

# ACQUAINTED WITH GRIEF

Revelation 21:4

# RESPONDING TO GRIEF

- Far from halting grief, we are taught to join it (Rom. 12:15).
- Some grief calls for assistance (Neh. 1:4; 2:2-4).
- Other times there is nothing to do but be near (Job 2:13).
- Truth can comfort and truth can afflict (Job 5:8-9; 12:3; 1 Thess. 4:13-18).
- Be thoughtful in your comments and questions (Matt. 7:12).

# THE VALUE OF GRIEF

- Laughter may be the best medicine, but tears are better instructors (Ecc. 7:2-4).
- Through tears we lean more on God (2 Cor. 12:9-10).
- Tears can force our minds towards the eternal (1 Thess. 4:13-18; Phil. 1:23-24; 1 Pet. 1:6-7).
- Affliction can bring us to greater devotion (Psa. 119:67, 71; Heb. 12:4-12).
- There is a closeness that comes through grief (Jas. 5:14).

# THE END OF GRIEF

- Ultimately, the goal when we have grief is to get to the other side of it (Job 16:5).
- Some are afraid to move past grief for all sorts of reasons (Matt. 10:14).
- There is a need even to set grief aside while the cause is still right in our faces (Lk. 22:39-53).
- Ultimately, that cause of grief has to be dulled by the reality that we are living for above all else (Rom. 8:18; Rev. 21:4; 1 Cor. 7:30).