Psalm 126   A Song of Ascents

[1] When the children of Israel were released from Babylon[1] and returned to Jerusalem, they said something like this:

> "Man, I can't believe it. After all these years we're actually free. At first we thought we were dreaming, but when the reality of the whole situation finally sank in, we jumped up and down, hugged each other, and laughed and laughed and laughed. [2] After that we shouted praises to the LORD and said in the hearing of the other nations,
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> > 'Jehovah God, You are the true God, the One who has done wonderful things for us. Through Your power You have caused the ruler of Babylon to release us as free men, and we are absolutely thrilled with the outcome. Listen to us, all of you non-Jewish nations, and seriously consider how our God delivered us. Isn't He great? [3] The LORD truly has done great things for us, and we are so grateful. In fact, we are virtually overflowing with joy and happiness.'"

[4] LORD, cause our good fortune to be full and running over, something like when a dry riverbed in the desert fills full of water[2] when the rains fall. [5] Those who are so burdened about the souls of men that they shed tears as they share the truth about salvation in Jesus Christ, the Messiah[3], will one day shout for joy when they see all the souls that have been brought into the kingdom of God by their testimony. [6] You see, the one who goes through life deeply burdened to tell folks about salvation by faith in Jesus Christ will, without fail, return with a flock of God's newborn sheep following him. Then he will shout for joy as he praises the LORD for all that He has done.

[1] Stevenson, Peter A., "Psalms." pg. 500
[2] Ibid, pg. 501
[3] For the sake of application, since Christ said in John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me," the name "Jesus Christ, the Messiah" has been used.