





*A Grief
Observed*

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The
Problem
of Pain

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Toward an Understanding of Pain and Suffering

Part 1 – Matthew 5:3-4

“God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pain.” – The Problem of Pain

“But go to him when your need is desperate, when all other help is vain, and what do you find? A door slammed in your face and a sound of bolting and double bolting on the inside. After that, silence.” – A Grief Observed

A close-up, soft-focus photograph of a person's face, focusing on the eye and nose. The person's eye is closed, and a single tear is visible on the lower eyelid. The lighting is gentle, creating a somber and empathetic mood. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

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Matthew 5:4 Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

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1 Corinthians 5:2 “And you are proud! Shouldn’t you rather have gone into mourning ...?”

James 4:8-9 Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom.

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Part 1 – Matthew 5:3-4

Ecclesiastes 7:2 Better to spend your time at funerals than at parties.

After all, everyone dies—
so the living should take this to heart.

³ Sorrow is better than laughter,
for sadness has a refining influence on us.


⁴ A wise person thinks a lot about death,
while a fool thinks only about having a good time. (NLT)



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2 Corinthians 7:10 Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

A close-up, soft-focus photograph of a person's face, focusing on the eye and nose. The person's eye is closed, and a single tear is visible on the lower eyelid. The lighting is gentle and natural, creating a sense of vulnerability and emotional depth. The background is a plain, light color, which emphasizes the subject's features.

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The basis of comfort:

- Forgiveness
- A restored relationship with God
- The assurance that the sinfulness of this world will one day be done away with

Toward an Understanding of Pain and Suffering

Part 1 – Matthew 5:3-4

Revelation 21:3 ... “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴ ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”