?

**Is John telling us that Jesus is troubled** because all of these Jewish mourners are mourning the death of this man.

**What is it that is troubling Jesus? If Jesus is our Savior,** and if Jesus is our Lord it is important for us to have a firm understanding of **what troubles Jesus.** It is important that we be troubled and distressed for the same reasons as Christ.

**v. 33 'Jesus was deeply moved in spirit and greatly troubled/εταραξεν.' ταρασσω/tarasso**  
-to be troubled, to be disturbed, terrified, stirred internally

It literally means that Jesus 'shed tears.' It was not loud wail. There was something internally that distressing Him.

**What is it that has Jesus troubled and disturbed? It seems obvious** that it was not the death of Lazarus **and it seems shallow** that it is not to have mutual affection with Mary and Martha.

Jesus is tender and Jesus is compassionate, but He is not compassionate in the way that the world would have Him be.

**Is. 53:3,4 'He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him'**

**Sorrow and grief shaded much of Jesus' life. This is not the only time Jesus weeps.**

**Jesus is the Son of God, but Jesus is also a man. there are things that trouble Jesus.**

**There are things that bother Jesus and distress Him.**

**Jesus does have human attributes:**

- Human weakness and limitations – Luke 2:7 'she gave birth to her firstborn and wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger'
- Demonstrate of maturing and growth – Luke 2:40, 52 'The Child continued to grow and become strong, increasing in wisdom, and the grace of God was upon Him...Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.'
- Tired and weary – John 4:6 'Jesus being weary from His journey, was sitting by the well'
- Thirst and hunger – Matt. 4:2, John 19:28 'He became hungry' 'I am thirsty'
- Physical weakness – Matt. 4:11, Luke 23:26 'angels ministered to Him' 'Simon of Cyrene carried the cross for Jesus'

Jesus is the Son of God, both **fully Divine and fully man**. A **difficult concept** for a human mind to grasp, but a true one nonetheless.

In this passage we see both a Divine and a Human side of Jesus. Jesus weeps. He is deeply moved and troubled, and He weeps.

When it comes to the image of Jesus it is important to hold the right frame of reference. It is important to grasp the likeness of Jesus.

The depiction that we have of God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit is important.

The image of God is **assaulted regularly** in our age. The image of God by worshiping God, the image that God has placed upon mankind is marred and misrepresented.

How a person sees Jesus, who a person believes Jesus is **speaks volumes** about that person.

People will say today that **Jesus is their Homeboy**, as I saw on a t-shirt.

People will say today that Jesus is their savior **in a romantic sense**.

That Jesus has saved them from a life of mediocrity and as a result they will accomplish more. Jesus has saved them from a life that lacked purpose and now because Jesus saved them they can have a **life that is filled with purpose**.

People establish their view of Jesus as it pertains to what they want to get.

They don't have a friend, so He's their homeboy.

They don't have a romantic fling, so He becomes the central figure to their romantic notions. They have no direction in their life so Jesus offers them a purpose.

**The idea persists that:** Jesus loves them. Jesus helps them accomplish. Jesus gives them purpose. You matter. You are significant.

**Let offer an alternative view, this alternative view that is most consistent with the Bible's revelation is going to blow those who are self-righteous away;** What if Jesus doesn't love you? What if the situation is not that 'Jesus hates the sin and not the sinner' BUT/INSTEAD 'Jesus actually hates the sinner'? What if you don't matter? What if you getting your way and you feeling important is irrelevant to Jesus? Have you ever considered that? That all of your selfish motives actually had nothing to do with God's will or Christ's love. That you actually just made them up?

**What if you are not significant,** and you are actually an insignificant, just speck of dust in His eternal universe, a vapor?

What if you have created a situation where you think the world revolves around you and your self-worshipping tendencies, instead of actually obeying God and worship Christ.

What if you actually aren't fulfilling God's purposes in your life, but your desire for more money, more attention, and more recognition of your success is actually not God's will for your life, but your will for your life?

What if you actually just love yourself and you use your own self-ingratiating tendencies to fulfill your own desires and advance your own purposes, but you call that Jesus and you call that Christianity.

**Our church has grown significantly** over the past few years, but there have also been a number of people that left; Do you know what the consistent character trait of all of those people was? Their self-pride attempting to obligate the church to do their bidding. Do you know why Satan fell from heaven? Using his self-pride in attempt to contort God's authority.

There is this big idea of People claiming that they have fell in love with Jesus as if he is their recent crush, and exciting new pursuit and maybe a replacement date for homecoming.

I saw a quote on a church reader board, it read ***'if you are missing a piece to your puzzle maybe Jesus is the missing piece.'*** The suggestion being that you have a complex life and maybe, possibility this one missing Jigsaw component could make the picture come into full view.

**Let me ask this question;** Did you make Jesus Christ Lord and Savior over your life OR Did He make Himself Lord and Savior over your life? Who accomplished the work of salvation?

Did you concede to it OR Did He create the whole situation for your good? Who's in charge?

Do we really think that God who Created the world, God who sent His Son into the world, and His Son who died for the sins of the world is merely a small jigsaw piece to answer the problems of our life?

People have made God so meaningless that these very people have made God an object of their determining INSTEAD of God determining things in their life.

Can you see how Idolatrous this is? As if we determine what God will do. How prideful is that?

**Why does Jesus weep?** Because the very people He is about to die for **continue to doubt** and **contradict Him**.

Why is **Jesus deeply moved** and troubled? So much so that the internal anguish that He experiences causes Him to shed tears.

In attempts to make money off Christianity, I saw a faith-based line of yoga pants, apparently inspiring people to do yoga for Jesus. I had a guy come to me and suggest we do martial arts at church, he said 'ya man, we can just say were doing it for Jesus' – let me think about that for a minute, 'um. NO!"

The image of Jesus in some people's minds has become reduced to a fantasy type action figure, just a little less edgy and more acceptable than the recent Batman or Avenger.

Jesus Christ is not a fantasy figure. Jesus Christ is a real figure, both truly God and truly man, fully obeying God, fully fulfilling God's plan of redemption, all the while living as a man, tempted in every way yet not succumbing to temptation.

Jesus is not a fantasy action hero.

**You have to admit Jesus is by far the** most renowned figure in all of world history. No matter your position on Jesus you would have to concluded that He is either the most notorious or the most noteworthy figure in all of world history.

Yet, **despite the historic prowess** of the figure of Jesus, there is really not the much theatrics or film production around the person of Jesus.

**There has not been much production** around the person of who Jesus is with regard to film production and paintings, imagery etc. And there is a good reason for that, it is to avoid the idea of Idolatry. Not to fashion an image of God.

In church history, no matter what position of the denominational aisle you found yourself on, you pretty much accepted the notion that fashioning an image of Christ would be considered idolatry.



This is a major motive of why we have such limited artwork, theatrics, and film around the person of Christ.

Of course we have paintings of known events, like the Nativity scene, the loaves and the fish, the Last Supper, the Cross, BUT what we do not have is lifestyle expressions.

We should realize that there **are all kinds of wrong ways** to worship the right God.

We ask in this passage today; **Why Does Jesus weep?** Why is Jesus deeply moved and troubled?

For example today, you have this TV show **The Chosen series** where **the image of who Christ is**, is emblazoned on their mind that Christ must have resembled a liberal Hollywood actor.

**This Hollywood actor, Jonathan Roumie**, who plays the role of Jesus Christ on this TV series the Chosen, was baptized in the Greek Orthodox church and is currently a practicing Roman Catholic.

This man, who is an iconic figure, has been nominated to be a papal knight into the Order of St. Gregory the Great of the Roman Catholic church.

The Roman Catholic Church, who symbolically fashioned an image of Christ remaining on the cross, even though He was taken off the cross, placed in a tomb, raised in the Resurrection, and ascended to Heaven. The Roman Catholic Church, who knighted Roumie, symbolically keeps Christ on the cross.

The Roman's were only able to keep Christ on the cross of about 6-8 hrs, the Roman Catholics have kept Him on the cross for about 1500 years.

This is the man, Jonathan Roumie who has been knighted into the Catholic papacy, is the person being emblazoned upon the minds of millions of people as an image of Jesus.

This man, who is now recognized internationally as playing Jesus Christ has played a **wide range of roles in other Hollywood work.**

Roumie, who is widely recognized for his role as Jesus Christ, is capable of acting in a variety of capacities.

**In 2019**, while still upholding his role as Jesus Christ on the Chosen, Roumie played the role of a savvy investor in the **HBO series Ballers**, manipulating the strings of backroom deals and investing with the use of vulgarity and profanity. Not exactly Christlike. But he's just playing a role, right?!

**In 2012**, Roumie played the role of John Wilkes Booth, the man that murdered the 16<sup>th</sup> US President, in Saving Lincoln.

**In 2023**, it is expected that Roumie will be projected onto the big screen as Lonnie Frisbee the, Charasmactic, Homosexual Hippie of the Jesus Revolution in the 60-70's who died of AIDs. The character Lonnie Frisbee was essentially ex-communicated by the Calvary Chapel movement for his homosexual lifestyle.

Clearly Roumie has the ability to transition to a wide range of characters. But I do not think any of those characters is more alarming than the character he played in **the movie Let It Bleed**.

**In 2016**, Roumie played in a movie titled Let It Bleed. This movie was a high-stakes thriller where extortion and murder at the expense of criminal acitivity was the main storyline.

Roumine, who plays Jesus Christ in the Chosen, was cast in a role titled '**The Sadist.**' A sadist is a person that takes personal pleasure in hurting other people. But let me get this straight, that guy that plays Jesus in The Chosen is 'just so loving' Right?!?

A Sadist is a barbaric, cruel figure that butchers people all for the name of profiting in criminal enterprise.

At minute 50 of the movie Let It Bleed, Jonathan Roumie, the man who plays Jesus Christ in The Chosen, shows a different side of who he is.

Roumie, who plays The Sadist, butches a man to death with two carving knives. That's the man that plays Jesus Christ on The Chosen.

In this movie, Roumie, who is cast in the role of The Sadist, is a part of a criminal enterprise of other men and women, each having similarly evil roles to fulfill. The title of the person that leads the organization is called, The Devil.

How is it that Roumie in 2016 was working for the Devil, while he was butching people with carving knives, but just a few short years later, is Jesus Christ projected into the minds of millions of onlookers?

**If I were a casting agent** for a role for Jesus, the last person I would select is someone that just worked for the Devil and was butchering people with carving knives in their last acting gig.

But I suppose that's no trouble to the combined production staff of both the Mormon church, who doctrinally believes Satan and Jesus are spirit-brothers, and select producers from Lions Gate films that has made horror films normative for the American public.

I wouldn't let this man on my TV screen, in my home, or much less be the image of God in my life.

In my estimate the man is flat out evil. His ability to so casually transition from a sadistic murder, to suave irreverent investor, to the role of Jesus Christ is nothing short of alarming.

I believe that Roumie is nothing less than puppeteer for the godless Anti-Christ agenda that is deceiving many throughout the whole world.

And here we have, fashioned by human hands through clever video production, offered to millions of people that this is Jesus.

**The reviews from most people** claim this Jesus is just so loving and so personable. Claiming, the Bible has made Jesus so flat and boring. This Jesus makes the Christian faith come alive. This Jesus is so relatable, more personable, not offensive, he's really friendly and funny.

**2 Cor. 11:13-15** 'such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, masquerading as apostles of Christ. And no wonder, for Satan, himself, masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their actions. Let no one take me/you for a fool.'

Roumie plays in all kinds of roles other than Jesus in the Chosen series, practically all of which are **Anti-Christ and actively demonic**.

Roumie serves as a voice over character in the live-action role play video game, **The Darkness II** where he is the voice of a Mafia gangster who helps a Mafia hitman that has the supernatural ability to grow demon arms and exercise a wide range of other demonic abilities.

**Does that sound like** the image of Jesus Christ? 'you know a tree by its fruit.'

But millions watch it. Millions are subscribed to their channel.

In contrast, Could your old-fashioned, boring, local pastor, could he really have any insight into this topic?

Wouldn't you prefer that Hollywood shape your view of Christ?

**Does it seem more likely** that God in Heaven has been waiting around in Heaven for mankind to develop Hollywood production, and mass movie distribution, in order to develop what He wants with the image of Christ **OR**

did God design His model for local shepherds to shepherd His truth and shepherd His people, and Just like Moses in the wilderness those people would prefer to return to Egypt than to gel as a team and fight the enemy in their very presence?

In respect of this passage we have to ask ourselves; **Why is Jesus deeply moved and troubled? Why Does Jesus weep?**

Today there is often this superhero view of figures that people look up to and admire. The avengers and other comic book characters. Things that are fantasy.

**This fantasy belief systems** cause people to skew their view of the Christian faith because it becomes largely based of the fantasy genre, INSTEAD, of the **Bible and sound theology**.

**This infantile belief system** will go so far as to claim that if you have a church that has both sound doctrine and sound theology then it must be doing something to inhibit the work of the Holy Spirit. Think about how preposterous that is!

Because of the influence of fantasy lifestyles over peoples minds they are so immature that they claim, that to have a sound view of theology is taught and Bible doctrine is taught rightly then it must be at the exclusion of a work of the Holy Spirit.

Consider how foolish that is; people will claim that if there were a work of the Holy Spirit then it would moreso be partnered with poor theology and errored doctrine than sound theology and right doctrine.

Let me tell you why people hold beliefs like this; it is simple, because their belief justifies **their ineptness**.

**Because of self-righteous tendencies**, people naturally follow the path of least resistance in their faith, instead of the path that heads to an apex of theological thought.

**Why does Jesus weep?** We actually see it in an exegetical distiction.

**Exegetical distinction of weeping:** κλαυση/klause and εδακρυσεν (δακρυω/dakryo)

**The mourning of Martha, Mary, and the Jewish mourners: κλαυση/klause**

**Matt. 2:18** 'a voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children, she refused to be comforted' -That's the kind of weeping taking place in the action of Mary, Martha and the Jewish visitors.

**Mark 5:38,39** 'they came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. And when he had entered, he said to them, "Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but asleep." – a very similar situation. Jesus raised a child that was presumably dead.

**Luke 6:21,25** "Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh... woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep." – Jesus is always **expressing truth with eternity in mind**. He corrects those who are so prideful in heart that they merely laugh at current events thinking they are free from impending calamity.

It seems that there is **constantly bound up in the Gospel narrative, this notion of contradiction**. These balancing scales of divine justice.

This **constant weighting of the scales** that shows that those who love the favor of men and self-ingratiation, is bound back up in the gravitational pull of sobering truth. AND, people often hate how the truth interferes with their self-ingratiating, fantasy.

That Jesus loves those who are His and has promised indignation for those who are not.

**Luke 7:13** 'when the Lord saw her, He felt compassion for her and said to her, "Do not weep."

Same situation, of raising a dead girl, the mother mourning the death her only child.

**Rom. 12:15** 'Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep' – it is appropriate to weep over loss, it is appropriate to laugh and celebrate at the right time and in the right way, this is wisdom. Not only is it wisdom, it is your reasonable act of worship.

**Why does Jesus weep?** Is He weeping with compassion. Yes, Jesus does weep, He does have compassion with Mary and Martha, but He is not weep without hope.

**Luke 7:31,32,38** 'To what then shall I compare the men of this generation, what are they like? They are like children who sit in the market place and call to one another, and they say, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; **we sang a dirge, and you did not weep.**' For John the Baptist has come eating bread and drinking no wine, and you say, 'He has a demon!' The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Behold, a gluttonous man and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet **wisdom is vindicated by all her children.**"

This passage helps sum up some of the connection point between the weeping that is being down and Jesus' position on the state of these people.

**Mary and Martha are weeping** because of their brother, that's appropriate. **Mary and Martha have sought Christ** in their affliction, that's appropriate. Mary and Martha believe all the right things about Christ.

BUT this crowd, these wailers, many people who weep and mourn without hope, that is not appropriate.

Jesus weeps, but Jesus' weeping is distinct from the weeping of the crowd of people.

The word means to cry. To have tears. That is what has happened. Jesus cried. Tears have come out of his eyes. BUT NOT by the way these people are AND not for the reason these people are.

Jesus wept.

**Heb. 5:7** 'in the days of His flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears...He was heard because of His piety/reverence.' -Jesus is nearing His last days. About a week away from His crucifixion.

This crowd has no piety, no reverence.

This crowd mourns and weeps out of the wrong reasons. This crowd mourns and weeps out of obligation, out of custom, out of indesecretion.

This crowd is moved to tears without even knowing why they are moved to tears. This crowd is so fickle and easily manipulated they are tossed about by any re-occurring situation.

### **The hardening effect of sin on Esau.**

**Heb. 12:14-17** 'Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled; that there be no immoral or godless person like Esau, who sold his own birthright for a single meal. For you know that even afterwards, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for **he found no place for repentance, though he sought it with tears.**'

Jesus weeps over the sin of these people.

Jesus weeps over the effects of sin on people.

Jesus weeps knowing in 7 days, He is going to die for the very sin of these people.

AND, chief among all of that, Jesus weeps because these people still have no grounded assurance of who He is.

Jesus weeps because they have no faith in Him.

### **The reality of Heaven.**

Rev. 7:17 'God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

Rev. 21:4 'He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.'

**IN all of this**, this is not the weeping expressed by Jesus. The weeping expressed by Jesus is completely distinct. It is not even the same word used to express His response to the situation.

Biblical view of Weeping.

### **Weeping in personal grief.**

#### **Death and Burial of Sarah**

Gen. 23:2 'Sarah (127 years) died in Hebron in the land of Canaan; and Abraham went in to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her.'

**Esau wept in grief.** Gen. 27:38 'Esau said to his father/Isaac, 'Do you have only one blessing, my father? Bless me, even me also, O my father.'" So Esau lifted his voice and wept.'

#### **Jacob mourned over Joseph.**

Gen. 37:35 'all his sons and all his daughters arose to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. And he said, "Surely I will go down to Sheol in mourning for my son." So his father/Jacob wept for him.'

***Weeping because of a false vow. Jephthah's daughter.***

Judges 11:37 'let me alone two months that I may go to the mountains and weep because of my virginity (symbol of the vow her father made, so she would be unable to marry and bear children)

Ruth 1:9

1 Sam. 1:8

1 Sam. 20:41

2 Sam. 3:16, 19

2 Sam. 15:30

2 Sam. 18:33

**David Weeps over his son, Absalom**

2 Kings 8:11

2 Kings 13:14

Job 16:16, 20

Ps. 39:12

Ps. 42:3

Ps. 56:8

Ps. 102:9

Rev. 5:4

John 20:11

***Weeping in shared grief.***

Dt. 34:8 'the sons of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the days of weeping and mourning for Moses came to an end.'

**Weeping in the remorse over personal failures and sin.**

**Matt. 5:4**

**Matt. 26:75**

**Mark 14:72**

**Luke 22:62**

**1 Sam. 2:33**

**Heb. 12:17**

**Divine weeping.**

**Is. 16:9 'I will weep bitterly...I will drench you with my tears' – Why would God weep so bitterly and drench His people with His tears?**

**Jesus weeps over Jerusalem.**

**Luke 23:27-28** “following Him/Christ was a large crowd of the people, and of women who were mourning and lamenting Him. But Jesus turning to them said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, stop weeping for Me, but **weep for yourselves** and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.’ Then they will begin to SAY TO THE MOUNTAINS, ‘FALL ON US,’ AND TO THE HILLS, ‘COVER US.” **For if they do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?**” – Jesus gives a prophetic warning about false mourning, false weeping, getting foolishly caught up in the moment and not seeing the scope of the situation. **These hired mourners** are hired to mourn and weep professionally at a ceremony, but they don’t even recognize the scope of the situation. **Q: Why would they need to weep for themselves and their children? Because they are utterly lost.**

BUT, as Christians we do not weep as without hope.

#### **False weeping.**

Mal. 2:13 ‘this second thing you do. You cover the LORD’s altar with tears, with weeping and groaning because he no longer regards the offering or accepts it with favor from your hand.’

Mal. 1 ‘I have loved you, says the LORD. But you say, “How have You loved us?”

They question, and doubt, and scheme, like a rebellious child

**God weeps** in frustration and indignation over the lack of faithfulness of people.

God, being all-powerful, does not weep as if He is pathetic or incapable. God is not weeping as if He desires attention or some kind of temporal need. This is **not weeping over felt-need theology.**

**God is weeping** over the **utter lack of faith** of the people.

The sheer arrogance of those who are prideful in self-reliance.

**Mal. 2:1-17** ‘this commandment is for you O priests. If you do not listen, and if you do not take it to heart to give honor to My name’ – **Q: Why does Jesus weep?** Jesus weeps because they very priestly line established by God, commanded by God, identified as these religious leaders are failing to recognize the Divine Authority of Jesus.

**v. 2** ‘I will send the curse upon you and I will curse your blessings; and indeed, I have cursed them already, because you are not taking it to heart.’ – **Q: Why does Jesus weep?** Jesus knows the standard of God upon blessings and curses. Jesus knows that many of these people are ‘not taking to heart’ who he is and as a result they will be cursed.

Jesus weeps because He knows the effects of the curse of sin on the world.

**v. 3** ‘I am going to rebuke **your offspring**, and I will spread refuse on your faces, the refuse of your feasts; and you will be taken away with it.’ – **Q: Why does Jesus weep?** The very children of those people that refuse to obey God, their children are going to be condemned by God. The results of their condemnation will be self-evident in the lifestyles that they and their children



lead. **'your offspring'** will be corrupt! Jesus weeps knowing that these very people have witnessed plenty to believe in Him, yet many still contradict. **John 11:37** 'the Jews were saying **'Could not this man, who opened the eyes of the blind man, have kept this man also from dying?'** These people are constantly sitting back evaluating, looking for Him to slip up, looking for a reason to disbelief, contradict, and condemn.

These people that do this are wicked and rebellious.

**Mal. 2:4** 'Then you will know that I have sent this commandment to you, that My covenant may continue with Levi...My covenant with him/Phinehas was one of life and peace, and I gave them to him as an object of reverence; so he revered Me and stood in awe of My name.'

**Q: Why does Jesus weep?** This **prophetic covenant** is looking back at the covenant made with Phinehas, Aaron's grandson, but it **easily projects right** into this Gospel. The covenant of salvation made with God's people through Jesus is a **covenant of life**, it is a **covenant of peace**, it a **covenant to yield Christ** as an object of reverence.

**But what is the result?** Arrogant questioning. Contradictory motives. False mourning. Corporate religious rituals. No genuine love for Christ. No sincere motives of worship.

**v. 6** 'True instruction was in his mouth and unrighteousness was not found on his lips; he walked with Me in peace and uprightness, and he turned many back from iniquity.'

**Q: Why does Jesus weep?** It is not as if these things have taken place in private. It is not as if Christ has left them without true instruction. It is not as if Christ has not turned them from unrighteousness.

**We do not mourn** without hope. We have hope, we have love, we have faith. We have all of these things.

Jesus is our hope, Jesus is supremely loving, we place our faith in Jesus.

Weeping in the midst of grief is normal. Weeping in the midst of grief is biblical. It is normal human behavior to cry over sorrow.

**BUT it is a wicked and rebellious behavior** to persist in unbelief and continue a depressed lack of hope, in the midst of the truth of Jesus Christ.

To uphold a position of unbelief and doubt in a perpetual cycle is not Christian insight, it is sin.

**v. 37** 'could not this man, who opened the eyes of the blind man, have kept this man also from dying?' -this spirit of contradiction persists in some of these people.

**Why is Jesus weeping?** Because of their sheer lack of faith.

We should be reminded that being unfaithful is being sinful. A lack of faith is sin.

Rom. 14:23 'anything that is not done in faith is sin.'

These people still refuse to have faith in Christ.

**Why does Jesus weep?** Their persistence in sin and their persistence in lack of faith.

However, there are people who cry and mourn over sorrow and there are people who cry and mourn because they are not getting their way.

Adults do this. Some do it in this very passage. It moves Christ to indignation.

Greek literature – a horse snorting with frustration or indignation

These adults who are mourning without faith, mourning without hope, are building a quiet frustration inside to where **'He weeps.'**

**Mal. 2:7** 'the lips of a priest should **preserve knowledge**, and men should **seek instruction** from his mouth; for **he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts**. But as for you, you have turned aside from the way; you have caused many to stumble by the instruction; you have corrupted the **covenant of Levi**' – in **v. 47** 'the chief priests and the Pharisees convened a council and were saying "What are we doing? For this man is performing many signs...it is expedient for you that one man die for the people'

The people are a reflective of their priest. The priests are not representing God, the people are not representing God. They are each a product of Godless rebellion. **Lack of faith and constant contradiction.**

**Why does Jesus weep?** Because the **very priesthood** that is required to **preserve knowledge has corrupted it**. Because the men and woman who are to seek Godly instruction are so foolishly they can't even discern the difference.

Jesus weeps over their utter lack of discernment.

These people are not casually sinful. **Jesus IS** 'deeply moved in spirit and troubled'

Jesus is troubled. He is concerned. **Is He concerned** because Lazarus is dead? No. In the next passage, Jesus raises Him back to life.

Jesus is disturbed and bothered, so much so, to the point of quiet tears.

There are levels/cycles of personal mourning I think we should understand.

There are people who cry and they show an outward expression of grief. They cry out. They sob. Their countenance falls.

Just like there are right things to do, there are a hundred different ways to do a right thing in the wrong way.

They might get so frustrated that they yell. Sometimes this is justifiable, BUT, sometimes people have corrupt motives. Some of These people have corrupt motives.

There are so many outward displays of emotion today and people whimsically act like there emotion is criteria of truth.

Most often, these outward displays of emotion are not sincere, are selfishly generated, and most often they are the secondary response to a person not getting their way.

Jesus is '**deeply moved in spirit and troubled.**' Internally, Jesus is disturbed and bothered by the **unfaithfulness and the contempt** of these people.

**Jesus is beset** by the very sins of these people. **Jesus weeps because their besetting sins** are what are **setting Him on a straight course** to the cross.

Sin is what sends Christ to the cross. Not His sin, their sin.

Jesus weeps out of their utter disregard for the fact that He is the conclusion of the Life and Resurrection that they are seeing in Lazarus.

2 Cor. 5:21 'He/God made Him/Christ, who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.'

**Why does Jesus weep?** Two reasons; **their persistent sinful** doubt and their persistence in **sinful contradiction.**

Their sin is reflected in their unbelief and their sin of unbelief is demonstrated by the **rebellious contradiction.**

These people are in a **self-perpetuating system** and that system is a system of unbelief and it spins around and around upon the will-power of their own contradictions.

**Therefore,** Jesus weeps!

Mal. 2:9 'So I also have made you despised and abased before all the people, just as you are not keeping My ways but are showing **partiality in the instruction.**'

**Partiality in the instruction** – favoritism, bias, prejudice, discrimination.

This past week on the front page of the Wenatchee World was the announcement that a church would be shutting its doors because of declining members and attendance.

Celebrated in the article was both the pastor and the pastor's work. That pastor, who is a woman, identify that her chief work was to formally recognize that movement of LGBTQ at their church.

The Gospel was not mentioned, that there is hope for lost and dying sinners. Christ was not mentioned. Scripture was not referenced. The only thing mentioned was the partial, deferential recognition of the LGBTQ movement.

This false pastor's chief aim was to establish at their church what God calls in His word an abomination.

1 Tim. 2:12-15 'I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet.'

2 Cor. 5:11, 16 states that 'it is by the fear of God that we persuade men'

How will a church demonstrate its fear of the Lord to the lost, if that church compromises the very words of the Lord once entrusted to all the saints.

**Therefore**, Jesus weeps!

**How will the church** 'contend for the faith that has been entrusted to God's holy people' when they are doing the exact opposite of what God has said clearly in His word to do?

**Therefore**, Jesus weeps!

**Yet this very woman** who claims to uphold the pastoral office, used the recognized authority of that office to corrupt the church by doing the exact thing God says would send people to Hell.

1 Cor. 6 'do not be deceived, neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God'

Yet, people sit back and tolerate this, which Jesus calls in Revelation, a synagogue of Satan. This is the very work of Satan. this is the work of the anti-Christ.

**Who are the idolaters?** those who compromise God's truth in religion, to deliberately misrepresent God's truth to establish their own religion.

**Who are thieves?** Those who steal God's glory and the expense of their personal recognition.

**Who are covetous?** Those who ingratiate their own self-purposes, and their doctrine of justification is justified by their own reasoning.

**Who are the drunkards?** Those who are drunk on the lusts and inebriated by their deception  
Who are the revilers and swindlers? They are those who revile God's people, who swindle the truth of God. They are those who defraud and attempt to fleece the flock.

**Why does Jesus weep?** These people give partial treatment to the Truth that God has already fully revealed.

**The Son of Man is standing right** before them. Having performed miracle after miracle. Having already raised two people dead and the stories of that circulating the entire country – AND here they standing crying out in Pagan styles of mourning and questioning the authenticity of Christ.

This is sobering, this is humbling, this is internally disrupting and disturbing. That's why Jesus weeps.

If Jesus has secured a foothold in our heart and a beachhead on our brain then the things that trouble Jesus should trouble us.

We live in a world that loves to misrepresent Jesus. That's why Jesus weeps.

It should cause us to weep. It should cause internal frustration.

Knowing that a right view of Him is the only solution.

If we weep right Christ in right regard, then we can be confident that we will rejoice with Christ for eternity.

Do not lose heart, He has overcome the world.

Jesus Christ is the Resurrection and the Life. And those who weep with Christ will rejoice with Christ in Eternity.

Kids/Small Groups

1. What is the difference between Mary, Martha and Jews weeping and Jesus' weeping?
2. Jesus is both truly God and truly man, Jesus has emotions, Jesus expresses compassion and empathy, but in this situation, the scope of His weeping is not merely about compassion; Why does Jesus weep?
3. We see that many of the Jews have rejected Jesus. In one week they are going to publicly vote to crucify Him; why do people reject Jesus?
4. Idolatry is worshiping or redefining God into your own image; we covered this in a variety of examples in this sermon but what are some examples of how our modern culture redefines Jesus in their own image?

Email

John 11:28-37 | Jesus weeps.

“In this passage we see the continued emphasis of Jesus’ divinity, but we also see His humanity. Jesus weeps. But Jesus does not weep in the same way that the others weep. The word describing Jesus’ weeping is not even the same expression. What is the reason that Jesus weeps? What is it that causes Jesus to be deeply moved and troubled internally? Enjoy this sermon as we investigate the reasons of why Jesus weeps.”