

Scripture
Psalm 13

Summary

This Psalm is about coming to God in the midst of great anguish and allowing the truth of who God is to lead you to praise in the midst of sorrow. Whilst we do not know the exact circumstance of the Psalm, what we do know is that the Psalm's author, David went through periods of great hardship. The Psalm teaches us that in the midst of our pain we should go to our covenant keeping God, rather than away from Him. Coming to God is real and we convey our pain to Him in honesty. David's honest prayers to God lead on to desperate prayers for God's

deliverance. As David does this he makes two bold requests: One that God would answer him and the other for God to lighten his eyes. He is asking for faith to see and understand God at work. This in turn leads to rejoicing prayer, as David realizes he can trust in God, which leads his heart to rejoicing and subsequent singing of God's praise.

Sermon in a sentence

No matter for how long or how deep our troubles seem to be, God is the only one we can turn to who can truly deliver us and lead us to unending praise.

Main Points

- I. Honest Prayer
- II. Desperate Prayer
 - a. Consider me and answer
 - b. Light up my eyes
- III. Rejoicing Prayer
 - a. Trusting in his heart
 - b. Rejoicing in his heart
 - c. Singing with his mouth

Other Scriptures:

1 Peter 5:7; 1 Sam 23:15-29; 1 Sam 30:1-6;
2 Sam 15; Isaiah 49:15; Psalm 19:8; Psalm
119:105; Hebrews 13:9

Questions

1. What are the 'How long O Lord' circumstances that you either find yourself in now, or have in the past? Share some of the struggles you have been through.
2. How do you consider God's attitude to be towards you in the midst of your troubles? Do you think He has abandoned you?
3. What is it about God's character that would lead you to go to him in difficulties rather than doubt him and turn away from him?
4. How are Davids prayers different from the prayers you tend to pray in your adversity?
5. What does it mean to pray for God to light up your eyes and how often do you pray that?
6. How firmly do you trust in Gods word and does that trust lead you to rejoice and sing?

Think On This

On the cross God truly hid his face from Jesus, who underwent true abandonment in order that we who trust in Him might never ever be forsaken. This should lead to unending praise!

RHC Core Values

Gospel-Centredness – To have the gospel in the centre of our ministry, and for everything we do to find its root in the gospel.

Experiential Faith – To actively seek the modern day work of the Holy Spirit, expecting him to move in our midst in signs and wonders, and to lead us to the will of God.

Theological Depth – To pursue a deep and soul satisfying knowledge and understanding of God through the Bible.

Community on Mission – To recognise that we are not here for ourselves, but are on a mission to bring the gospel to the world.

City Renewal – To see the gospel change every aspect of the city we are living in by doing social justice, integrating our faith and work, and seeing the city renewed culturally, socially and spiritually for the glory of God.