



June 22, 2025

PART TWO

Morning Comes for the Mourning

Matthew 5:4; Galatians 5:22

Synopsis: *While it is true that mourning and joy co-exist, for a while, in Jesus' kingdom, mourning tinged with joy, or joy tinged with mourning, saves each from the tendency of its own excess.*

The Beatitudes Twist Review

The Divine Conspiracy, by Dallas Willard (1998)

Instead of recommended postures/attitudes, these are deplorable states (cf. **Luke 6:20-23**)

Each deficit, in contact with the kingdom of God, reverses course into a trajectory of blessedness

Overlaying the 9 fruits of the Spirit with the 9 Beatitudes

Today: Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted/joy

Those Who Mourn

The reality of the ubiquity of suffering: **John 16:33**

Life is pain, Heiness. Anyone who says otherwise is selling something (Wesley to Buttercup in **The Princess Bride**)

Jesus was a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief (**Isaiah 53:3**) born among suffering people (see **Matthew 4:23-25**)

Jesus healed many but not everyone. Healing as a sign of the in-breaking kingdom of God

What was meant, and what will be, what is in the process of becoming

They Shall Be Comforted

The comfort of knowing the end-game: **Revelation 21:3-5**

(This is not to downplay the awfulness of present suffering or our obligation to seek to alleviate it)

The comfort of Jesus' unique solidarity company! **Matthew 25:40; Colossians 1:24**

The comfort of our particular sufferings being commandeered toward good: **Romans 8:28; Genesis 50:20**

The Fruit of the Spirit of Joy

The Spirit turns this comfort into joy: **Psalms 30:5**

The nature of contrast: the same experience intensified in relation to its opposite

Sun on a cold day; a green tree in an open field; cool water in a desert

Spirit-given comfort in suffering offers a kind of joy that is unlike the easier "joy" of ease: a mature joy

A unique-to-now joy to be carried into the new eternal age (since suffering will be no more then)

This is the kind of joy Jesus knew: **Hebrews 12:2**, which He awakens in our suffering as strength: **Nehemiah 8:10**