Tears Falling Rain Drops



Leanna Bolden Eternally Speaking Now

"Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak; And hear, O earth, the words of my mouth.

> Let my teaching drop as the rain, My speech distill as the dew, As raindrops on the tender herb, And as showers on the grass.

For I proclaim the name of the Lord: Ascribe greatness to our God. He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He."

Deuteronomy 32:1-4

As I prayed about what to write this month, I'll admit I was hesitant when I kept sensing the Lord nudging me on this topic. Honestly, I wanted to share this story *after* I was healed. *After* the testimony was complete-- when all the pieces made sense and everything was done, happy and pretty. I wanted to *wait until later* when I could share the *ending* of the story (which, with God, is always good).

Nope.

Instead, the Holy Spirit clearly confirmed that I'm to write about this topic right here and now, *in the middle of* the messy, the unfinished, the unsatisfied, the unrefined.

So, here goes.

I've had some form of an "eye" issue going on for the past three months.

It started with one eye that kept watering, then I had itchy eyes, then both got super dry. I saw a doctor who discovered clogged oil glands, then I returned days later with some weird, full-blown allergic reaction, with one of my eyes almost fully swollen shut. As if that isn't enough, weeks later, I experienced my first "eye migraine." (That was disconcerting.)

Alongside the various doctor visits, eye drops, and warm compresses, I studied and prayed through several Scriptures about the eye. None of them resonated with me, but I prayed

through several daily anyway, knowing that our hearts can easily deceive us (Jeremiah 17) and also knowing that physical disease often expresses an underlying spiritual issue that God wants to address. (Read more about spiritual roots to physical disease here.)

In the midst of all this, I had another follow-up appointment. As she concluded the exam, the ophthalmologist proclaimed,

"You may want to consider a simple procedure to scrape your eyelids."

Um, *what*? Did she say *scrape my eyelids*? That sounded like torture. Whatever it meant, it *wasn't* happening. Not to *my* eyelids.

Thank the Lord I didn't have to get that done, but the Holy Spirit used the doctor's proposal to awaken me to the word *eyelid*. He prompted me to search the Scriptures for verses with the word eyelid in them rather than the word eye.

So I did.

I was blown away.

There are ten Bible verses with the word eyelid (NKJV). As I read them, each one jumped off the page, speaking specifically to my soul. It was as if God was growing a new garden within me, preparing fallow ground for newness of life.

The verses were so fitting that, when put together, they created one *beautiful*, glorious paragraph as if spoken directly by Jesus Himself.

Here is the "holy paragraph," a compilation of all ten eyelid-verses:

The Lord is in His holy temple. The Lord's throne is in heaven. His eyes behold. His eyelids test the sons of men.

He holds my eyelids open; I am so troubled that I cannot speak. I will not give sleep to my eyes or slumber to my eyelids until I find a place for the Lord, a dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob.

Do not lust. Do not be allured by temptation. Let my eyes look straight ahead and my eyelids look right before me. Give no sleep to my eyes nor slumber to my eyelids until I go and humble myself.

Leviathan's sneezes flash forth light; his eyes are like the eyelids of the morning. On my eyelids is the shadow of death. Let my face be flushed with weeping.

There is a generation that has lofty eyes and whose eyelids are lifted up. Make haste! Wail!

Let my eyes run with tears and your eyelids gush with water, because of our nation being plundered, ashamed, and dealt with because of its unfaithfulness to God.

That's it.

I could write another ten paragraphs on how obviously God got my attention by these truths, intimately connecting me to each one in a relevant and timely manner.

But this personal application is only half the story; it's the half that is still unfolding, being clarified, and is yet to take shape in a way I could succinctly articulate. My half of the story is still being developed and is in the process of being fully revealed. Even my eyes (or shall I say eyelids) still await complete healing.

May I propose that this half of the story could be yours as well? God loves to intertwine our lives together by His Word. We are all one Bride, one Body of Christ, and the Holy Spirit often speaks a similar word simultaneously to many of us. I pray these truths bless you as they have me.

> That said, the other half of the story seems crystal clear: These Scriptures hold a dual purpose, with application that is *both* personal *and* national. May they be yet one more wake-up call for the Church?

Our world-- all the nations-- are in a frightening place, and God is calling His children to intercede. Weep. Wail. *Prav!*

Then the Lord appeared to Solomon by night, and said to him: "I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice.

When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place.

1 Chronicles 7:12-15

I realize that 1 Chronicles 7:14 is an oft-quoted verse, and that's wonderful, but I'm not repeating it here because I've heard it a zillion times. In fact, I didn't think of it in light of this writing until I found it while searching the Bible for verses connecting prayer with rain.

Upon greater study, I found the entire chapter of 1 Chronicles 7 eerily parallel to our world right now. It also echoes several themes in this writing and is worth a deeper look, if you're so inclined. (Read 1 Chronicles 7 here.)

For now, though, I'll conclude with this:

The way the ten verses above apply to my personal life (and possibly yours) collides with how they apply to our nations. Check this out.

When I first read the eyelid verses, God exposed something, and I was terribly convicted: after I'd recovered from covid-19 six months ago, I'd made an unholy vow (read about unholy vows here). The headaches from covid had been so excruciating, that I'd rashly declared, "I'm never crying again." I purposed this in my heart because I can tend to get congested when I Cry, and congestion can trigger headaches. I'd had enough of that, yet I also knew better than to make such a proclamation. (Ecclesiastes 5:1-7) It was impulsive, self-protective, fear-based, immature, and...it accomplished its purpose: *I didn't cry for months*. I've since repented from the unholy vow, and it was due to the Word of God (those ten eyelid verses) shedding light on my sin.

"The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple." Psalm 119:130

In repentance, I returned to my prayer closet and this time, I **decided** to Weep. Then I **chose** to do it again. And again.

I've Shed tears during prayer countless times in the past, but now, during this fresh, new season, Crying is **intentional and consistent**. It doesn't always come easily-- I don't want to fake it, and frequently I'm not in the mood to Cry while praying, but somehow God squeezes at least one tear out of at least one eye almost every day as I meet with Him.

Guess what?

I can see that this experience is changing me.

Whether I'm interceding for our nation, for others, or for myself, the practice of **persistently**, **willfully Weeping** in prayer is doing something within me. It seems to be cultivating more compassion for and a deeper connection with God and others.

It's like praying raindrops. It's sacred precipitation that generates not only deeper empathy and meaning, but also, I believe, spiritual growth and fruit.

Maybe it's producing an increase of answered prayer, too. I guess we'll know about that when this story is finally complete.

"For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."

Isaiah 55:10-11

CHALLENGE

Do you **pray** with burden for the nations? Do you cry for them? Are you moved to **tears** by your personal need to resist lust and temptation?

but GOD is of Humanity may Let our faces b and let our eye	y and nationally, the "might of Leviathan" is massive, on the throne. be going through a time of testing, but <i>God is faithful.</i> be flushed with weeping, elids look right before us. Make haste! May we not sleep or slumber until we've osen to find a dwelling place for God where we may consistently, resolutely humble ourselves before Him. May we shed tears that fall like raindrops, producing a fresh, flourishing crop of growth in all areas of our lives and our nations.
	Eyelids are beautiful. So are tears. Would you like to see the Eyelid Verses and their references?
	Link: The 10 Verses About Eyelids
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