



THE VOICE OF EVANGELISM INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

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THE SIGNIFICANCE OF TEARS

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As we begin this New Year I want to encourage you because from henceforth we will all witness days of peril. I want to take the time to address a subject that every one of us are familiar with and that is tears. We want to take our Scripture text from **Exodus 2:1-6, "And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi. And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months. And when she could no longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink. And his sister (Miriam) stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him. And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river; and her maidens walked along by the river's side; and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it. And when she had opened it, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, this is one of the Hebrew's children."**

Without a doubt, each and every one of us has an understanding of crying and tears. The physiological term for tears is lacrimation, which simply means the secretion of tears, a bodily fluid which often serves to clean and lubricate the eyes in response to an irritation in the eyes. However, tears can be a manifestation of something emotional that is happening on the inside of a person and not caused by an irritant from without. Many times when the spirit of God has moved

upon me heavily, I have wept profusely because of God's presence and power. The tears I was shedding were a manifestation of the Holy Spirit as he brooded over my person and spirit. Many times those kinds of tears can be tears of joy by the mere presence of God touching our lives. Other times they can be tears of brokenness because of our disobedience or rebellion towards God. Nevertheless there can be many manifestations and reasons for tears. Some manifestations are spiritual tears because of God's presence, and or tears of joy coupled with bliss. Tears can also be a manifestation of hurt from both physical and emotional pain. There is great power in both spiritual and emotional tears. Jochebed, Moses mother, no doubt shed profuse tears when she put Moses in the ark and placed him in the bulrushes. However, her tears of sorrow would soon be turned into tears of joy when she was hired and paid wages to nurse her own son. Never underestimate the power of your tears while travailing in your circumstances. The psalmist declared in **Psalms 30:5, "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning."** It was once said the reason we encounter joy is because we have been in *mourning*. We are told in our Scripture text in verse 6 that the child, Moses wept. What I find so profound is those tears Moses was shedding were tears that would ultimately defeat a nation. Many times when we are broken, contrite, and distressed, we shed an enormous amount of tears. I want to assure you

today those tears are not just falling down onto a sofa, or perishing in the earth, or even evaporating without bearing any significance on the heart of God. Spiritual tears and prayers are captured by God himself: reading from **Revelation 5:8, "And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours (incense), which are the prayers of saints."** Rejoice child of God because God is going to use every one of those tears along with your prayers during the great tribulation. Reading from **Revelation 8:3-5, "And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand. And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake."** In this passage of Scripture John the revelator makes it very clear our tears and prayers go up before Jehovah as a sweet aroma into His holy nostrils. What we witness is 80 years later Jehovah would use the tears of that child to ultimately harden Pharaoh's heart. Some years ago the Lord showed me how that Jochebed was rejoicing and tremendously elated that Jehovah

would save her son; but what she did not realize was, 80 years later God would use her son to save a nation and not just her one! Jehovah was honoring His Word that He had committed to Abraham the patriarch of faith when He assured him he would father a great nation and how his people one day would go into bondage. However, Jehovah assured Abraham he would visit the Jewish nation and bring them forth with a strong hand. The man, Jehovah would ultimately use was Moses. This would be a 4000 year process from the fall of man in the Garden of Eden to the birth of Jesus Christ. Every great man and woman that Jehovah would use to bring the Messiah into the world all began in **Genesis 3:15, "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."** When God addressed Adam and Eve in the garden before He punished them, we have no record of either one of them ever weeping: however, I am certitude they wept profusely as they were driven from the garden and His presence. This message is speaking volumes to the hearts of many because of what you have had to endure! You have been hurt, bruised, and battered to no end. Some of you feel abandoned, as though God has left you all alone. Maybe you're unemployed or an object that you cherished has become misplaced or broken. Maybe you're in a state of bereavement and your heart is aching with great pain. I am here to decree all of this will soon change, either by the grave or at the second coming of Christ our Lord. We have so many promises that Jehovah will bless, take care, and nurture His redeemed. The Bible says in **John 11:35, "Jesus wept."** What makes this verse so significant is found here in **Hebrews 4:15, "For we have not an**

high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." Jesus was tempted to accomplish two things: first, that He might have sympathy for us and secondly, to have compassion upon us. When we go back and look at the seventh chapter of the book of Revelation we see an untold number of saints that have come through great tribulation. But notice what the bible declares in **Revelation 7:17, "For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."** There is coming a day when God will wipe every tear from every face! Let me share a passage of Scripture that I often use when conducting a funeral service found in **Revelation 21:4, "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."** Through the power of the Holy Ghost, God Himself shall wipe away all tears from everyone's eyes. The Scriptures declare that there will be no more crying, neither will there be any more pain: whether physical, emotional, or spiritual; all pain will be vanquished. Some would call that a Utopia or a perfect state. The truth is, it will be a place of perfection because the redeemed will be glorified and all brokenness and all pain will be no more. Never despise your tears because they bring a fruitful return. We read in **Psalms 126:5-6, "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."** You're lost loved ones are going to be touched by your tears in the near future: therefore never quit praying or

weeping because your tears are precious seed in the eyes of God. This coming **April 5-7-2019** we will be putting together our first conference entitled **"The Age of Deception"** at the **Hickory Metro Convention Center in Hickory, North Carolina.** Here are some of the speakers already scheduled: Steve Quayle, Hugo De Garis, Doug and Joe Hagmann, Russ Dizdar, Rev. Jimmy D. Smith, Irvin Baxter, and others yet to be announced. Please visit our website and register as soon as possible because we expect this conference to sell out quickly. Registration is \$100 per person. We are expecting a time of inspirational ministry for the body of Christ. Hickory, N.C. is easily accessible through interstates, I-26, I-40, I-85, and I-77. The Charlotte, N.C. Airport is only a 45 min. drive to the Hickory Convention Center. Please put this event on your calendar and be with us. I will be speaking on Sunday morning and serving communion while my wife and singers will be ministering to us in song and music. Let's come together and have an old-fashioned Camp Meeting revival!

Serving With You All,

Pastor / Evangelist David W. Lankford