

# Comments About Romans 12:15

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BIG SANDY, Texas—Recently, I began a discussion about the words of the apostle Paul found in Romans 12. It is my perspective that Paul's writings in chapters 1-11 could be classified more as comments about doctrine and spiritual concepts, whereas the words in chapter 12 can be viewed more as Christian-living topics.

Last week, we discussed Romans 12:14. This article will discuss Romans 12:15.

## **Positive words**

Notice what Paul wrote in Romans 12:15.

*Romans 12:15*—"Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep."

## **Time to laugh and time to weep**

Here is a verse that discusses that there is a time to laugh and a time to cry.

*Ecclesiastes 3:4*—"A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance."

## **Examples of weeping**

Here are some verses that mention examples of crying.

*Matthew 2:17-18*—"Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet [Jeremiah 31:15], saying: 'A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.' "

*Luke 23:28-31*—"But Jesus, turning to them, said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For indeed the days are coming in which they will say, "Blessed are the barren, wombs that never bore, and breasts which never nursed!" Then they will begin 'to say to the mountains, "Fall on us!" and to the hills, "Cover us!" ' For if they do these things in the green wood, what will be done in the dry?"

*Acts 9:39*—"Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they brought him to the upper room. And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them."

### **Son of God wept**

Here are some verses that mention the Son of God weeping for people.

*Luke 19:41-44*—"Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, saying, 'If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation.' "

*John 11:35*—"Jesus wept."

### **Weep and rejoice among the Body**

Here are some verses that discuss weeping and rejoicing among the Body of Christ.

*John 16:20-22*—"Most assuredly, I say to you that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; and you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned into joy. A woman, when she is in labor, has sorrow because her hour has come; but as soon as she has given birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you."

*1 Corinthians 12:24-26*—"But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it, that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it."