

Rhema Christian Center
Triumphant Tuesday
Bible Study
12/13/2022
Presenter:
Eddie Poindexter

77 PSALMS

I CRIED UNTO GOD

This psalm portrays a person in great trouble who cried unto God but could find no evidence that He was responding (vv.7-9).

Faithful believers sometimes find themselves in a similar situation. If so, they should do as this psalmist did: continue to call on God day and night (vv.1-2) while remembering God's past deeds of love.

In the fullness of God's revelation in His Son, we are reassured that "he... spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?"

(Rom.8:32)

The logic here is similar to (Rom.5:9-10): since God has done the difficult thing (sending His Son to die for us), we can depend on Him to

give us **ALL** other things, especially what is necessary to bring us to **Final Glory**.

Romans 5:9-11 Since now we have been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! 10.) For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life.

11.) Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Paul signals the importance of what he says here by saying it twice: God's initial work in justifying sinful people and reconciling them to himself shows that he will surely finish his work by saving those same people from his wrath at the time of his judgment.

Shall we be saved...shall we be saved.

Ultimate delivery from temptation, sin, and death, as is often found in Paul's letters.

Theme: We are comforted through the hard times by remembering God's help in the past. Recalling God's miracles and previous works can give us courage to continue

Author: Asaph

To the chief musician, to Jeduthun, A psalm of Asaph

The Psalmist finds himself in a reflective mode, meditating on God's mighty deeds and his triumphs over his enemies, which gives the psalmist confidence that God will answer him (in) the present crisis.

Asaph begins with a cry for help (vv.1-2), followed by introspection about the former days, leading him to question whether God has now forgotten his people (vv.3-9).

Then he remembers to reflect on God's mighty deeds from the past, when God delivered his people (vv. 10-15). The psalmist envisions God's triumph over mighty waters and the elements of nature (vv. 16-19) and recalls God's deliverance through his (servants) Moses and Aaron (v.20).

Vss. 1-2 KJV I cried unto God with my voice, even unto God with my voice, and he gave ear unto me. 2.) (NIV) When I was in distress, I sought the Lord; at night I stretched out untiring hands, and I would not be comforted.

The psalmist's distress keeps him up at night!

Asaph cried out to God for courage during a time of deep distress. His plea was. "I need help". As Asaph expressed his help to God, his focus changed from

thinking of himself to worshiping God: Thou art the God that doest wonders" (77:14).

As we pray to God, he lifts us from looking at ourselves to looking at him.

Asaph begins with a cry for help, followed by introspection about the former days, leading him to question whether God has now forgotten his people..

Vss. 3-6 (NIV) I remembered you, God, and I groaned; I meditated, and my spirit grew faint. 4.) You kept my eyes from closing; I was too troubled to speak. 5.) I thought about the former days, the years of long ago; 6.) I remembered my songs in the night. My heart meditated and my spirit asked:

Meditate:

Psalm (TPT) 1:1-2 What delight comes to the one who follows God's ways! ...

Vs.2 His passion is to remain true to the word of "I AM," meditating day and night on the true revelation of light.

To meditate on the revelation of light day and night means to meditate 24/7 on what is good and delightful.

Therefore, day signifies a period of enlightenment (Eph. 1:18) and night signifies a period of obscurity.

Both when we have the light of insight and when we seem to be in the dark, meditation is the key to unlock the revelation of God.

Vss. 7-9 “Will the Lord reject forever? Will he never show his favor again? 8.) Has his unfailing love vanished forever? Has his promise failed for all time? 9.) Has God forgotten to be merciful? Has he in anger withheld his compassion?”

Asaph asked six questions of God:

1. Will the Lord reject forever?
 - a. NO! He is faithful to his word. (Lam. 3:31-33)

2. Will he never show his favor again?
 - a. YES! (Ps. 30:5; Isa. 60:10)

3. Has his unfailing love vanished forever?
 - a. NO! (Jer. 31:3)

4. Has his promise failed for all time?
 - a. NO! (1 Kg.8:56)

5. Has God forgotten to be merciful?
 - a. NO! (Isa. 49:14-18)

6. Has he in anger withheld his compassion?
 - a. NO! (Lam 3:22-24)

It has been said that we should never doubt in the darkness what God has told us in the light, but Asaph was about to do so.

No matter what God's hand is doing in our lives,
His heart has not changed. HE STILL LOVES US AND
ALWAYS WILL!!!

Vss. 10-12 (KJV) "The Dawn of Decision"

10.) And I said, This is my infirmity: but I will remember the years of the right hand of the most High.

11.) I will remember the works of the Lord: surely I will remember thy wonders of old. 12.) I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings.

During the crisis experiences of life, there comes a time when we must, whether figurative or literally, grab ourselves by the collar and shake all of the pity out of us and view reality through the lens of the overcomer who we are in Christ Jesus!

All of Asaph's "I will" statements indicate that he had come to the place of decision and determination to abandon his former posture of doubt, and replace it with determination to see God's will be done.

He did this by meditating on what God had done for Israel in the past and learn from His deeds, what He was intending for His people.

Vss. 13-20 "The Day of Deliverance"

13.) Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God? 14.) Thou art the God that doest wonders: thou hast declared thy strength among the people. 15.) Thou hast with thy arm redeemed thy people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph. Selah.
16.) The waters saw thee, O God, the waters saw thee; they were afraid: the depths also were troubled. 17.) The clouds poured out water: the skies sent out a sound: thine arrows also went abroad. 18.) The voice of thy thunder was in the heaven: the lightnings lightened the world: the earth trembled and shook. 19.) Thy way is in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known. 20.) Thou leaddest thy people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Asaph didn't completely solve his problems, but he did move out of the shadows of doubt into the sunshine of communion with the Lord and confidence in Him.

First, he looked up by faith and rejoiced in the greatness of God (vv. 13-15). He realized that God's ways are always holy, that He is a great God, and that His purposes are always right

.

Then Asaph looked back to Israel's exodus from Egypt (Ex. 12-15) for proof of the grace and power of the Lord.

Would God have bared His mighty arm to redeem Israel only for their destruction? NO!

These are the brethren Joseph, who God sent to Egypt to preserve the nation. Why preserve them if He planned to destroy them?

As believers, we look back to Calvary, where the Lamb of God gave His life for us. If God the Father did not spare His own Son for us, will He not give us everything else that we need (Rom.8:32)?

There is a wonderful future for the people of God!

Finally, Ashap realized afresh that the Lord was the Shepherd of Israel (20). JUst as He called Moses and Aaron and David to lead His flock, so He would appoint other Shepherds in the years to come.

One day, the Good Shepherd would come and give His life for the sheep (John 10).

Ashap had some struggles during this difficult period in his life, but in the end, he knew he could trust the Lord to work out everything for good, and like an obedient sheep, he submitted to the Shepherd.

That is what we must do!

Reference:

NIV ZONDERVAN STUDY BIBLE

Warren Wiersbe: Psalms 1-89

The Passion Translation

The full Life Study Bible

Christ Centered Exposition: Psalms 51-100