

## Scrapbook Memories

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"Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: are they not in thy book?" Psalm 56:8

I'm sure most of you are familiar with scrapbooking. It's the craft and art of taking your photos and putting them together in a creative way. Many people journal along with scrapbooking to create photo albums with substance. These make beautiful keepsakes to pass on to your family and kids.

Scrapbooking is a wonderful concept. I've tried my hand at it and enjoy doing it. Unfortunately most of my scrapbooking remains in an unfinished state. I do wish I had more time to devote to it and get more finished than I have. I began thinking about the verse in Psalm 56:8, "*Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: are they not in thy book?*" and it hit me that God sees the scrapbook of our lives. He lives each moment with us. He knows each and everything we go through. He knows what will fill up the pages. He's there with us each and every step of the way.

It's so amazing that our great God sees every tear we shed, whether it's shed in joy or in sorrow. He sees the lonely moments, the happy moments, the joys, the sorrows, our pains, and our anxieties.

### **God Sees Our Tears When We Are Lonely.**

Loneliness can be such a heart-wrenching thing. Loneliness can produce such a bleak existence for us as humans. It can cause us to be depressed and feel all sorts of desolate emotions. It's wonderful that we are never really alone when we have God with us.

*"...And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Matthew 28:20*

*"...For he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Hebrews 13:5*

### **God Sees Our Tears When We Are Sad.**

We all get sad at times. My thoughts go to Hannah and her sorrow because she could not bear a child. She was so sad and that when she went to talk to Eli the priest, he at first thought she was drunk because when she talked only her lips moved and nothing came out. (1 Samuel 11:10-18) God saw Hannah's sorrow and was with her during it and He's there with us in our sadness too. When we remember that God is our source of joy we can get through our sadness.

*"...for the joy of the LORD is your strength." Nehemiah 8:10*

### **God Sees Our Tears When We Are Grieved.**

Grief over a loved one's death can be such a hard thing. It can cause us to bear more tears than almost anything else. Grief is a process that's different for everyone that goes through it, but God sees each one of us, knows the uniqueness of our grief, and is there with us. He also gives us comfort during this time.

*"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord*

*himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*

### **God Sees Our Tears When We Are Unhappy.**

Sometimes we cry because we are nothing more than unhappy in our lives. It may not even be caused by one thing in particular but all of those circumstances can mount and we become unhappy people. It's such a comfort to know that God sees and knows about each and every detail and circumstance that we go through. He sees and knows each little thing that brings those tears of unhappiness to our eyes. At times like this we need to remember that He loves us and nothing can change that.

*For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38*

### **God Sees Our Tears When We Are Happy.**

God doesn't only see us when we are unhappy but He knows our happiness too. He sees and knows each joy and celebration that fills that scrapbook of our lives. Did you cry tears of joy at the birth of your children or grandchildren? Did you ever cry when your heart was blessed? How about when you see someone saved that you've been praying for and trying to reach for a long time? That's all in the scrapbooks of our lives and God sees those wonderful moments. He's our Heavenly Father and delights in those joys. He is the One who gives us those joys.

*"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." James 1:17*

*"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?" Matthew 7:11*

### **God Sees Our Tears When We Are Anxious.**

Anxiety can be a very unsettling thing but God sees and understands our feelings. He sees our tears when we just don't understand what's ahead. As humans it is so hard for us to understand that God already knows what's on all those pages of our lives that haven't been filled in yet. God doesn't want us to worry and be anxious. He wants us to rely on Him and know His peace during those times.

*"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6,7*

*"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. John 14:27*

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I'm so glad that God knows and cares what fills the scrapbook of my life. It's so exciting to have a Heavenly Father that feels and understands what we go through on a daily basis. He knows our

"wanderings" as in our main verse (Psalm 56:8) and he knows when each tear drops from our eyes. "...put thou my tears into thy bottle: are they not in thy book?"

I hope I'm sensitive enough to allow God to use my life so that my life's scrapbook turns out the way He wants it to be and not the way I'd like the pages pasted in. He in a sense holds the scrapbooking scissors, the glue, and photos in His hands. If only we'd let Him take control and let Him embellish our lives so our scrapbook turns out as He intended. I hope I can let Him use what photos and circumstances that He sees fit for me because He is the One I need to trust in. *"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end." Jeremiah 29:11*

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**So, what does God see in your scrapbook?**