

**Title:** A Beautiful Mourning  
**Pastor:** Heinrich Titus  
**Date:** 26 February 2017  
**Time:** 9:00am



## A beautiful Mourning

**NEHEMIAH 1:1-6** <sup>1</sup> The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah. Now it happened in the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Susa citadel, <sup>2</sup> that Hanani, one of my brothers, came with certain men from Judah. And I asked them concerning the Jews who escaped, who had survived the exile, and concerning Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> And they said to me, “the remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire.” <sup>4</sup> As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven. <sup>5</sup> And I said, “O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, <sup>6</sup> let your ear be attentive and your eyes open, to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for the people of Israel your servants, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you. Even I and my father's house have sinned.

**ISAIAH 66:10-13** <sup>10</sup> “Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her; <sup>11</sup> that you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast; that you may drink deeply with delight from her glorious abundance.” <sup>12</sup> For thus says the Lord: “Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall nurse, you shall be carried upon her hip, and bounced upon her knees. <sup>13</sup> As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

**JEREMIAH 8:21-22** <sup>21</sup> for the wound of the daughter of my people is my heart wounded; I mourn, and dismay has taken hold on me. <sup>22</sup> Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of the daughter of my people not been restored?

**MATTHEW 5:4-5** <sup>4</sup> “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. <sup>5</sup> “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth

**ZECHARIAH 1:16-17** <sup>16</sup> therefore, thus says the Lord, I have returned to Jerusalem with mercy; my house shall be built in it, declares the Lord of hosts, and the measuring line shall be stretched out over Jerusalem. <sup>17</sup> cry out again, thus says the Lord of hosts: My cities shall again overflow with prosperity, and the Lord will again comfort Zion and again choose Jerusalem.”

**2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-5** <sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, <sup>4</sup> who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. <sup>5</sup> For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too.