They That Sow in Tears Shall Reap in Joy

We now come to the *seventh* Psalm in a series of fifteen Psalms (120-134), which are the "Song of Degrees", and refers to the "degrees" on the sundial of Ahaz, by which the shadow of the sun went *backward* in the days of his son, Hezekiah (2 Kings 20:8-11; Isa 38:7-8, 20). And, let's remember that **Psalm 120** had the subject/title of "***Distress***" because Hezekiah was imploring the Lord (YHVH) for help from the 'Assyrian threat'. And, in particular, he was asking for deliverance from their lying lips and deceitful tongues, i.e. when they waged an *intense* phycological war against him, and Jerusalem's army, trying to get them to surrender the city. For, even though Hezekiah was trying to make peace with them, they were still 'hell bent' on taking over the capital city. And that's why he (metaphorically) 'warned' them that their lies would *only* 'get them' God's fierce wrath via judgment… which, indeed, did happen! And then, **Psalm 121** had the subject/title of "***Trust in Yehovah***", because it taught us some of the reasons *why* we should trust in the one-and-only *true* God, Yehovah (i.e. YHVH). And the *main* reason why is because He is the *only* one who can care for us, and protect us, from *anything* that happens. And that's why we saw the same Hebrew word (shamar, #8104) used so many times. *Thrice* was this word used when pointing out how the Lord (YHVH) will *not* tire, nor sleep - but rather, He will 'keep' (#8104) a close eye on us (who love, fear and obey Him) just as a shepherd cares for, and protects, his flock (vs 3-5). And *thrice* was this word used when pointing out how He will 'preserve' (#8104) our soul from all evil (calamities), even in our daily activities. So, the Lord (YHVH) watches over us closely *and* is also <u>actively</u> guarding, protecting, strengthening, and helping us in our life, so long as we continue to seek, love and obey Him *wholeheartedly*.

And then **Psalm 122** (which was written by David) had the subject/title of "***Deliverance, Blessing, and Peace in Zion***" because David was praying for peace, protection and safety for Jerusalem *and* for all those who went up to the 'house of the Lord' (God's Temple) to worship Him. And, he also prayed for peace to be 'within' Jerusalem (i.e. deliverance from all enemies) so the people *could* worship the Lord in peace and safety. And, while there was peace in Jerusalem *at times* (ex: during David and Hezekiah's reign), the city has *not* had peace for *most* of its history. Therefore, this Song was also quite *prophetical* of the *true* peace that will *only* come at the return of the *true* 'Prince of peace' (Isa 9:6), which is at Jesus Christ's Second Advent. And then **Psalm 123** began the *second* 'group' in this series of 'Song of Degrees'. Therefore, it's subject/title was (yet again) "**Distress**" (just as it was in Psalm 120) because Hezekiah was (yet again) imploring the Lord (YHVH) for help from the 'Assyrian threat'. For he, and those in Jerusalem, truly 'had their fill' (and more) of ridicule, and disrespect, from those who were 'at ease' (secure in their haughtiness). And he was referring to the *intense* psychological war that the Assyrian delegates waged against him, his delegates and those guarding Jerusalem, in an attempt to get them to surrender the city.

And then **Psalm 124** (which was written by David) had the subject/title of "***Trust in Yehovah***", because it taught us (as Psalm 121 did) *why* we should trust in the one-and-only *true* God, Yehovah (i.e. YHVH). That's why he called upon Israel to acknowledge *where* their *only* true help came from. For, of a truth, had not the Lord (YHVH) been 'for' Israel (on their side), they would have been destroyed as a nation. For there were many other nations - both great in number and strength - who came against them throughout their history. Thus, Israel's history *proves* that reliance on God *was their only hope* against powerful enemies (ex: Exodus 12:41; 14:28-29; Deut 4:37-38, etc.). And this should give us *great* comfort for the soon coming 'great tribulation' we face today (Mth 24:21). For, of a truth, we (like Israel of old) are totally helpless *without* the protection (and intercession, Rom 8:26-31) of our Lord (and Savior) Jesus Christ! And then **Psalm 125** had the subject/title is "***Blessing, and Peace, in Zion***" (as it was in Psalm 122) because Hezekiah spoke of the blessings, and peace, those who trust in the Lord (YHVH) will have; *especially* when they live in Zion (Jerusalem) after Jesus Christ returns to earth to depose the wicked ones *and* give them (His faithful followers) eternal life *and* the authority to rule the world (with Him). So, in the end, peace *will* be upon Israel (yea, all faithful Christians) and, until then, the Lord (YHVH) will *always* protect His faithful servants, just as the mountains protect God's favorite city (Ezek 16) Jerusalem.

And now we come to **Psalm 126**, which is the *first* song in the *third* 'group' in this series of 'Song of Degrees'. Therefore, the subject/title is again "***Distress***" (as it was in Psalms 120 and 123). Further, this song is (yet again) written by Hezekiah himself (Isa 38:20) ...

Psalm 126
1 A Song of Degrees.

So again, this Psalm begins with the same subtitle as the last Psalm. And, as we learned, the word '**song**' here is ***shiyr*** (#7892), which means (not surprisingly) ***a song***; abstractly, ***singing***. And this is *different* than the word '**Psalm**', which is the Hebrew word *mizmowr* (#4210), and means ***instrumental music***; by implication, ***a poem set to notes***. So, you could think of the Psalm as *a form of meditating* (like a poem) and the Song as *something to be sung*. And then the word '**degrees**' here means ***elevation***, i.e. ***the act*** (literally, a journey to a higher place, figuratively, a thought arising), or (concretely) ***the condition*** (literally, ***a step*** or grade-mark, figuratively, a superiority of station); and, specifically ***a climactic progression*** (in certain Psalms) (#4609). So, this is why most scholars think that '**degrees**' simply means ***a step***. And (as we've learned previously), in the case of these fifteen 'Song of Degrees", it's *referring to* the 'steps' (or the "degrees") on the sundial of Ahaz, by which the shadow of the sun went *backward* in the days of his son, Hezekiah. And this was done, as a sign from the Lord (YHVH), that he *would* recover from his sickness (2 Kings 20:8-11; Isa 38:7-8). And so, this 126th Psalm is yet another one of the songs Hezekiah *promised* in Isa 38:20…

Psalm 126
1….When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream.

So, Hezekiah begins this song by using God's sacred (and covenantal) name (rendered here as '**Lord**'), which is **Yehovah** [https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/946], and means (the) ***self-Existent*** or ***Eternal*** (#3068). So, by using God's Sacred name (Yehovah, i.e. YHVH), Hezekiah is pointing out that our Heavenly Father (Yehovah) is the *only* one who has *always* existed and *always* will, which is why He is *eternal* (Rev 1:8, 4:9, 11:17, 16:5, 22:13). And then the words '**turned again**' mean ***to turn back*** (hence, ***away***) and this can be used transitively or intransitively, literally or figuratively (not necessarily with the idea of return to the starting point). However, generally speaking, it can also mean ***to retreat*** and is often used, adverbial, to mean ***again***, which is how the translators rendered it here (#7725). And then the word '**captivity**' means ***a return, of property*** (#7870) and '**Zion**' refers to ***the mountain in Jerusalem*** (#6726) which was (in the days of David) both the place *where Israel came for judgment* and *to worship the Lord* (YHVH). Thus, Zion is often used to refer to Jerusalem itself, which was (even during the days of Hezekiah) both the capital of Israel and the center of worship.

So, Hezekiah begins by speaking of how the Lord (YHVH) 'turned again' (i.e. brought back) the 'captivity' (return, of property) of 'Zion'. And, due to misunderstanding this verse, many scholars think this song speaks of the return of the Israelite captives who were taken to Babylon. But, those who were taken captive to Babylon, were only those in the *southern* kingdom of Judah - and this did <u>not</u> happen in the days of Hezekiah – it happened *many years later*. Further, we know this song was written by Hezekiah *in response to* the Lord's (YHVH's) healing him (2 Kings 20:8-11; Isa 38:7-8, 20). Therefore, the 'captivity' this song is referring must be one which the *southern* kingdom of Judah experienced *when the Assryians invaded*. And indeed, when we read 2 Kings 18, we see that: after the Assryians had invaded, conquered, and taken the northern tribes of Israel into captivity, they *kept going south* into the southern kingdom of Judah. And verse 13 *specifically* tells us ***what*** 'captivity' Hezekiah is speaking of here, "*Now in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah did Sennacherib king of Assyria <u>come up against</u>* ***all the fenced cities of Judah, <u>and</u> took them***". So, all of the fenced cities in Jerusalem had *already been* conquered (but <u>not</u> carried away captive, as the northern tribes of Israel) before Sennacherib then sent his army, and delegates, to Jerusalem to try and convince *them* to surrender. And from this we can infer that all the other 'fenced cities' of Judah had already *surrendered* to the Assyrians (instead of fighting), for besieging fortified cities took a long time. So, the Assryians apparently thought they could get Jerusalem to do the same thing (i.e. surrender); which is *why* they put forth such an *intense* phycological warfare against Hezekiah, his delegates and the military men surrounding Jerusalem, as 2 Kings 18 and 2 Chron 32 both document.

However, Jerusalem *didn't* surrender! Instead, they prayed to the Lord (YHVH) for help and, in response to their prayers (and in response to the Assyrians *blaspheming* of His Holy Name), the

Lord (YHVH) killed off 165,000 of the Assyrian's army *in just one night*. And this caused the Assyrians to quickly ***flee*** from Jersualem, ***back to*** **Assyria** (2 Kings 19:35-37; 2 Chron 32:20-22)! But, a key to understanding this 126th Psalm (song) is what happened *after* that. As it is written, "*Thus the LORD saved Hezekiah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib the king of Assyria, and from the hand of all other, and guided them on every side. And many brought gifts unto the LORD to Jerusalem, and presents to Hezekiah king of Judah: so that he was magnified in the sight of all nations from thenceforth*" (2 Chron 32:22-23). So, when the Assryians fled Jerusalem, after the Lord's 'Angel' slew 165,000 of them in just one night, they didn't *only* pull their troops (what was left of them) away from Jerusalem, they *also* took their troops out of *all the other* fenced cities, in the southern kingdom of Judah, i.e. those who were formerly conquered, due to their surrendering the cities. For, unlike the northern tribes of Israel, the people in the southern kingdom of Judah had not actually been carried away (yet). Thus, **all** cities in the southern kingdom of Judah *were freed* when the Assryians left. And *that's* what Hezekiah is speaking of here in this Psalm (song). And that's *why* the word 'captivity' here (in verse 1) means *a return of property* (#7870).

So, in this first verse, we learn that, when the Lord (YHVH) 'turned again' (turned back) the 'captivity' (a return of property) of Zion (which refers to Jerusalem) that "*we were like them that dream*". So, this verse is simply saying that, when the Lord (YHVH) sent the Assryians fleeing back to their homeland, this freed Jerusalem (Zion) – *and* the other fenced cities in the southern kingdom of Judah – from the Assyrian's controlling them. Thus, this 'captivity' is not really speaking of a captivity *of captives* (like happened to the northern Israelites) but *of the property* (cities and natural resources) of those cities in the southern kingdom of Judah. And, their freedom came *so quickly* (i.e. in just one night they were freed from the Assryians) that it *was* 'like a dream' (#2492). So, just as the Assryians woke one morning – only to find a bunch of dead corpses (165,000 which the 'Angel of the Lord' had killed) – so too did those in the southern kingdom wake to find the Assryians *fleeing*! So, 'like a dream' here is simply referring to *how amazed* they (those in the southern kingdom of Judah) were to see the Assyrians leaving, and *so quickly*! It probably wasn't until after they'd sent a few people out to look at the Assryians camp that they realized *why* they left in such a hurry. And to many, this probably did seem like a 'dream come true'!

Psalm 126
2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The LORD hath done great things for them.
3 The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad.

So naturally, after the Assryians *fled* the southern kingdom of Judah *so quickly*, the people would have quite elated. And that's why Hezekiah wrote their '**mouth**' (***speech***, #6310) was '**filled**' (***full of***, #4390) with '**laughter**' (***from joy***, #7814), and that their '**tongue**' (**speech**, #3965) with

'**singing**' (***shouts of joy***, #7440). And they did so *because* they realized that the Lord (YHVH) had done '**great things**' (***large***, #1431) '***among the heathen***' (***foreign nation***, #1471), i.e. to the Assryians. So again, when they realized the Assryians had 'high tailed it' out of their cities, *and* nation, they shouted, and laughed, with *great* joy. And they were, naturally, also very '**glad**' (***blithe*** and ***gleeful***, #8056). And they *acknowledged* that *it was* God Almighty (Yehovah, i.e. YHVH) who had *caused* that to happen!

And this truly is a wonderful example (type, 1 Cor 10:11) of what it'll be like when Jesus Christ returns. For, the Assryians (and their arrogant king) are a good 'type' for the 'antichrist' who is simply Satan himself [https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/345] and his fallen angels. For, *after* Satan, and his fallen angels, take the world captive (to their deception and wicked 'beast' governing system), **and** *after* the Gospel of Jesus Christ has been *fully preached* in **all** the world *for a witness unto all nations* (Matt 24:14; Mark 13:10)… **then** Jesus Christ *will* return '*as a thief*' in the night (1 Thess 5:2; 2 Peter 3:10; Rev 3:3; Rev 16:15) - which simply means He will come *quickly* and He'll *surprise everyone* who has not been *faithfully* 'watching' for the return of the *true* Jesus Christ (Matt 24:42-44, 25:13-14; Mark 13:33-37; Luke 12:35-40, 21:34-36; 1 Thess 5:1-9). And *why* will it be such a surprise to most everyone on earth when the *true* Jesus Christ returns? Because, when Satan comes to earth, he's coming before the *true* Jesus Christ does (2 Thess 2; Rev 12-13, Mth 24, Mk 13, Lk 21, etc.). And therefore, many people will think he IS the 'true' Christ, for most all religions are waiting for some sort of 'Messiah' (savior, Christ) to return. And that's why most everyone on earth will actually worship Satan, as though he were God Himself! And Satan will most assuredly encourage this; for as Paul warns us, Satan will "*opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God*" (2 Thess 2:4). And his 'beast' system will also speak many 'great things' and 'blasphemies" against God's name, tabernacle and them that well in heaven (Rev 13:5-6). And *this* (Satan claiming to be God and setting himself up in the Temple of God) **IS** *the* 'abomination of desolation' that Jesus (and Daniel) warned us about (Matt 24:15; Mark 13:14; Dan 9:26-27; Dan 11:31; Dan 12:11-12). So, *because* most everyone on earth will be worshiping Satan as God (Rev 13:8), they will be *incredibly* surprised when the *true* Jesus Christ returns to earth… because they thought the true 'Christ' (Messiah) *had already come*! And this is *why* they will be weeping, and trying to hide in 'rocks' (or underground bunkers), when they realize that the *true* Jesus Christ has returned (Isa 2:17-22; Rev 6:15-17).

And further, Jesus Christ will return to depose the wicked ones on earth *just as quickly* (or more so) as the 'Angel of the Lord killed off most of the Assyrian army (*in just one night*, 2 Kings 19:35-37; 2 Chron 32:20-22). And, just as the Lord's smiting the Assyrian army *freed* Jerusalem (yea, all of the cities in the southern kingdom of Judah) from the 'captivity' of the Assyrians, so too will the return of the true Jesus Christ free those who *refused* to worship Satan, and his wicked 'beast' system! For not only will they be unable to 'buy and sell' (Rev 13:17), they'll also

be persecuted by Satan, his fallen angels (Rev 9), his 'beast' system (Rev 13) and even by other flesh people who think Satan is the 'real' God, i.e. the Messiah or Savior (Rev 12:13-17, 13:7, 15). But, as the study **Point A To Point B** [https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/489] so well documents, Jesus' return will change all that. For He will take over the entire world when He returns. And that means He'll depose all the wicked ones, put the worst ones in prison (Rev 20:1-3; Isa 24:22), and install His *righteous* government who will rule the world, with Him, *forevermore* (Isa 24:17-23; Matt 13:40-42, 47-50, Matt 24:29-31, 25:31-46; Mark 13:24-27; Rev 20:1-5). So, just as those in the southern kingdom of Judah were greatly elated (blithe, gleeful) so too will we – who do *not* worship Satan nor participate in his wicked 'beast' system – be elated when the true Jesus Christ returns to save us from the wicked ones on earth! And so too will our speech be filled with shouts of joy, singing and praise because the Lord (YHVH) will have done 'great things' for us too! As Rev 15:2-3 says, those who overcome the beast, his image, his mark, and the number of his name will "*sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints*"!

And further yet, just as "*many brought gifts unto the LORD to Jerusalem, and presents to Hezekiah king of Judah: so that he was magnified in the sight of all nations from thenceforth*" (2 Chron 32:23), so too will the Lord (YHVH) finally be glorified in all the earth! For Jesus' return *will prove* that Satan **is a liar and a fake** but, the Lord (YHVH) and Jesus Christ is true, and righteous, and faithful to His Word! As the Lord (YHVH) said in Num 14:21, "***all** the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord (YHVH)*"! And Isa 40:5 also tells us that, "*the glory of the LORD **shall be revealed**, and **all flesh shall see it together**: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it*". Further yet, all those who remained faithful to the Lord (YHVH) will also be 'magnified' in the sight of all nations, just as Hezekiah was, because he remained faithful to the Lord (YHVH). For they *will* be given glory, honor and immortality (eternal life) when Jesus Christ returns *and*, they'll *also* be given authority to rule, with Jesus Christ, in His kingdom (Psalms 37, 70:35-36; Isa 57:13, 60:2, 65:9; Mth 5:3-12; Rom 2:6-7; Rev 2:7, 11, 17, 26-29, 3:5, 12, 21, 20:4-6, 21:7-8).

Psalm 126
4 Turn again our captivity, O LORD, as the streams in the south.

Now, the words '**turn again**' again mean ***to turn back*** (hence, ***away***) and this can be used transitively or intransitively, literally or figuratively (not necessarily with the idea of return to the starting point). However, generally speaking, it can also mean ***to retreat*** and is often used, adverbial, to mean ***again***, which is how the translators rendered it here (#7725). And then the word '**captivity**' means ***exile*** or, ***prisoners*** and, figuratively, can also mean ***a former state of prosperity*** (#7622). So, after speaking of the great joy that Jerusalem (and the other cities in the southern kingdom of Judah) had, after seeing the Assyrians flee away so quickly, Hezekiah asks

that the Lord (YHVH) would ***bring back their former state of prosperity***. And then he likens the prosperity he hopes for to the 'streams in the south'. The word '**streams**' here means ***containing***, (i.e. a tube), ***a bed***, or ***valley of a stream***, a ***strong thing*** or ***a hero*** (#650). And then the word '**south**' means ***the south*** (from its drought) but, specifically, refers to ***the Negeb*** or ***southern district of Judah*** (#5045). So, you could also render this "*as the streams are turned in the Negeb*". Now, Negeb (which is often translated as 'south' or 'desert') was a large, arid, region covering much of southern Israel, i.e. the southern kingdom of Judah. And, for most of the year, Negeb was very dry and *filled with dry riverbeds*. However, during the rainy season, heavy rains upstream will *suddenly* send rushing, torrential waters crashing down through these dry gullies. So, *within hours*, the barren, dead-looking desert *bursts into an oasis* of vibrant and flowing water. So, Hezekiah is using this *as an analogy* to explain *how* he would like the Lord (YHVH) to *bring back their former state of prosperity*. So, just as the Lord (YHVH) brings sudden life-giving waters to the arid desert of Negeb, so too did Hezekiah ask Him to bring back their *former state* of prosperity. And, as we've learned, the Lord (YHVH) **did** indeed do this (2 Chron 32:22-23). But, *prophetically* speaking, the Lord (YHVH) *will also* do so at the return of Jesus Christ, as Isa 61:2-11 [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Isaiah/1679] explains so well.

Psalm 126
5 They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

So, after asking the Lord to bring back the former state of prosperity to the southern kingdom of Judah (which He *did* do), Hezekiah says something that might seem odd. But, if we consider how Hezekiah wept to the Lord (YHVH) during this time period, what he's saying (writing) makes sense. And the reason Hezekiah 'cried' wasn't only because of the Assryians. He actually got very sick, at this time; and the Lord (YHVH) even told him (via the prophet Isaiah) he *was* going to die. But, he earnestly prayed to God (reminding Him how sincerely he had tried to 'clean things up' in the nation) and 'wept sore' to Him as well (2 Kings 20:3; Isa 38:1-3). And the Lord (YHVH) *immediately* heard him, *even though* he wasn't able to go to the Temple to pray! And, further to that, He also answered Hezekiah *very* quickly; for the prophet Isaiah *didn't even have time* to get out of the palace before the Lord (YHVH) told him to *go back and tell* Hezekiah (on behalf of the Lord, YHVH) that He would add fifteen years to his life *and* that He would save Jerusalem from the Assryians (2 Kings 20:5-6; Isa 38:4-5). And Hezekiah's response to that was his promise to write 'songs' to the Lord, YHVH (Isa 38:20), which are *exactly* the "song of Degrees" we are studying *now*!

So, when Hezekiah writes that, they that '**sow**' (***plant***, #2232) in '**tears**' (***weeping***, #1832) shall '**reap**' (***harvest***, #7114) in '**joy**' (***shouts of joy***, #7440), he's most certainly thinking of his own experience. For he indeed did weep to the Lord (YHVH) – *both* in asking for Him to save Jerusalem from the Assyrians *and* when asking Him to save his life. And further, Hezekiah had also 'sown' good fruits by his righteous actions when he took over the throne. For he worked

hard to clean the idolatry out of the southern kingdom of Judah; and he also opened the Temple and commanded the priests to clean it (and themselves) up so they could begin worshiping the *true* God (YHVH) again (2 Kings 18; 2 Chron 29-31). And, because of his '*good* fruits' (works), and because of his *righteous* tears, he did eventually 'reap in joy' when the Lord (YHVH) healed him of his sickness *and* when the Lord (YHVH) nearly annihilated the Assyrian army (in just one night), which caused them to *flee back* to Assyrian – leaving Jerusalem, and all of the southern kingdom of Judah – *free from* their oppressions.

And (yet again) this is an *excellent* type for us today too. For, as Jesus said, "***Blessed** are ye that **weep** **now**: for ye **shall** laugh*" (Luke 6:21). And in Matt 5:4, Jesus also said that, "***Blessed** are they that **mourn**: for they **shall** be comforted*". And *what* do we weep, and mourn, for *now*? We mourn over, and weep for, *all the evil* that is going on in the world, of course! And that will be *especially* so during the 'great tribulation' (Mth 24:21) when we see so many people (even Christians) whoring after (worshiping) the *false*-Christ (the 'antichrist', *who is Satan*) as though he were our *true* Savior! So, just as Hezekiah wept so many years ago, those who weep for the wickedness coming upon the earth will indeed 'reap in joy' when the *true* Jesus Christ returns to the earth and makes *all things right*. In fact, it is the 'day of vengeance' (Jesus' return) that comforts all those that mourn! That's why they'll be given "*beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He might be glorified*" (Isa 61:2-3). Further, God has even specifically promised that, in the eternity, He will "*wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away*" (Isa 25:7-9; Rev 21:1-8). And the beautiful example of Hezekiah's life is one (of many) example that *assures* us that these beautiful promises (Jesus' return to right every wrong *and* of no more tears, pain or death in the eternity) *will* come to pass!

Psalm 126
6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

So, after speaking of how those who 'sow in tears' will 'reap in joy', Hezekiah expands on that thought. The word '**goeth**' here means ***to walk*** or ***to carry*** (literally or figuratively #3212) while the word '**forth**' also means ***to walk*** (literally and figuratively, #1980). And then the word '**weepeth**' means ***to weep*** or ***bemoan*** (#1058) while the word '**bearing**' means ***to lift*** (in a great variety of applications, literal and figurative, #5375). And the word '**precious**' means ***sowing*** or ***a possession*** (#4901) while the word '**seed**' means ***seed, fruit, plant, sowing-time*** or even ***posterity*** (# 2233). So, those who sorrowfully (even weeping) carry seed to the field to sow, will "**doubtless come again"** (which simply means ***to come***, #935) with '**rejoicing**' (***shouts of joy***, #7440) because they will be '**bringing**' (***to lift***, as in *to carry*, #5375) his '**sheaves**' (***something***

bound, as a sheaf; i.e. ***the fruits of the harvest***, #485). So, while verse 5 spoke of how those who 'sow in tears' will 'reap in joy', this verse says nearly the same thing. And, as we all know, without sowing seed, we'll *never* reap any fruit of our labor! And this is as true, spiritually speaking, as it is physically speaking. So, even though it is a lot of work to sow physical seeds (crops or a garden) – and many times it's not fun to do – it is *well worth the effort* when we get to reap the precious fruit of our labor!

And likewise (spiritually speaking), we often feel like weeping when we try to plant 'seeds' of truth with others. And the *reason* is because we are many times *mocked* for believing in the truth *and* (just as saddening) is the way so many people outright reject the truth. And this is, many times, because of the 'traditions of man' that people are taught. Some people are *so steeped* in the traditions their 'Church' teaches [https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/212] that they *cannot* see the error (lies) within those traditions. Yet, rejecting 'seeds of truth' also comes from the fact that many people's hearts are *so hardened* that they *can't* see the truth, even when you lay it out *very clearly* to them! So, it truly does cause us great sorrow (we might even feel like weeping at times) when we spiritually 'plants' those precious 'seeds of truth'. Yet, with time, our efforts in planting (sowing seeds of truth) *will* 'bear fruit', *spiritually* speaking. For, not only will we get better at learning to discern the right time, and way, to plant those 'seeds of truth', we'll also get more *patient* in doing so. For many people cannot handle 'big' seeds of truth! They often need very tiny bits (seeds) of truth, as well as 'watering in due time'. So, it takes much time, *and patience* (just as it does when physically planting, and watering), to see the fruit of our labors. And we've also got to recognize that, some people just have too many stumbling blocks (rocks) in their hardened hearts (and minds) for any seeds to grow at all. The parable of the sower, that Jesus taught us, explains this so very well [https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/381].

But, if we don't give up *trying* to plant seeds when we can, we *will* indeed (with time) reap the blessings of seeing others come to the truth, even if it is only in the Millennium. And further, we've got to remember that *the way we live our life*, and *the way we speak*, is truly one of the *best* ways to 'plant seeds of truth' (spiritually). For setting forth a *good example* of what living our life, *according to* God's Word, can do for a person (the blessings, peace of mind, and joy God's Word gives us) is often a *much more powerful* 'seed' of truth than *many* words. And, we should also remember that our Heavenly Father *sees* us trying to 'plant' seeds *and* how grieved we are when people reject it (*and* mock us because of our faith in Jesus Christ and God's Word). And this pleases Him *very* much! So, if we just 'stick with' planting (with discernment and wisdom) the precious 'seeds' (along with using our God-given gifts the best we can), the Lord (YHVH) *will* bless our efforts and *will* give us great joy for doing our best to serve Him *faithfully*, just as He did for Hezekiah (Isa 37:30, 2 Chron 32:22-23) …

*7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, **that** shall he also reap.*

8 For he that soweth to his flesh ***shall of the flesh reap corruption****; but he that soweth to the Spirit* ***shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting****.*
9 And ***let us not be weary in well doing****: for* ***in due season*** ***we shall reap, if we faint not.***
10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.
Gal 6:7-10

So, *keep on* 'sowing' *good* seeds of truth! For, no matter hard (or saddening) it might seem *now*, we will reap *in due season* **IF we don't give up**!

AMEN.