The Tears Of Jesus

(John 11:35)

- Introduction: 1. Probably one of the first verses children memorize is John 11:35 Jesus wept.
 - 2. While that passage is simplistic to memorize, it is very profound in the truth that it conveys.
 - 3. Someone has said that the measure of one's character can be determined by what makes him laugh, what makes him cry, and what makes him angry.
 - 4. Let's examine the tears of Jesus and the circumstances surrounding those tears.

I. (John 11:35)

- A. This account records the death of Lazarus, a friend of Jesus.
- B. The Greek word employed here is (dakruo) which means to "shed tears."
- C. Jesus was hurt by the pain he saw in others.
- D. Jesus was not crying over the death of Lazarus (11:4,11,15).
- E. Mary and Martha both knew that Jesus could have helped them.

II. (Luke 19:41)

- A. Would you like to know the future?
- B. Jesus did, and it was a burden for him (Isaiah 53:3).
- C. In the midst of his triumphal entry he was saddened to the point of crying.
- D. The Greek word employed here is (klaio) which carries the idea of loud wailing.
- E. He saw the impending suffering of men, women, and children.

III. (Hebrews 5:7)

- A. In all likelihood, Gethsamene is in mind.
- B. In this passage, yet another Greek term is used to describe the tears of Jesus (ischuros krauge) which means strong or mighty outcries of desire.
- B. But in this instance, he was weeping over sin and the toll it had taken on humanity.
- C. Think of the thoughts that must have run through the mind of Jesus.
- D. Think of what sin has done to this world.
- Conclusion: 1. I think much about our character is revealed when we consider the things over which we shed tears.
 - 2. In the case of Jesus, his tears were shed for others.
 - 3. May God help us to develop hearts that are more tender than they already are, and help us to sympathize with the plight of others.