



“Laugh”

- Rev Philip Oyewale

Newsletter

It is very clear from the scriptures that there is time for everything. Ecclesiastes 3:4 describe a time as a time to weep, and a time as a time to laugh.

Weeping seems to be part of the curriculum in the school of life, but weeping is not supposed to be a lifestyle. That is why scripture says weeping may endure but for a night but



joy comes in the morning. After you have suffered a while. It has been a while now, that one situation or the other has made you sad, cry. I am here to announce another season. God doesn't just do things; he sends his messenger to announce prior to the realization of the event. Therefore, I have come to announce to you, it is your season of laughter.

The word "laugh," in its various forms, is used thirty-eight times in the Bible. Sometimes laughter is right and sometime it's wrong. Sometimes it is a fool who is laughing. Sometimes it is God Himself. But to laugh according to Cambridge dictionary is to smile while making sounds with your voice that

show you think something is funny or you are happy.

When you read that you smile because you think something is funny, you will not blame Sarah too much. When the angel told her she will conceive and have a baby at 90 years of age, it was not just funny but ridiculous; no wonder she laughs. Even though, the bible describes it as unbeliev, it shows to me that this month, things that look impossible, power of God will activate them in your life.

A similar story was told in Luke 8 when a man named Jairus came to Jesus. He fell down at the feet of Jesus and begged Him to come to his house and heal his little daughter who was twelve years old, and lay in her bed dying. When Jesus got to the house, there was a crowd of people weeping and wailing outside because the girl was already dead. But Jesus said, "Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth" (Luke 8:52). Then the Bible says, "They laughed him to scorn, knowing that she was dead" (Luke 8:53). They knew that the girl was dead. They laughed at the Son of God when He told them she would live.

It was too funny to them, too ridiculous. They were filled with unbelief - and their lack of faith made them laugh at Jesus - just as Sarah laughed at the power of God.

And then Jesus said

"...put them all out [of the room], and took her by the hand, and called, saying, Maid, arise. And her spirit came again, and she arose.

You've got to put some people away from the room of your life: discouragers, destiny killers, before your dead little daughter can rise again.

Another part of that definition says dictionary is to smile while making sounds with your voice that show you think something is funny or you are happy.

This also reminds me of the word of Jesus that there is joy in heaven-laughter in heaven over a sinner that repents. That's the laughter of salvation. Jesus said, "Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh" (Luke 6:21). Heaven is the happiest place in the Universe. Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning" (Psalm 30:5). The morning here in this context, is when we get to heaven. It is important to reflect on this, because, if you enjoy temporary laughter here on earth and heaven has not really laughed about you, you will be doing yourself a very big dis-favour. Looking at the kinds of laughter, we will enjoy in heaven, you will agree

with me that that is the only permanent place of laughter. He says god will wipe away all tears, no more death. Thus, in heaven there shall be

□ ***Laughter of congratulation.*** When we meet our friends in heaven, we shall laugh and congratulate each other. We'll say to one, "The last time I saw you, cancer was eating away your body. Now you have a new body and you'll never be sick again. Congratulations." To another we'll say, "The last time I saw you, arthritis had crippled you. Now you can run as a messenger of the king. Congratulations." To another we'll say, "The last time I saw you, you were wasting away with tuberculosis. Now you have an eternal bloom on your cheek. Congratulations." To another we'll say, "The last time I saw you, you were grappling with sin. Now you have overcome it forever. Congratulations." To another we'll say, "The last time I saw you, you were burdened with sorrow. Now you have peace and comfort. Congratulations."

· ***Laughter of reunion.*** Have you ever been to a family reunion? Those who have not seen each other for a year laugh as they shake hands with a loved one or throw their arms around another one. Mother is gone, but we'll see her again. Father and brother and sister and child, husband and wife, they are gone, but not forever. We shall see them again in that blessed, better land.

□ ***Laughter of forgetfulness.*** We have our difficulties and our differences down here. Up there

we'll forget all of these. Up there we shall all love one another.

□ ***Laughter of sweet memories.*** We'll talk about the good times we had down here and these memories will flood over us, to make heaven ever richer and sweeter. Here we remember the touch of a vanished hand, there we'll feel its touch again. Here we remember a voice that is stilled, there we'll hear that voice again.

□ ***Laughter of victory and triumph.*** Satan often [gives us trouble] here, but at last we'll gain the victory over him. He'll be in hell where he belongs and he can never tempt us again.

As a Christian lay dying he said, "I see the letter 'W' written all over the skies." "What do you think it means?", someone asked. And he replied, "I think it means welcome, welcome to heaven."

Yes, soon life's little day will end and we'll be going home. Welcome will be written over the gate, over the door of our mansion, over the throne and all over heaven. So let us trust Christ and love Him and serve Him well. Then up there, all our sorrow and sighing will be turned into blessed eternal laughter.