

Blessed are those who mourn...

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I'll let the book describe itself. "In today's world we have technology, convenience, security, and a measure of prosperity, but where is the beauty? The full message of the beauty of the gospel has been replaced by our desires to satisfy our material needs, to empirically (based on testing or experience) prove our faith, and to establish political power in our world."

I'm going to start with a quote from "Beauty Will Save the World" by Brian Zahnd,

"Sorrow is a necessary consequence of loving others and being fully engaged with humanity. It is through the work of grief that we carve depth into our souls and create space to be filled with comfort from another. In this way, grief is understood, not as a reality to be denied, but as a work to be attended to. ...Where... banal happiness (**boring or ordinary: not interesting**) seems to be the highest goal, we don't want to attend to the work of grief, we put it off as an unpleasant task or something beneath our station, But this has consequences... In such a state the soul can never know true comfort and joy; it can only be anesthetized with entertainment. It is in the work of grief that space and depth are created – space and depth that can be filled..."

"Jesus is making an important announcement to those who... have allowed themselves to be sculpted by pain and sorrow. Jesus seems to be saying that those who have... engaged in the real work of grief... are the ones who will encounter deep comfort..."

"When human beings suffer tragedy and profound loss, there is a certain amount of grieving that is required. But in the mystery of human inner-connectivity, the work of grieving does not have to be done alone. When we choose to bear the burden of sorrow with others, it really does lighten the load for the suffering."