

1—The Mercies of the Lord

4/16/23

INTRO:

I. THE SUPERBLOOM

II. → Lamentations 3:22-33

22 *Because of the Lord's **great love** we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. (checed)*

23 **They are new** every morning; (chadash)
great is your faithfulness.

24 I say to myself, "The Lord is **my portion**; (cheleq)
therefore I will wait for him."

→ 25 The Lord is **good** to those whose hope is in him, (tov)
to the one who seeks him;

26 it is **good** to wait quietly (tov)
for the salvation of the Lord.

27 It is **good** for a man to bear the yoke (tov)
while he is young.

→ 28 **Let him sit** alone in silence, (yesheyb)
for the Lord has laid it on him.

29 **Let him bury** his face in the dust— (yeteyn)
there may yet be hope.

30 **Let him offer** his cheek to one who would strike him, (yeteyn)
and let him be filled with disgrace.

→ 31 **For** no one is cast off (kiy)
by the Lord forever.

32 **Though** he brings grief, he will show compassion, (kiy)
so great is his unfailing love.

33 **For** he does not willingly bring affliction (kiy)
or grief to anyone.

BODY:

I. Renewing Grace

22 *Because of the Lord's **great love** we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.*

- A. The grace of God is what helps us to make it through.
- 1) Heb (*cheched*) mercy (KJV), lovingkindness (RSV), steadfast love (NRSV), faithful love (NLT), loyal love (Message)
 - 2) **1 Corinthians 15:10**
But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.
 - 3) “God helps us by His teaching and revelation, while He opens the eyes of our heart; while He points out to us the future, that we may not be absorbed in the present; while He discovers to us the snares of the devil; while He enlightens us with the manifold and ineffable gift of heavenly grace. Does the man who says all this appear to you to be a denier of grace? Does he not acknowledge both man’s free will and God’s grace?”—*Pelagius*
- B. God provides us with the grace that we need for each day.
- 1) Heb (*chadawsh*) be new, (*chadash*) made new
 - 2) **Matthew 6:34**
Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.
 - 3) **NADINE PUTTING HER MOTHER TO BED**

II. Redeeming Goodness

27 It is **good** for a man to bear the yoke while he is young.

28 Let him sit alone in silence, for the **Lord has laid it on him.**

29 Let him bury his face in the dust—there may yet be hope.

- A. Some of the heaviest burdens we carry are for good causes.
- 1) **Galatians 6:1-3**
Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently . . . Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.
 - 2) CARRYING THE BURDEN FOR THE DIVISION
- B. God does not bring the tragedy, He redeems the goodness.
- 1) **Psalms 34:17-18**
The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.
 - 2) JEREMY RENNER RUN OVER BY A SNOWPLOW
"You have to shift the narrative of being victimized, or making a mistake. I refuse to be haunted by that memory, that way. This is what I talk to my family about, from all their perspectives, which are horrifying, that I put upon them. What we just endured, that's real love. Suffering, but that feeds the seeds of what love is."

III. Restoring Grief

32 Though he brings ***grief***, he will show compassion, so great is his ***unfailing love***.

33 For he does not ***willingly*** bring affliction or ***grief*** to anyone.

- A. It is okay to grieve the losses and failures in our lives.
- 1) Heb (*milibow*) from His heart
 - 2) **Romans 12:14-15**
Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.
 - 3) HOBBITS GRIEVING OVER GANDALF

B. God's heart for us is to bring healing and restoration.

1) **James 5:16**

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

2)

OTHER SCRIPTURES:

Isaiah 6:10

“Otherwise they might see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their hearts,
and turn and be healed.”

Psalms 18:6

In my distress I called to the Lord;
I cried to my God for help.
From his temple he heard my voice;
my cry came before him, into his ears.

James 1:17

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Romans 8:28-29

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.