

Sunday, November 11, 2012

Title of the Message: ***The Lord Has Done Great Things***

Scriptures: Psalm 126

What do you say are 2 or 3 of the all time greatest things God has done?

What are 2 or 3 of the greatest things God has done for YOU?

What are 2 or 3 things you wish God would do?

Psalm 126 declares “It was said among the nations that the Lord has done great things for them.”(referring to Judah) What was so great that other nations were talking about things this way? After 70 years of being in exile in Babylon, of having Jerusalem ransacked and the Temple destroyed – they came back! The nation was restored.

But there was grief during those 70 years. Lamentations expresses some of that sadness in poems and in songs. 1:1-2 says “How like a widow she (Jerusalem) has become. She weeps bitterly in the night...a princess has become a slave.”

Prayers went up to God: 5:1 “Remember, O Lord, what has befallen us; look, and see our disgrace.”

Lo and behold, God answered! The people came back rejoicing.

Messages for us today:

- God’s people can have hard times: being a Christian does not exempt us
- It is OK to shed tears and lament: there is such a thing as ‘good grief’
- People are watching how you handle tough times
- God has such a love for you that He will turn your tears into new life.

Psalm 126 says tears are like seeds, they will sprout into a harvest of JOY.

May it be true for you that “Those who go out weeping, to sow the seed in their fields, shall return carrying sheaves of a bountiful harvest with shouts of joy.”

Two great things God has done: restored the fortunes of His people, and made a wonderful, beautiful Creation to live in. To see some of this wonderful creation, go to <http://www.andiesisle.com/creation/magnificent.html>.