

Isa 66:7
Sep 18, 2022

The birth of Zion Isa 66:7-9

Isa 66:7-9 "Before she travailed, she brought forth; Before her pain came, she gave birth to a boy. 8 "Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Can a land be born in one day? Can a nation be brought forth all at once? As soon as Zion travailed, she also brought forth her sons. 9 "Shall I bring to the point of birth and not give delivery?" says the LORD. "Or shall I who gives delivery shut the womb?" says your God.

Rev 12:3-6 Then another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads were seven diadems. 4 And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child. 5 And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne. 6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

The dragon = the devil and all the spirits of darkness.
The woman = the nation of Israel.
The male child = Jesus, the church.

Mourning turned to joy Isa 66:10-14

Isa 66:10-14 "Be joyful with Jerusalem and rejoice for her, all you who love her; Be exceedingly glad with her, all you who mourn over her, 11 That you may nurse and be satisfied with her comforting breasts, That you may suck and be delighted with her bountiful bosom." 12 For thus says the LORD, "Behold, I extend peace to her like a river, And the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream; And you will be nursed, you will be carried on the hip and fondled on the knees. 13 "As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you; And you will be comforted in Jerusalem." 14 Then you will see this, and your heart will be glad, And your bones will flourish like the new grass; And the hand of the LORD will be made known to His servants, But He will be indignant toward His enemies.

The Lord gives comfort to those who mourn like that of a mother.

Mourning because of grief:

Definition of grief:

A. From Tyndale Bible Dictionary:

Emotional suffering brought on by bereavement (loss), mishap, or disaster. To grieve is to feel sorrow or distress.

B. From Norman Wright

We experience grief whenever we have a loss or a sense of loss.

There are four stages of grief

Shock/Numbness

Some call this the zombie stage grief. You feel totally numb – disconnected from your emotions. The world seems to be moving in slow motion and you seem frozen in a moment of time. There is a sense that the situation is unreal, and your emotions can't respond to the horrible reality of what you are experiencing. You may be able to carry on with the normal activities of life, but you are simply surviving, but your heart is not engaged.

Searching/Yearning

In this stage of grieving, you are no longer numb; you are overwhelmed by hurt and anger, and you can also struggle with feelings of guilt and regret. Your mind understands the reality of what has happened, but your heart can't accept it. You long for things to be "normal" again. This is the stage of asking the "why" questions.

Disorientation

This is the longest stage of grief and in many ways the most difficult. Everything you have know has been shaken, and you struggle to make sense out of life again. In this stage of grief the primary emotions you feel are anxiety and extreme sorrow. You can feel lonely and sad much of the time, and the questions in your heart continue. But now the questions are about the future – "What am I going to do?" and "What will my life be like from now on?"

Reorganization

When life begins to make sense again and a feeling of wellness and hopefulness returns to your heart, you have reached the final stage of the grieving process. At this point in the journey, you can smile again and really mean it. Your heart feels lighter, and you're able to enjoy life again. With increasing frequency, you feel peaceful rather than anxious, and there is a bounce in your step that hasn't been there for a while.

Change and crisis sequence:

Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
Shock/Numbness	Searching/Yearning	Disorientation	Reorganization

Time	Hours	Days	Weeks	Months
Response	Fight - Flight	Anger/Fear/Guilt/Rage	Positive thoughts begin	Hope
Thoughts	Numbness/Disorientation	Ambiguity/Uncertainty	Problem-Solving	Consolidation of problem-solving
Direction	Search for loss object	Bargaining/Detachment	Search for new object	Reattachment
Search Behavior	Reminiscence	Perplexed Scanning	Focused Exploration	Reality testing
Guidance Needed	Acceptance of feelings	Task-oriented direction	Support/Spiritual insight	Breakthrough/ Reinforce hope

Journaling Exercise – It can be helpful to Journal as you go through the grieving process. Below is a format for you to take personal inventory of what you are thinking and feeling.

Today I feel ... (feeling word)

When I feel this way the thoughts that go through my head are ...

My choice today is ...

My prayer today is ...

Feeling words

Glad	Sad	Angry	Confused	Scared	Weak
Amused	Apathetic	Aggravated	Anxious	Afraid	Ashamed
Calm	Awful	Annoyed	Awkward	Anxious	Bored
Capable	Bad	Critical	Baffled	Concern	Defenseless
Cheerful	Blue	Disgusted	Bothered	Fearful	Discouraged
Confident	Crushed	Enraged	Crazy	Frightened	Embarrassed
Content	Depressed	Envious	Dazed	Horried	Exhausted
Energetic	Despondent	Fed Up	Disorganized	Insecure	Fragile
Excited	Disappointed	Frustrated	Disoriented	Intimidated	Frail
Fantastic	Dissatisfied	Furious	Distracted	Jumpy	Guilty
Grateful	Disturbed	Hateful	Disturbed	Lonely	Helpless
Happy	Down	Impatient	Embarrassed	Nervous	Horrible
Healthy	Gloomy	Irate	Helpless	Panicky	Impotent
Hopeful	Glum	Irritated	Numb	Shaky	Inadequate
Optimistic	Hopeless	Mad	Paralyzed	Shy	Insecure
Peaceful	Hurt	Mean	Puzzled	Stunned	Lifeless
Proud	Lonely	Murderous	Stuck	Tense	Loss
Powerful	Lost	Outraged	Surprised	Terrified	Overwhelmed
Relax	Low	Rage	Trapped	Threatened	Powerless
Relieved	Miserable	Resentful	Troubled	Timid	Sick
Satisfied	Painful	Spiteful	Uncertain	Uneasy	Quiet
Secure	Sorry	Sore	Uncomfortable	Unsafe	Useless
Wonderful	Terrible	Upset	Unsure	Worried	Vulnerable