

SORROW AND CELEBRATION

John 16:20

Let us learn from the Easter record about sorrow and celebration

I. SORROW

A. LAMENTING WOMEN - Luke 23:26-27

- Disturbed by the reality and cruelty of Jesus' death parade

B. TROUBLED MARY - John 20:1-2, 11-15

1. Her Problem: Uncertainty about Christ's body (2, 13)
2. Her Perception: Jesus has been moved

C. WEEPING DISCIPLES - Mark 16:9-11

1. Their Message: Jesus has appeared to Mary Magdalene (9-10a)
2. The Mourning: Emotionally and physically distressed (10b)
3. Their Mistake: Unbelief and denial (11)

D. DISAPPOINTED TRAVELERS - Luke 24:13-24

1. Their Conversation (13-17)
2. The Questions (17-19)
3. The Conclusions (20-24)

II. SUMMONS - John 16:20-22

A. INFORMATION (20)

1. Sorrow is turned into joy!
2. The cross which caused their sorrow became the symbol and subject of joy!

B. ILLUSTRATION (21)

- The intense pain of childbirth transformed to the joy of new life

C. INSPIRATION (22)

- You will see Me again and rejoice with a joy no one can steal

D. ILLUMINATION - Psalm 30:5

“... Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.”

III. CELEBRATION

- A. JOYFUL WOMEN - Matthew 28:5-8
1. The Announcements (5-7)
 2. The Attitude: Fear and great joy ... mixed emotions (8)
- B. AMAZED FOLLOWERS - Luke 24:36-41
1. Their fear (36-37)
 2. The focus: Look! I'm flesh and bones. (38-40)
 3. The thrill: They could not believe it because of their joy and amazement (41)
- C. WORSHIPFUL DISCIPLES - Luke 24:50-53
1. The Ascension (50-51)
 2. The Atmosphere (52-53)
 - a. Immediate worship (52a)
 - b. Then a return with mega joy (52b)
 - c. They continued in the temple praising and blessing God! (53)

IV. OUR SITUATION - Romans 6:23

- A. SORROW (23a)
1. The wages of sin is death!
 2. Have you realized that because you sin you are separated from God?
 3. Do you know that if you die in your sin you will be forever separated from God in Hell?
 4. Have you sorrowed over your sin and its sentence?
- B. CELEBRATION (23b)
1. The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord
 2. Have you received God's Son?
 3. Can you celebrate God's gift?

CONCLUSION:

How are you this Easter?

Do you sorrow or celebrate?