

Skegness Community Church - Weekly Bible Study 2025
52 passages of Scripture that every believer should know

Week 17 - IS JESUS STILL WEEPING?

John 11: 35

“Jesus wept”

We now come to the shortest verse in all the Bible. Without question, it is the easiest to memorise. It contains only two words. However, these two words offer incredible insight into the heart of our Lord. There are two passages in Scripture that reveal our Lord actually weeping. Ironically, both of them take place on the Mount of Olives opposite Jerusalem. On the eastern slope of the mountain, in the small village of Bethany, we find Jesus weeping over our sorrow at the grave of Lazarus. On the western slope we find Him on Palm Sunday weeping over our sins. One can't help but wonder when we read these words if Jesus is still weeping today. Tears have a language all their own. The tears of our Lord speak volumes to us in this dispensation of grace.

JESUS WEEPS OVER OUR SORROWS

He is touched by our broken hearts

The event where Jesus wept was the funeral of His close friend Lazarus. John simply states, “Jesus wept.” He didn't weep because Lazarus was dead. He knew that in a moment He could restore life to him - in fact this is exactly what He did. Jesus wept when He saw Lazarus's sisters crying. Tears touch the heart of our God. Mary's heart was broken. Her brother was dead, and it seemed Jesus had arrived too late. She held no hope. She was hurting. She was weeping with deep sobs and wails. She was pouring out her soul to the Lord. When Jesus saw her He wept with her. This great God is touched by our own hurts and broken hearts. Tears have a language of their own. They speak much louder than words. They need no interpreter. The Psalmist says that God lists our tears on His scroll (Psalm 56:8). If you need God's attention, try tears. It's okay to cry. We serve a Lord who weeps with us over our sorrows and who is touched by our broken hearts.

JESUS WEEPS OVER OUR SINS

He is troubled by our blinded eyes

Most messages related to the Palm Sunday event have to do with crowds, the shouts of the hosannas. But all that was a sham and our Lord knew it. Within a few days, those same crowds would disappear, and their cheers would be turned to jeers. Can you picture Him that day, on the back of a donkey, riding over palm branches to the praise of the people? But look closer: “As He approached Jerusalem and saw the city, He wept over it” (Luke 19:41). Hear Him through His tears as he says: “if you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace - but now it is hidden from your eyes” (v 42). They wanted a king. He was, in fact, a King, but His kingdom was not of this world. His is the kingdom of our hearts. And so our Lord Jesus sat on the Mount of Olives and wept. Jesus poured out His heart over our spiritual neglect and sin. Sadly, those of us in the church today do not seem to be weeping over the sins of those around us or even our own sins. We are watching the decay of a civilisation before us. This is the world in the 21st century, and Jesus is still weeping ... But many of us are not. Many of us have lost our tears, but tears speak so much louder than words. The Lord Jesus is still touched by our broken hearts and troubled by our blinded eyes. The last time tears are mentioned in the Bible is in Revelation 21:4. It reveals a beautiful scene in heaven: “He (God) will wipe away every tear from their eyes”. This is our hope. He is listing all our tears on a scroll, and one day He will wipe them all away. In Psalm 30 v5 we read, “For His anger lasts only a moment, but His favour lasts a lifetime, weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning”.

As you memorise this verse this week, meditate on the fact that we have a Lord who is not far off and removed. He is very near. He is the One who is touched by our broken hearts and weeps with us. And He is the One who is troubled by our blinded eyes and weeps over us. These two little words speak volumes: “Jesus wept.” It's okay to cry.