

Wounded & Weary

(Matthew 11:28-30)

- Introduction:
1. Because we're in a spiritual battle, we will eventually suffer wounds. It comes with the territory.
 2. But what should we do when we are wounded? How do we recover?

I. Focus Your Eyes On Heaven

- A. Life is meaningless without God (Ecc. 1:2).
- B. Our eyes need to be focused upon the goal of our life.
 1. (Colossians 3:2; Hebrews 11:10; Hebrews 12:2).

II. Count Your Blessings

- A. Don't allow a few negative things to monopolize your attention.
- B. If Christ is our Lord, we will always have more good in our life than bad.
- C. (Ephesians 3:1).

III. Look Outward Rather Than Inward

- A. This is the way to happiness (Acts 20:35).
- B. A truthful paradox is to "bear another person's load to lighten your own."
- C. (Ephesians 2:10).

IV. Remember That God Demands Faithfulness, Not Success

- A. (1 Corinthians 4:2).
- B. Self appointed goals often bring feelings of discouragement and failure.
- C. It is our job to plant and water - God gives the increase (1 Corinthians 3:6).

V. Remember That We Know The Outcome Of The Story

- A. The book of Revelation emphatically tells us that when all is said and done, we who have trusted in Christ, are victorious!
- B. Because we know that we will attain the mountain tops, why then worry when we find ourselves in some rather deep dark valleys, for we know that it is only temporary?
- C. (Revelation 12:11; 14:13).

- Conclusion:
1. May we never become so discouraged that we turn away from the prize of the high calling in Christ Jesus.
 2. Paul bore in his body the "marks of Christ" - He was a wounded warrior.
 3. Your wounds may not be physical, but they are nonetheless real.
 4. Count yourself blessed to be able to suffer for the cause of Christ.
 5. Your wounds need not be fatal, put them in perspective.