

When Sorrow Walked With Me

(Psalm 34:4)

- Introduction:
1. “I sought the Lord and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.” (Psalm 34:4).
 2. We have probably all lived long enough to experience the reality that we live in a fallen world, full of pains and sorrows.
 - a. “Man who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble” (Job 14.1).
 3. We are powerless to stop the sorrow from coming, but God has equipped us to deal with the problems (Habakkuk 3:17-19).
 4. I have lived for nearly 58 years, and the vast majority of my life has been easy; a life unacquainted with sorrows.
 5. However, in the last six years, sorrow has been my companion.

I. My Story

- A. 2013 my dad passed away.
 1. Filled in for him in a gospel meeting in Parkersburg, WV.
 2. His last sermon.
 3. Greatest struggle sorrow placed in my path was bitterness.
 - a. (Ephesians 4:31).
 - b. What happens in me is more important than what happens to me (Gen. 49:23-24).
- B. In June of this year, my mom passed away.
 1. Mom never recovered from Dad’s death.
 2. Mom’s last phone call.
 3. I have learned that death can be a gift (2 Chron. 34:26-28).
- C. The Loss of Michael.
 1. By far, the most difficult loss I have experienced has been the loss of my son.
 2. This may be hard for some to understand, but I would a thousand times over rather attend his funeral than to watch his heart grow colder and colder.
 3. I have learned to stop wearing my sackcloth underneath (2 Kings 6:30).
 4. (2 Corinthians 1:3-4). Kintsugi.

- Conclusion:
1. Friends, sorrow won’t defeat me.
 2. I have greater resolve for heaven because of sorrow than I would otherwise have had.
 3. Ills. of Nathaniel Hawthorn “New Adam & Eve” – (John 6:68).