

No Tears in Heaven



1. In Time of Great Loss

*“Would you know my name,
if I saw you
in heaven?”*

HEAVEN

**Three time inductee to Rock and Roll Hall of fame;
18 Grammy awards for outstanding
achievement given to-- **Eric Clapton**,
English Rock & Blues Guitarist.**

**At 11:00AM March 20, 1991, Eric's 4 year old son,
Conor fell from a 53rd-story window of a New York
City apartment bldg. The grief was expressed
in the song “Tears in Heaven”**

I didn't just lose my child.

**I lost my hopes.
I lost my dreams.
I lost everything
I wanted
and more than
words can
ever express...**



2. Gender Differences

The American Psychological Association: 2/2014

*“Several factors play a role in an individual's propensity to cry. **Gender** differences in crying, for example, have been explored for decades and across the world, and all of the studies reached the same conclusion:*

Women cry more than men.”

Probably higher Testosterone v Prolactin hormone



3. Suffering is Universal

It is the one thing that
Christians, Buddhists,
Muslims, atheists,
agnostics, Jews,
and pagans
all agree
upon.

4. People Cry For Many Reasons

Joseph wept over 20 years **lost family** (Gen 43:30)

Hezekiah wept bitterly (2 Ki 20:3-4) **facing death**.

Hannah wept over being **childless**. (1 Sam 1:8)

Oppressed wept with **no one to comfort** (Ecc 4:1)

Rachel wept over **death of children** (Mt 2:18)

Peter wept over his **personal failures** (Mt 26:75)

Timothy wept **tears of parting** (2 Tim 1:4)

Mary Mag wept over **loss of loved one** (John 20:11)

Positive Actions to Take



Positive Actions to Take

A. Realize: God Cares about Every Tear



You know every misstep i take

Put my tears into

Your **BOTTLE;**

Are they not in Your

Book?

Ps 56:8

Positive Actions to Take

B. Appreciate: Tears are
a Gift from God.

He made us this way.

“There is a sacredness in tears. They are not the mark of weakness, but of power. They speak more eloquently than then thousand tongues...

They are messengers of overwhelming grief and unspeakable love.” *Washington Irving*

Positive Actions to Take

C. Remember— this too shall pass.

Ps 126:1 *When the Lord brought back the captive ones of Zion,*
We were like those who dream.

v2 Then our mouth was filled with laughter and our tongue with joyful shouting.

Ps 126:5 **Those who sow in tears..**

shall reap with joyful shouting.

Always looking for *better times!*



Positive Actions to Take

D. Have a spirit of Faith: makes things, possible (Mat 19:26), not easy.

**Ps 3:5-7 "I lay down & slept,
when I awake, I will not be afraid..."**

Positive Actions to Take

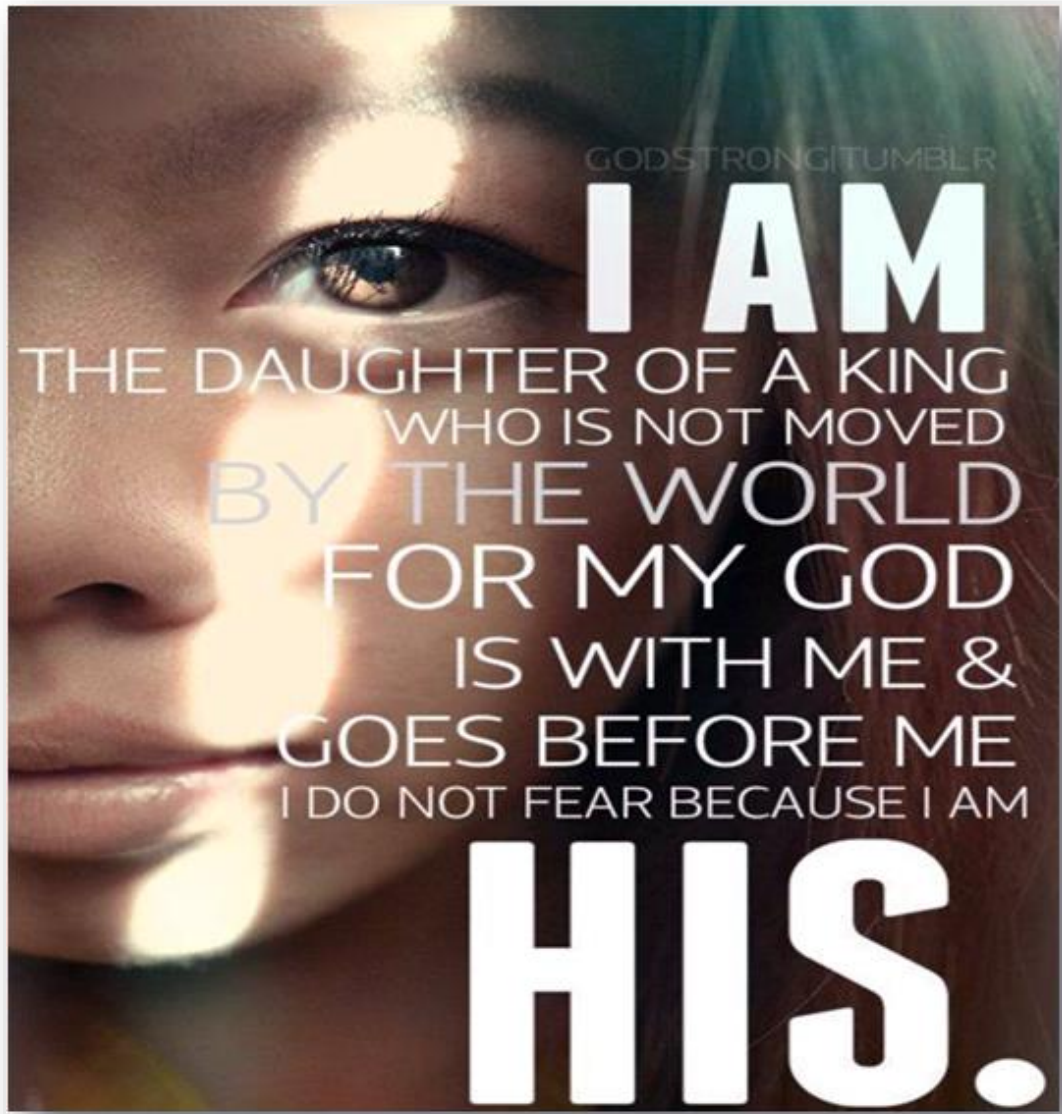
E. Develop a spirit
of **POWER**
(2 Tim 1:7)

Phil 4:13
I **can** do
all things..

Eph 3:20 Now to Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think,
according to the power that works within us.

Josh 1:9 “**Be strong and courageous.** Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” *ESV*

E. Develop a spirit of **POWER**



**The Power
within me is
greater than
any fear
before
me.**

**Cf. 1 John
4:4b**

Positive Actions to Take



*f. Anchor
your hope
in heaven
(Heb 6:19)*

Isa 25:8 He will *swallow up death* for all time

Positive Actions to Take



*f. Anchor your
hope in heaven
(Heb 6:19)*

**Isa 25:8^b “The
Lord God will
wipe tears away
from all faces.”
(cf Rev 21:4)**

Will we fret about those *NOT* in heaven?



Cedar Point Ohio *Top Thrill Dragster* – 120mph in 4 sec straight up to 420 feet tall, 270° twist, ends in 20 sec.

Ecstasy in heaven is a *BILLION times more intense* than ANY thing on earth.



G. Be More Thankful

Amazing Grace

Ps 103:10

**Not dealt with us
according to our sins...**

**v11 High as the heavens
are above the earth, so
great is His *lovingkindness*
toward those who fear Him.**



G. Be More Thankful

Christians, Family, Friends, Best Friends



Christian love (John 15:14)
(1 Thes 3:12) Abound in love


Prov 18:24 “There is a **friend** who sticks closer than a brother.”

Prov 19:14 “A prudent **wife** is from the Lord.”

1 Thes 5:18 “***In everything give thanks***; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.”

G. Be More Thankful

For a good night's sleep

A close-up photograph of several small, light-colored puppies with dark spots, curled up and sleeping peacefully in a woven wicker basket. The lighting is soft and warm, highlighting the texture of their fur and the basket's weave.

Prov 3:24
**“When you
lie down,
your sleep
will be
sweet.”**

G. Be More Thankful

For Pretty Good Health—or health care.

3 John 2 “Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may *Prosper* and be in Good Health, just as your soul prospers.”



G. Be More Thankful

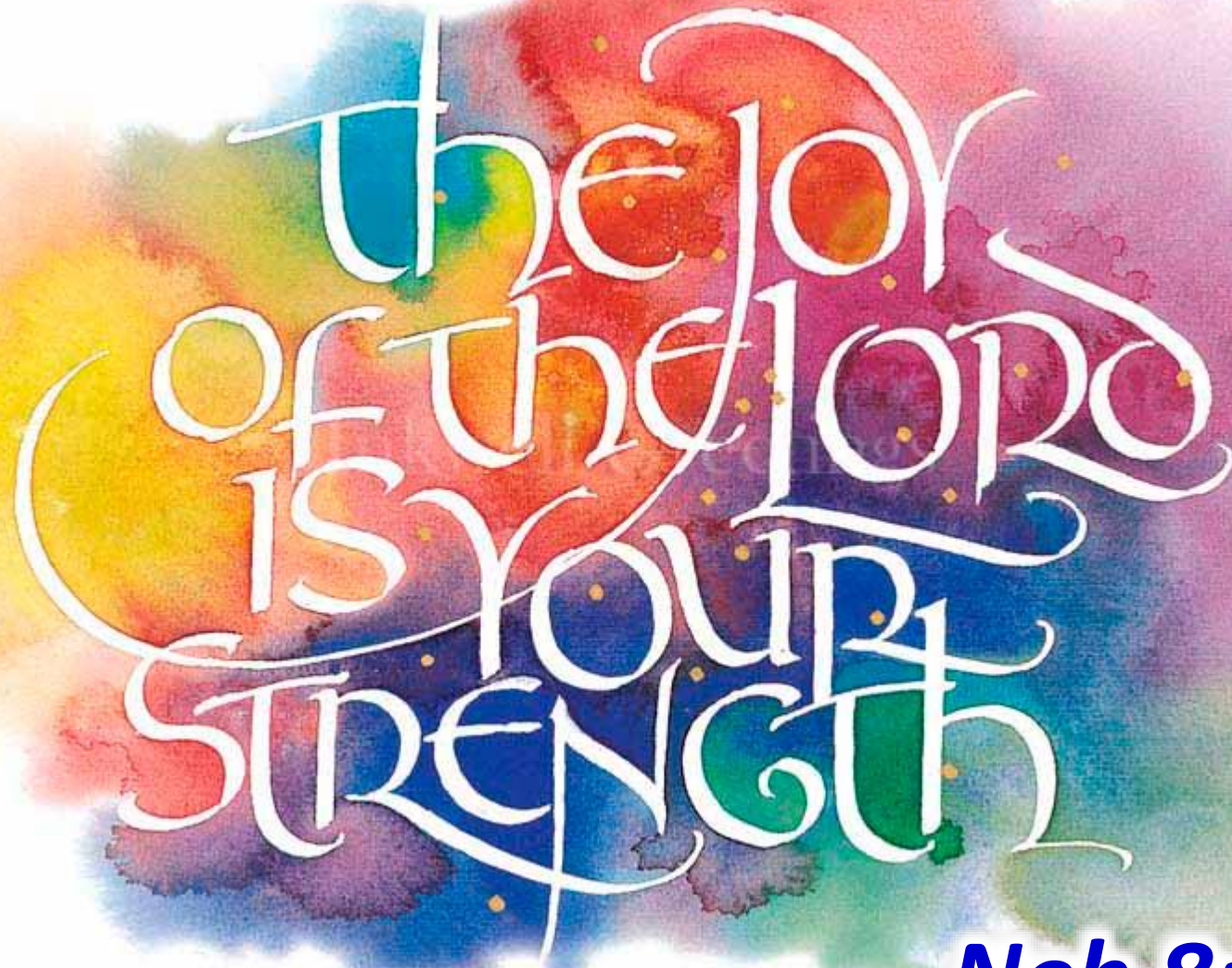


It's not perfect, but it's better than where our ancestors came from.

1 Tim 2:1 "I urge that ... *prayers, petitions and thanksgivings*, be made on behalf of all men..

v2 for kings and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity."

G. Be More Thankful



The joy
of the Lord
is your
strength

Neh 8:10

H. Get Busy Helping Others

Peter: “Shepherd my sheep.” (John 21:16-17)

Elijah: “Anoint Hazael.. Jehu.. Elisha” (1 Ki 19:15f)

US: “Created for good works” (Eph 2:10)

Encourage others by **coming** Sun morn & Wed night


Groceries, gas or **cash** for the needy.

Call / card / **text** for the hurting.

Cup of **coffee** with visitor.

A **dinner** with the lonely.

And 20 other things...



“Although the world
is full of suffering,
it is also full of the
overcoming
of it.”

~Helen Keller~

God cares
Tears are a gift
It's all transitory
Have spirit of faith
Develop spirit of power
Be Anchored in heaven
Become more thankful
Get busy blessings others