

NAMELESS TEARS

Understanding the Meaning of Our Deepest Desire

Thesis: Every human being longs for a fulfillment, for a deep inner happiness, beyond anything this world has to offer. We are all haunted by a nameless desire for something that defies defining and eludes our grasp. . .until we finally realize we were originally created by God in the image of his love, confess that we have lost our way and forgotten who we are, and receive His love as the ultimate meaning of our existence.

Psalms 42:1-3, 5-7—¹As the deer pants for the water brooks, so pants my soul for You, O God. ²My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God? ³My tears have been my food day and night, while they continually say to me, “Where *is* your God?”. . . ⁵Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him For the help of His countenance. ⁶O my God, my soul is cast down within me; therefore I will remember You. . . ⁷Deep calls unto deep at the noise of Your waterfalls.

Ecclesiastes 3:11—He has put eternity in their hearts.

Proverbs 19:22, NIV—What a man desires is unfailing love.

Jeremiah 31:3—The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: “Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.”

Zephaniah 3:17—The LORD your God in your midst, the Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.

John 1:9, KJV—[Jesus] was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

Acts 17:22-28— ²²Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; ²³for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: ²⁴God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. ²⁵Nor is He worshiped with men’s hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. ²⁶And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell

NOTE: God’s deep heart of love is constantly calling out with wordless impressions to the deepest desires of our lost and longing hearts. In our soberest, deep-thinking moments we know we were made for a love that finds no match in this world. Our Creator alone is that match.

NOTE: God has designed the inner workings of the human psyche in such a way that we have a sense, a divinely implanted intuition, that we were made for eternal realities. Genetic scientists have recently discovered two small “knots” of neuronal tissue above each ear they are calling “God spots,” areas of the brain strongly inclined toward spiritual experience. We are literally hardwired for a relationship with God.

NOTE: God’s love exerts a constant drawing upon our hearts, a gravitational pull toward His love. We all feel it even when we can’t name it.

NOTE: When any food is eaten the body records a neural mapping, a kind of list, of all the vital nutrients present in the food. The body knows, for example, that there is vitamin A in carrots and cantaloupe, C in strawberries and citrus. Often when we crave a specific food it is the body demanding the nutrition it knows is in that food. A pregnant woman experiences cravings because her body is asking for what it needs in order to build the baby growing in her womb. Likewise, in the spiritual dimension of our being, our hearts know that we need God’s love. We experience the craving even when we can’t name it.

on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, ²⁷so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; ²⁸for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also His offspring.’”

Psalms 14:1—The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.”

Job 19:26-27—²⁶After my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God, ²⁷Whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

John 4:7-30, Summary—Here is a woman who had sought fulfillment in the arms of six different men. In her desperate quest for love Jesus discerned a thirst that could only be fully satisfied in God’s saving embrace, which He embodied in the symbolism of “living water.”

John 6:48-51—⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. ⁵⁰This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.”

Isaiah 55:1-3, 6-7—¹Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Why do you spend money for *what is* not bread, and your wages for *what* does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat *what is* good, and let your soul delight itself in abundance. ³Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you—the sure mercies of David. . . . ⁶Seek the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. ⁷Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

Jeremiah 2:13—For My people have committed two evils: they have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, and hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water.

Jeremiah 31:14, 25—¹⁴“I will satiate the soul of the priests with abundance, and My people shall be satisfied with My goodness,” says the LORD. . . . ²⁵“For I have satiated the weary soul, and I have replenished every sorrowful soul.”

NOTE: All human wonderings have some basis in reality. If God does not exist we would never ask if He does. The fact that the notion of a Supreme Being is present in human consciousness is the strongest proof that such a Being does exist.

NOTE: “Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for those desires exist. A baby feels hunger: well, there is such a thing as food. A duckling wants to swim: well, there is such a thing as water. Men feel sexual desire: well, there is such a thing as sex. If I find in my self a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world. C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, p.106.

NOTE: “If the whole universe has no meaning, we should never have found out that it has no meaning; just as, if there were no light in the universe and therefore no creatures with eyes, we should never know it was dark. *Dark* would be without meaning.” C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, p. 31.

“Behold Your God”—Isaiah 40:9