

# 1 Samuel 30:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then David and the people that were with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep.

## Analysis

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The description of collective grief, 'lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep,' expresses exhaustion through mourning. The Hebrew 'ad asher en bahem koach livekot' (until there was no strength in them to weep) captures the physical depletion of intense grief. David shares this mourning equally with his men, not standing apart as leader but participating in the community's devastation. Even future kings must grieve their losses fully.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern mourning was demonstrative and communal. Loud weeping, tearing clothes, and other physical expressions of grief were culturally expected responses to loss. The communal nature of this mourning reflects the shared trauma.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How do you process grief to the point of exhaustion?
2. What role does shared mourning play in processing collective trauma?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיִּשְׁאַל	אַתָּה	אֲשֶׁר	וַיַּעֲשֵׂה	מִן	לִפְנֵי	דָּוִד	וְאֶת	אֲתָּה	אֲשֶׁר	וְאֶת	אֲתָּה
<b>that were with him lifted up</b>	<b>Then David</b>	<b>and the people</b>					H834	H854	H853		
H5375	H1732	H5971									
קֹל מִן	בְּרִכְתָּה	אֵין	אָשֶׁר	עַד	לִבְקֹות	וְאֶת	כִּי	וְאֶת	כִּי	וְאֶת	כִּי
<b>their voice</b>	<b>and wept</b>		H5704	H834	H369	H0	<b>until they had no more power</b>		H3581		
H6963	H1058										
לִבְקֹות:											
<b>and wept</b>											
H1058											

## Additional Cross-References

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**Numbers 14:39** (Parallel theme): And Moses told these sayings unto all the children of Israel: and the people mourned greatly.

**Numbers 14:1** (Parallel theme): And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the people wept that night.