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# Words of Truth

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## Do You Shed Tears?

By: Brian A. Yeager

There are many reasons for crying. Some people feel that crying is a sign of weakness or of being feeble. I do not share that conclusion. Furthermore, I know that conclusion is wrong. I am not writing that because I think I am some sort of standard. I am willing to say that crying is a good thing, at times, because the Scriptures teach that.

Is it possible that we allow, too often, the world to dictate to us what terms mean? We are supposed to be the people whom do not have to “fit in” with the world’s way of thinking (Romans 12:1-3). Have you ever studied the Scriptures about crying? There are many. We have had articles ([http://www.wordsoftruth.net/wordsoftruthbull10\\_15\\_2006.html](http://www.wordsoftruth.net/wordsoftruthbull10_15_2006.html)) and sermons (<http://www.wordsoftruth.net/letyourspiritbestirred2012byeager.htm>) that have covered this subject. However, it is a subject matter that reaches deeper than the surface. Thus, let’s start our brief study here with looking at some Scriptures about shedding tears. After that, we’ll examine some possible reasons why some people (maybe you) do not cry enough.

### Many Tears Were Shed Throughout The Scriptures

When studying the Scriptures we find that some people cried because of things they were facing in life: *“I am weary with my groaning; all the night make I my bed to swim; I water my couch with my tears. Mine eye is consumed because of grief; it waxeth old because of all mine enemies. Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity; for the Lord hath heard the voice of my weeping... And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church. And when they were come to him, he said unto them, Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons, Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews”* (Psalms 6:6-8 and Acts 20:18-19).

When studying the Scriptures we find that some people cried because of their sins: *“And the Lord said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof... And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly”* (Ezekiel 9:4 and Matthew 26:75).

When studying the Scriptures we find that some people cried because of the sins of others: *“Rivers of waters run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law... But if ye will not hear it, my soul shall weep in secret places for your pride; and mine eye shall weep sore, and run down with tears, because the Lord 's flock is carried away captive... And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine*

eyes. *For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation”* (Psalms 119:136, Jeremiah 13:17, and Luke 19:41-44).

When studying the Scriptures we find that some people cried because someone they cared about died: *“Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled, And said, Where have ye laid him? They said unto him, Lord, come and see. Jesus wept. Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved him”* (John 11:32-36)!

When studying the Scriptures you find that the faithful cried out of affliction in teaching the lost (Romans 9:1-3 and II Corinthians 2:4). When studying the Scriptures you find people cried because they knew of false doctrines being taught (Acts 20:28-31 and Philippians 3:18-19). When studying the Scriptures you find people cried because they missed being around their faithful brethren (Acts 20:36-38). Tears were shed just because the work of the Lord is sometimes very difficult to carry out (II Timothy 1:4). Even Jesus, the epitome of strength, had times of “strong crying and tears” that He shed to the Father (Hebrews 5:5-9). The list could go on and on. The question therefore for us is, do we cry enough?

### **A Tearful Application**

When I studied for this article I shed some tears just thinking about Jesus, Paul, Timothy, and the prophets that had much affliction in the flesh. It saddened me when I thought about how Peter “wept bitterly” (Luke 22:54-62) over his failure and how he must have felt. Imagine how he felt when Jesus turned and looked on him after he just finished denying Jesus for the third time.

When I think of Peter and others I read about in the Scriptures, I shed some tears thinking about how I should consider my afflictions light in comparison to what they faced. What about you? When you think of those who suffered before us, do tears come to your eyes? If not, why not? Aren’t we supposed to, *“weep with them that weep”* (Romans 12:15)?

If we are so disconnected that we cannot feel the kind of sorrow that brings about tears, what hope do you think we’ll have in the Judgment Day? While emotions are not the standard, the standard (II Timothy 3:16-17) should bring about emotions. Just think about that! Actions, such as true repentance, require us to have godly sorrow (II Corinthians 7:9-10).

### **Conclusion**

The life of a child of God should certainly be filled with joy (Psalms 144:15). However, we are missing something in our spiritual lives if we never take the time to allow sorrow to have her part in our lives (Psalms 119:67-72 and Ecclesiastes 7:2-4). Besides those lessons, there are times wherein we should weep just because our brethren are facing times wherein they have sorrow in their lives (I Corinthians 12:25-27). Thus, find some time to have a good cry!