

**Digging Deeper with Dr. Aaron D. Burgner, Senior Pastor**  
**Studying the Sermon on the Mount**  
**Matthew 5:4**

- **Three possible ways to interpret verse 4:**

- Mourning over personal sorrow? No
- Mourning over sorrow in the world? Partly
- Mourning over personal sin. Yes

**1. Mourning for Sin.**

- Considering verse 3, “Justification” comes from acknowledging spiritual bankruptcy.
  - Jesus was speaking of individual mourning, but he also spoke of individual comforting.
  - This is a mourning for sin. That God comforts the one who sees his own unworthiness before Him.
  - Brokenness over sin is at the heart of the Christian message. This was Christ’s concern in preaching.
    - Luke 4:18-19 *“The spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”*
    - The deliverance Christ preached was deliverance from sin.
      - A New Exodus.
    - Jesus wept twice in scripture. Once at the tomb of Lazarus, and once over Jerusalem as they saw their sin in their hardness of heart.

**2. Christ’s Comfort.**

- Comfort is promised to those who mourn over personal sin.
- First, there is comfort in the reality of deliverance from sin’s penalty.
- Second, there is comfort in our gaze of the cross as we recognize God’s love for us.
  - Luke 2:10-11 *“do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord”*
- Third, there is comfort through the Holy Spirit as we have been delivered from present sin and its power.
  - Romans 6-8
  - 1 John 1:8 *“if we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.”*
    - Sin will always be with us in this world, but we are not controlled by it.
    - Galatians 5:16 *“Live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.”*
- Forth and finally, there is comfort that lies in the fact that one day Christ will remove sin and all its effects from the believer forever.

- Romans 8:22-23 *“For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.”*

**3. Jesus says that happiness comes through sorrow.**

- a. Be happy in your sin and the result will bring great sorrow. Or be sorrowful over sin and find happiness in God’s design.