**Week 1: January 7th, 2018** 

**Topic: Your sorrow will turn to joy** – Part 1

Bible Reading: Isaiah 51: 1-11

#### **Introduction**

Sorrow is a feeling of deep distress caused by loss. It can be described as a feeling of sadness or regret. Sorrow is to feel or display deep distress or disappointment. There is no human or anyone that came to this world in human form that will not taste sorrow, which means, there is no immunity for human beings against sorrow.

The origin of our sorrow was the curse the Almighty God placed on the first woman (Eve) in the Garden of Eden due to her disobedience "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception: In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you"

Genesis 3: 16. So anyone born naturally by a woman or carried out of a woman's tummy through Cesarean Section operation has inherited the sorrow from birth from his/her mother.

It is for this reason that people should understand that no matter how bright the spiritual Sun in one's life, there will be dark patches of cloud, which means, no matter how happy and joyful you may be in this world, **you will have sorrowful period**. We pray that the dark patches of cloud in your life will be minor compare to the brightness of the Sun in your life.

We can compare sorrowful period to a woman suffering the pains of labour. When her child is born, her anguish gives way to joy because she has brought a new baby into the world **John 16: 21.** As from today, sorrow and agony will cease in your journey and joy like a river shall manifest. One thing you must know is that our God is a faithful God and He has said "I will never leave you nor forsake you" **Hebrew 13: 5.** God knew what is happening to you; He knew you afflictions and trials. He is aware of your oppression and toil. He will certainly deliver you from your sorrowful situation just like how He

delivered the people of Israel from their Egyptian taskmasters **Exodus 3: 7.** This year is your year of resolution, whereby God will resolve everything that is causing sorrow in your life. Remember that weeping may endure/last through the night, but your joy comes with the morning **Psalm 30: 5.** This year God in His infinite mercy will turn your tears to laughter, your sorrow to joy and your reproaches to glory.

God will satisfy in full your weary soul. He will replenish your languishing and sorrowful soul according to His promise <u>Jeremiah 31: 25.</u> This year will be a turning point for you, and God will give you rest from all your sorrows. The word of the Lord said, the virgins will dance for joy, the old men and young ones will join in the celebration. I will turn their mourning into joy. I will comfort them, and exchange their sorrow for rejoicing <u>Jeremiah 31: 13.</u> This promise shall come to pass unfailingly this year in your life

At this point, we must realize that God alone can transform our lives and bless us abundantly. Riches and honour are with God, as well as enduring wealth and prosperity **Proverbs 8: 18.** He is the only one who can make you to be rich without sorrow or regret. If you don't want to have sorrow concerning your wealth, you have to stick to God **Proverbs 10: 22.** This year, you will not be sorrowful concerning your job/children/spouse in Jesus Name. So, do not be sorrowful for the joy of the Lord is your strength. Dine and wine because the Lord is on your side and your sorrow shall turn to history **Nehemiah 8: 10.** 

This year, God will make you to forget your misery: you shall remember it as waters that pass away **Job 11: 16.** This year will be the beginning of new precious, priceless and unique things in your life. Your life will be brighter than the noonday and darkness will be as bright as morning **Job 11: 17.** People will call you the blessed of the Lord and your spiritual journey will be without hindrance throughout this year in Jesus Name.

### **Types of sorrow**

There are two types of sorrow namely: the sorrow of the world and the sorrow of the godly people.

The sorrow of the world: It is the feeling people have when they are in distress due to lack of the necessities of life or they are unable to cater for their needs. At times, it may be because of loss of something valuable or the loss of the beloved which can have devastating effect on their lives. It can also be because of disappointment of not reaching one's goal or expectation. The sorrow of the world may also arise due to the regret of the actions/decisions that one has taken.

A young rich man came to Jesus and said "Good Teacher what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?" So Jesus replied that he should keep the commandments. The young man responded that "All these things I have kept from my youth, what do I still lack?" Then Jesus said to him "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me". But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions Matthew 19: 16-22, Mark 10:17-22, Luke 18: 18-23. The young man was sorrowful not because Jesus advised the man to follow Him, but because the man had great possessions and he is not ready/willing to sell everything and give the funds realize from the sale to the poor. So the young man was sorrowful concerning the worldly/carnal things.

When there was famine in the Land of Canaan, Joseph's brothers except Benjamin went to Egypt to buy food. When Joseph saw his brothers, he recognized them, but pretended and talked harshly to them. Joseph called them spies and said in order to prove their innocence; they must bring Benjamin who was staying with their father on their next trip.

Though Israel released Benjamin to accompany them on their second trip to Egypt, but not after making this statement "My son shall not go down with you, for his brother is dead and he is left alone. If any calamity should befall him along the way in which you go, then you would bring down my gray hair with sorrow to the grave" Genesis 42: 1-38. Israel said he would be sorrowful if any calamity befalls his son and he did not say I will be sorrowful if any calamity befalls the work of God.

**Sorrow of the godly people:** The sorrow of the godly people occurs:

- When people are sorrowful because of souls that are perishing in the world, and that people have turned their backs on the Lord.
- When anyone is sorrowful because humans are denying God and they are betraying His covenant.
- When people abandon the Lord and the truth.
- When people love money more than God and exault the vanities of this world more than their Creator.
- When people do not fear God or obey His commandments.

It is written that the Lord will gather those who sorrow over the appointed assembly, to whom its reproach is a burden. God shall gather the people who mourn because of the negligence of the work of the Lord and they will never be disgraced again. God will take away the shame of every soul that is grieving because the house of the Lord is in ruins **Zephaniah 3: 18.** Every soul who yearns for the propagation of the Gospel will progress and those people that the reproach of the Gospel is a burden on them will be blessed.

Paul Apostle during his lifetime said, I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus Christ <u>Galatians 6: 17.</u> Paul said "I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart" because of the expansion of the Lord's work in the land of the living <u>Romans 9: 2.</u> God will reward every soul that is working ceaselessly for the growth of His work this year and He will turn their sorrow to joy.

Week 2: January 14th, 2018

**Topic: Your sorrow will turn to joy** – Part 2

Bible Reading: Isaiah 51: 1-11

The discussion will continue with the product/result of the sorrow of the godly people.

#### Sorrow of the godly leads to repentance

The sorrow of the godly people always lead to repentance, then their repentance usually result in salvation and joy.

Sorrow to repentance is better than laughter to perdition: Anyone who has the wisdom of God will have a better relationship with God, such person will realize that by increasing his/her knowledge of God he/she is indirectly increasing his/her sorrow. The eyes of such people will be opened spiritually and they will be able to discern things that usually lead to eternal punishment/condemnation which other people take for granted, thereby making them to be sorrowful in godly manner. It is written that "For in much wisdom is much grief, And he who increases knowledge increases sorrow"

Ecclesiastes 1: 18. Be watchful and prayerful; do not 'throw caution to the wind' like the unwise people. Be assured that if you have wisdom and knowledge of God, though it may increase your sorrow, but it will certainly end in joy. For this reason, we can deduce that sorrow to repentance is better than laughter to perdition, because by a sad countenance the heart is made better Ecclesiastes 7: 3.

The Bible affirmed this by stating that the only sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart: God want heart that is broken down with sorrow for sins. He desires a heart that humbly and thoroughly penitent, God will neither despise nor reject such hearts **Psalm 51: 17.** Do not fear because God will mend your broken spirit, He will heal your sorrowful heart and give you joy.

Your sorrow must lead to repentance: It is our duty to rejoice and praise the Lord whenever the sorrow of our Christian brothers and sisters lead to repentance, and they turn back to God. Paul apostle said to the Corinthians that "Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing" 2 Corinthians 7: 9. We pray that your sorrow will not cause you to suffer loss, but you will gain gifts of Holy Spirit in Jesus Name. The kind of sorrow that God wants us to experience leads us away from sin and results in salvation. There is no regret for this kind of sorrow: unlike the worldly sorrow which lacks repentance, and always result in spiritual death 2 Corinthians 7: 10. For clarification purposes, godly sorrow is in accord with the will of God and it produces repentance without regrets leading to salvation and deliverance from evil. It is different from the worldly sorrow that always causes death.

## **Conditionality for turning your sorrow to joy**

There are several conditions necessary to be satisfied before your sorrow can turn to joy. Anyone who does not fulfill the conditions mentioned in the Bible shall remain in their sorrowful situation eternally. If you want God to turn your sorrow to joy this year, pay attention to these necessary steps:

<u>Do not bow, serve or worship foreign gods:</u> Anyone who wants the Lord to turn his/her sorrow to joy will never have any other gods except the Lord Almighty God. It is the instruction of the Lord that "You shall have no other gods before Me <u>Deuteronomy 5: 7.</u> If you want your sorrow to turn to joy, do not act contrarily against this statement and you must not make any molded gods for yourself, says the Lord <u>Exodus 34: 17.</u> Harken to these warning so that it shall be well with you throughout your existence.

You must not have foreign god. You must not associate in any way or form with deity or idol. Idolatry must be an abomination to you and you must never participate in the worship of any god except the Almighty God. You must neither glamorize contrary gods nor elevate them more than Jehovah who is "I Am who I Am" <u>Psalm 81: 9.</u> The eye of the Lord is everywhere, so do not support or encourage people to worship the lesser gods because if you forsake

the Lord and serve strange gods, He will turn and do you harm and destroy you after He has done you good **Joshua 24: 20.** Do not prefer worshiping the domestic gods to worshiping the Almighty God. It is your obligation not to abandon the Lord to serve the strange gods.

For these reasons, you must never bow to/before any foreign god so that your sorrow will not increase as it is written that the sorrows of the people who choose another god or run after other gods will multiply; I will neither offer nor participate in their drink offerings of blood, and I will not speak their names with my lips **Psalm 16: 4.** Listen to the commandments of the Lord and act accordingly so that your aged sorrow will turn to endless joy this year.

**Do not be wicked:** You must not be wicked because the wicked people will become a ransom for the righteous people. It means, the wicked will be punished in place of the godly and traitors in place of the honest **Proverbs 21:**18. So do not be wicked if you want God to have pleasure in your prayers and turn your sorrow to joy. The Bible stated that "the sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, but the prayer of the upright is His delight" **Proverb**15: 8. If you don't want God to detests or abhors your sacrifice and distance Himself from you, do not be wicked. If you want God to hear your prayer and be close to you, do not be wicked **Proverbs 15: 29.** 

For these reasons, do not be wicked if you want your sorrowful conditions to be transformed into a joyful situation, according to the scripture which says many are the sorrows of the wicked but anyone who trusts in and relies on the Lord will be surrounded with compassion and loving kindness **Psalm 32: 10.** If you want God to make you to forget the sorrow of your past and do a new thing this year in your life, do not be wicked, but lean on Him.

Abstain from sins and misconducts: We must realize that everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness and everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness. Since sin is lawlessness; it means everyone who ignore the Laws of God by action or neglect is a sinner; anyone who transgressed God's law by tolerating wrongdoing has committed iniquity and the people who are unrestrained by the commandments of the Lord are practicing sin 1 John 3: 4. There is no escape or hiding place for the workers of iniquity

where they can hide themselves from the wrath of the Lord. The scripture says "There is no darkness nor shadow of death where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves" **Job 34: 22.** Since you know that the eye of the Lord is everywhere and you cannot hide yourself from Him, make sure you do not regard iniquity in your heart so that the Lord will hear your cries/prayers and turn your sorrow to joy permanently **Psalm 66: 18.** 

Beware, do not turn to sins as a way of complaining to God because it is an immoral way. Be careful, do not turn to iniquity as a chosen method of presenting your displeasure before the Lord, but submit yourself in your affliction. Whatever you are passing through be on guard! Turn back from evil because God sent the sorrow/suffering to keep you from a life of evil **Job 36:**21. Two wrongs do not make a right, so learn from your affliction rather than turning to sin/iniquity to resolve your situation. If you do not want your journey to end in Satan's camp and if you want to inherit the heavenly kingdom, you must abstain from misconduct/lawlessness. The Bible says Jesus Christ will declare that "I never knew you; depart from Me you who practice lawlessness" and they will be denied admittance into the glorious Home Matthew 7: 21-23. Be wise, do not allow your sorrowful situation to make you miss the kingdom of God.

For these reasons, whatever you sow, you will reap. People who plow iniquity and sow trouble will reap the same, says the scripture **Job 4: 8.** Therefore, do not sow iniquity so that you will not reap sorrow **Proverbs 22: 8.** Do not sow iniquity, but refrain from it and make a resolution that you will walk blamelessly before the Lord and keep yourself from your iniquity **Psalm 18: 23.** Make the resolution to be upright before the Lord and keep yourself free from sin as much as possible, so that the miracle that will make you to forget your sorrows of the past will happen this year.

Week 3: January 21st, 2018

**Topic: Your sorrow will turn to joy** – Part 3

Bible Reading: Isaiah 51: 1-11

We shall continue this discussion with the sorrows of Christ, but before we go into the details, we need to know that this study is not to spite anyone. It is meant to make people to be sorrowful in manners that will lead to repentance, after all, your salvation is what is making us to be glad and rejoice before the Lord 2 Corinthians 2: 2.

Emulate people like Apostle Peter whose sorrow brought repentance. Peter denied Jesus Christ three times before the rooster crowed. Then "Peter remembered the word of Jesus who had said to him, 'Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times'. So he went out and wept bitterly" Matthew 26: 75. Peter was sorrowful in godly manner which made him to be among the apostles that their sorrows turned to joy. The Bible testified that they were rewarded in heaven according to the passage which stated "Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb" Revelation 21: 14. If you want to be rewarded in heaven like Peter whose name is on the foundation of New Jerusalem the City of our Lord, make sure that your sorrowful situations always lead to repentance. Be sorrowful in godly manner if you want your sorrow to turn to joy this year.

#### The sorrows of Christ

Since Jesus Christ our Lord came into this world in human form, He had numerous sorrowful moments because He is not exempted from sorrow, but all His sorrows turned to joy at the end. Some of His sorrowful moments mentioned in the Bible will be discussed.

<u>Prophecy about Christ 'A man of sorrows':</u> Prophet Isaiah prophesied about our Lord Jesus Christ by saying "He is despised and rejected by men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our

faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him" Isaiah 53: 3.

Jesus wept over Jerusalem: The prophecy was fulfilled when Jesus Christ was so sorrowful that He lamented over Jerusalem by saying "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stone those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you were not willing!". "See! Your house is left to you desolate; and assuredly, I say to you, you shall not see Me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" Luke 13: 34-35. Jesus later wept over Jerusalem because He knew the impending danger that will befall the city Luke 19: 41, 21:20-24.

The sorrowful situation of the City of Jerusalem will turn to joy, first because the faithful inhabitants of the City together with the believers throughout the world will turn to joy because they will be redeemed <u>Luke 21: 25-28.</u> Their sorrow will be replaced with eternal joy when they are given the grace to occupy the New Jerusalem the City of our Lord <u>Revelation 21: 2.</u> Do not be depressed because of your sorrow, but let it lead to repentance so that you will be admitted into the New Jerusalem when you die and say goodbye to this sinful world.

Prophecy about Christ who carried our sorrows away: The Bible stated about Jesus Christ that "Surely He borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted" <u>Isaiah</u> 53: 4. Jesus Christ took up our pain and bore our suffering because of the love He had for us. He carried our infirmities and weaknesses. It was our sorrows that weighed him down. And people thought His troubles were punishment from God for His own errors.

Jesus wept at Lazarus' tomb: The prophecy was fulfilled throughout the ministerial work of our Lord Jesus Christ because people were comforted, healed, delivered from contrary spirits and they were given eternal salvation. Most importantly when Jesus was informed of Lazarus death; He came to their house and when He saw Mary together with the people with her weeping, He was deeply moved in spirit to the point of anger at the sorrow caused by death so He was troubled. He cannot contain Himself any longer so

He wept; Jesus was so sorrowful that He wept at the tomb of Lazarus <u>John</u> <u>11: 32-35.</u>

The sorrow of Lazarus' family and friends turned to joy when Jesus Christ woke him up from his sleep. Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, "Father I thank You that You have heard Me. And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me". Then He cried with a loud voice "Lazarus come forth!" and Lazarus came out alive from the tomb **John 11: 40-44.** Be sorrowful in godly manner so that everything that is spiritually dead in your life and body will resurrect today. We pray that all your sorrowful situations will end in joy this year.

Christ was sorrowful for mankind: Jesus Christ was sorrowful about mankind towards the end of His mission on earth. He went to the garden of Gethsemane to pray, and then He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. He said to the three disciples that were with Him that "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death, stay here and watch with Me" Matthew 26: 37-38; Mark 14: 34. He even pleaded with His Father concerning the salvation of our souls saying "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will" Matthew 36: 39; Mark 14: 35-36. If Jesus Christ can be sorrowful then no one can escape sorrow, but if you believe your sorrow will turn to endless joy.

Jesus Christ told His disciples that "A little while, and you will not see Me, and again a little while, and you will see Me, because I go to the Father" **John 16: 16.** The disciples were sorrowful when He died, but their sorrow turned to joy when He sent the Helper/Comforter **John 14: 16-17.** Their joy will be boundless when He returns to this world according to His promise **John 14: 18.** If you want your sorrow to be replaced with joy believe in the Lord and His Word.

<u>Promise of Jesus Christ:</u> Jesus Christ told His disciples that "Most assuredly, I say to you that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; and you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned into joy" <u>John 16:</u> <u>20.</u> This promise will come to pass in your life if you believe in the death and

the resurrections of our Lord Jesus Christ. We pray that you will be among those who will be transformed and rapture with Christ. For now you may have sorrow, but the Lord will visit you according to His promise, then you will rejoice and no one will take away your joy from you **John 16: 22.** It is the promised of the Lord, whatever sorrowful situation that you are passing through will end in joy, and no one will rob you of your joy if you do not deny the Lord or betray His covenant.

At this junction it is better to know that believers shall sing for joy of heart and they will shout for joy from a happy heart, but the evil doers will cry out for pain and sorrow of heart. The wicked people will wail and howl for anguish from a broken spirit, says the scripture **Isaiah 65: 14.** This year you will sing for joy and you shall forget your past sorrows, but your adversaries will cry in sorrow and despair.

Week 4: January 28th, 2018

**Topic: Your sorrow will turn to joy** – Part 4

Bible Reading: Isaiah 51: 1-11

We shall continue our discussion with what people are presently passing through which is causing sorrow in their lives. We the believers must not be afraid of whatever we are passing through because we know that Almighty God will never leave nor forsake us.

#### Do not be afraid of what you are passing through

We must neither be afraid nor be depressed because of what we are passing through because the Lord our God is alive to comfort us in every aspect of our lives.

<u>Do not fear your heartache:</u> Many people in the world today have heartaches which make them not to be cheerful or happy, but we pray that today, the Lord will heal your sorrowful heart and eradicate heartache completely from your life. He will put a smile on your face because "A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance, but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken" <u>Proverbs 15: 13.</u> Since happiness makes people to smile, happiness will never depart from your home.

Sorrow of the heart that makes people to look sad when they are not sick will never be your portion this year. Almighty God that resolved the issue that caused sadness of heart in Nehemiah's life through king Artaxerxes will rectify whatever that is causing inner grief in your life without delay **Nehemiah 2: 1-5.** Today, God will mend your broken spirit and fix whatever that is troubling you.

<u>Do not be afraid of enemies:</u> Believers whose cause of sorrows are their adversaries. They shall defeat their enemies; people will hear and tremble about the event of how the Lord subdued their foes, then sorrow will grip those who intend to join forces with their adversaries <u>Exodus 15: 14.</u> The

Lord that performed baptism of destruction on the Egyptian army will fortify you to trample upon the enemies that are causing sorrow in your life. Your sorrow will fly away and you will have victorious joy over the evil doers that gathered against you.

Your captivity will be restored: If it is those things that Satan have stolen from you that is causing your sorrow or those things that you have lost because of your negligence and disobedience: today, the Lord will restore your captivity. The Bible stated that "The Lord is righteous for I rebelled against His commandment. Hear now, all peoples, and behold my sorrow:

My virgins and young men have gone into captivity" Lamentations 1: 18.

Any sin that you might have committed which led you into captivity will be forgiven and your captivity will be restored. The Lord that brought back the captivity of Zion will restore your captivity without delay Psalm 126: 1.

Your healing is at hand: If it is sickness or infirmity that is causing sorrow in your life, you will be healed and your life will be transformed. The Lord that heard the prayer of Job will look upon you with a merciful eye. He will give you relief from your sorrowful situation. It is written that 'My eye has also grown dim because of sorrow and all my members are like shadows" Job 17: 7. Today will be a turning point in your life, the power and the authority that healed the hemorrhage woman will heal you Mark 5: 25-30, Luke 8: 43-45.

Your deliverance is today: You will be delivered today and you will forget your sorrow, since deliverance and victory belong to the Lord according to the passage which stated that "The horse is prepared for the day of battle, but deliverance is of the Lord" Proverbs 21: 31. The Lord that delivered David from Goliath will deliver you from whatever that is afflicting or tormenting you. Though the sorrow of Sheol surround you and the snares of death confronted you; today is your day and you will be delivered Psalm 18: 5, 2 Samuel 22: 6. The fire of God will consume the rope that the grave wrapped around you and trap laid in your path by death. As from this moment, your sorrow will turn to joy permanently.

God will open your womb: It is enough; the sorrow caused by the reproach

of barrenness in your life will expire today. The Lord that met with Hannah at Shiloh will meet you today at the point of your need. Hannah confessed to Eli that "No my Lord, I am a woman of sorrowful spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor intoxication drink, but have poured out my soul before the Lord" 1 Samuel 1: 15. The Lord that opened the womb of Hannah will open your womb today. He that remembered Elizabeth will not forget you. Monthly sorrow will come to an end in your life and you will receive promise child like Isaac from the Lord today.

Your mourning shall cease: People that are sorrowful because of bereavement and those that are mourning because of the death of their beloved must not be ignorant concerning those who sleep in death so that they will not sorrow/grieve like people who have no hope. Since they believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, and they also believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in Christ 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-14. Let your sorrow cease/stop because we shall all meet at the feet of our Lord Jesus Christ never to part again, there your sorrow will turn to eternal joy.

Never fail to wait on the Lord: Believers: who are sleeping in tears and waking with weeping, do not lose hope. Those that are asking questions, that how long shall we struggle with anguish in our souls, and have sorrow in our hearts every day? How long will our enemies have the upper hand or be exalted over us? Psalm 13: 2. They will receive favourable answers from the Lord today according to the scripture which stated that "But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint Isaiah 40: 31. Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord Psalm 128: 4. As from this moment, you will forget your misery, and remember it as water that has passed away Job 11: 16.

#### Your situation will be resolved

You must have the confidence that your situation is under control and God will resolve your situation as soon as possible.

Your sorrow will turn to joy: The Lord that made it possible for the Jews to celebrate the days which the Jews had rest from their enemies by getting rid of their adversaries. Then He turned their sorrow to joy and their mourning into holiday **Esther 9: 21-22.** The Lord is alive and He shall perform the same feat in your life; you will gain relief from your enemies and rejoice over them. Your sorrow will turn to gladness and your mourning will turn to joy.

Your sorrow and sighing will disappear: It is written "The ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing with everlasting joy on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away" Isaiah 35: 10, 51: 11. Since you are among the redeemed of the Lord, you will return to the church with singing and you will be crowned with everlasting joy. Sorrow and sighing will disappear completely from your life. Gladness and joy will overtake you today. Your existence will be filled with happiness and peace.

Finally when the Lord has given you rest from your sorrow and pain, and from your trouble and turmoil, and from the harsh service with which you were made to serve; make sure that you neither ignore the Lord nor stray from the righteous path <u>Isaiah 14: 3.</u> When the Lord gives you rest from your sorrow and fear, from slavery and chains, do not succumb to the peril of the comfortable period so that you will come and sing songs of joy in the church. So that you will be radiant because of the Lord's good gifts and the wonderful things that He has done in your life. So that your life will be like a watered garden and all your sorrows will be gone <u>Jeremiah 31:</u> 12. Stick to God if you want to be radiant with joy over the goodness of the Lord.

If you want your life to be like a lush garden, harken to the word of the Lord. If you want God to turn your sorrow into joy and comfort, fear the Lord. If you do not want to sorrow or languish anymore, do not forsake the Lord.

The Seal: Revelation 21: 4: "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."