

# *He Will Wipe Away Every Tear*

*Oasis: A Self-Guided Prayer*

In this world it is easy to see the brokenness, despair and hunger; the darkness. We can open our news page and see first-hand the heartache that remains in this world. One might wonder, why. Why does the hatred seem to increase and the destruction remain intense? Yet, where is the relief from our pain?

Our hearts break at our own losses and at the losses of our friends, families, and even those we have never met. Our hearts yearn for a place unbroken and unbent, a place where sorrow has no say.

Revelation speaks to our heartache and our despair:

*Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away'. And He who was seated on the throne said, 'Behold, I am making all things new'...*

Revelation 21:1-5

This passage not only speaks to our future when all will be new, but to our present as well. This process of becoming new has already begun. We receive glimpses of hope, of someone miraculously healed of a physical ailment, or a relationship restored. We hear stories and experience times where finances are taken care of when we could see no respite in store. God is doing a new thing in our midst and the glimpses that we catch here on earth are reflections of our future to come. There will be no more sorrow, crying or pain. Can you imagine?

Our world is suffering; we are suffering. We need Hope and we need to be hope to our world.

There is a world map up front with stickers beside it. Take a look at the map and ask God to show you a place that needs hope. Begin praying for that country/state/city. Place a sticker on it. Do this as many times as you wish. Feel free to sit in the pews up front and continue praying for those places and stick more stickers on when you need.

Continue praying for this place throughout this week that God may shed Hope into their current circumstance.

Maybe there is a hopeless situation that is closer to home. Feel free to put a sticker on the map in representation of that circumstance as well.

God we offer up this time to you, that you will guide our hearts in prayer for your children. Shed light on the dark circumstances in our world that You might be the Hope of the world. Empower us to be Your Hope in the places that are closer to our homes. Remind us every day that You are doing a new thing in us, and that You are in the business of healing and restoring. Show us where You have begun Your good work in us. May You continue to bless and heal us. In Jesus' name, Amen.