

Jesus Wept  
(John 11:35, 38,43; Luke 19:41-44)

These two words verse has a deep meaning. It expresses the anguish of the soul when men are faced with the enemy death. In the beginning God created man and woman for the purpose to fellowship with them. They were created perfect and in harmony with God. But one day everything changed in that Garden. This time when God came to walk the garden and talk to them, they hid themselves from the holiness of God in guilt and sin. The burden that they took upon themselves and upon generations and generations to come was ever so heavy and impossible to clear men from it. It required the death of a holy person to atone men from the consequence of sin. There has never been anybody who could do that, only God Himself in the person of God the Son. For the moment that man sinned he had died spiritually and his offspring was born spiritually dead.

YAHSHUA'S friend, Lazarus, brother of Martha and Mary, was a family YAHSHUA would often visit and have supper with them. The Bible specifically mentions that YAHSHUA loved them. But Lazarus still could not escape death, for he too was under the penalty of death. The only difference here was that his death at that time was for a sublime purpose of the glory of God. God had chosen Lazarus' life to bring others to the knowledge of His Son YAHSHUA through his death. "Upon seeing what YAHSHUA had done, many of the Jews who had come with Mary believed in Him" (John 11:45). In Lazarus' resurrection was manifested the glory of God in the salvation of those who believed Him as a result, and also condemnation for those who would not believe.

Jesus wept. This is a solemn truth. He cried for those lost in sin; He wept over their sin and suffered within in deep sorrow. He felt the anguish of a desperate man without faith and hope, destined to eternity without the presence of God. There He felt disquieted and uneasy at the thought that in only two weeks He was going to carry the burden of men's sins upon Himself and release man to salvation through His own death, not only physical death, but the taste of eternal death through His Father's temporary abandonment of Him. He sighed repeatedly and was deeply disquieted. He expressed His grief with a sigh no one could ignore.

I am sure He loved to have come to see Lazarus as soon as His sisters told him about his illness. But He had something else in mind no one could understand. As an obedient Son, He had to do the will of His Father and not that of man. He left them all wondering, as they so expressed: "Could not He Who opened a blind man's eyes have prevented this man from dying"? Of course He could have. But many would not have believed in Him. Lazarus' death set the stage for the grain to die to bring life, as He said, when speaking of His death. We must die often to self to produce fruit that is of eternal value. Our corrupted soul has a one track mind: that to be contrary to the Holy Spirit. When there is no death of self, there will not be fruit of righteousness that irradiates God's love for the world. YAHSHUA went through death, but His body did not go through corruption. His body was not and is not and never will be subject to decay, because He is God. He willingly gave up His life and took death for the period of only three days. Death had no power to keep Him in the grave more than the time He allowed it to do. The

sting of death has power over the human body because of man's sin. But God has provided all believers the resurrection timeline, when they will be given a new body and be alive forever more in His presence.

There was another time when YAHSHUA wept: the time when He approached Jerusalem. Why was He the only one weeping? He had finished riding on a colt in the direction of the city with people spreading their garments on the road, rejoicing and praising God, saying, "Blessed is the King Who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" Were not the people accepting Him as their King? But there was also the voice of the religious authority telling Him to reprove the voices of the disciples. Their minds were sealed with errors and their eyes blinded to the truth. Although they were with the crowd, they were not part of the crowd. Grief took Him as He approached Jerusalem, the city of the great King. As He descended from the Mount of Olives He could see what no one could: the depravity of the city; its rejection of His peace, their failing to recognize God's visitation and His salvation, Jerusalem, the murderer of the prophets. YAHSHUA wept for their spiritual condition and the judgment which was coming upon them. He had given all He had to give, even His life, without a change of their hearts for repentance. Nothing more was to be done for Jerusalem, but judgment He predicted. The sad thing was that those who were crying, Blessed is the King, who had spread their garments on the road for Him, were the same people who cried, Crucify Him, Crucify Him! He wept for them too, as they were handing Him to the Romans to be crucified.

Weeping for the lost is a duty of all believers in YAHSHUA. Every one we meet on the streets has a need to hear about the salvation YAHSHUA offers. His salvation never gets old. His blood shed for the world never loses its power. We are His ambassadors carrying the torch of truth to everyone we know. If we do not do it, who will? With anguish of soul for the lost, snatch those who are being led to the slaughter and save them from the fire. "Deliver those who are drawn away to death, and those who totter to the slaughter, hold them back" (Prov. 24:11). The Lord said to him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem and set a **mark** upon the foreheads of the men who **sigh and groan over all the abominations that are committed in the midst of it** (Ezekiel 9:4). As we read and witness the rebellion of men toward God in these evil days, there is one thing we must do: weep, sigh and groan over their sins in prayer and supplication for their salvation. Will you do it?