

Sunday Night Message

September 23, 2012

Psalm 13 – “How Long”

Series – The Psalms

Text – Psalm 13

Introduction

In this Psalm, we once again see a familiar pattern. The Psalms starts out crying out in complaint to the Lord, but then concludes the Psalm with rejoicing over God’s goodness.

This is another Psalm of David. We do not know who the enemy is, but he is referred to in the singular tense. It could be Saul; or it could be Absalom; or it could be one of David’s other enemies.

I The Psalmist’s Protest of Despair (Vs. 1 – 2)

“How long wilt thou forget me, O LORD? for ever? how long wilt thou hide thy face from me?” - (Psalm 13:1)

“How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily? how long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?” - (Psalm 13:2)

Four - “How longs?” – discuss human nature – it is natural to grumble to God while going through a time of testing.

Remember:

It hasn’t always been bad.

It won’t always be bad.

It may be that God is trying to show you something.

It may be that God is trying to show through you.

II The Psalmist's Prayer for Deliverance (Vs. 3 - 4)

"Consider and hear me, O LORD my God: lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death;" - (Psalm 13:3)

"Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him; and those that trouble me rejoice when I am moved." - (Psalm 13:4)

David's prayer here was deliverance over a human enemy; but this same prayer can be applied and prayed regarding the spiritual realm. Our enemy is Satan, and we need God to deliver us from Him. We need to be enlightened (revived), so that we can move forward spiritually.

The Word of God enlightens the eyes:

"The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes." - (Psalm 19:8)

Turn to 1 Samuel 14:24 - 30

III The Psalmist's Praise of Delight (Vs. 5 - 6)

"But I have trusted in thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice in thy salvation." - (Psalm 13:5)

"I will sing unto the LORD, because he hath dealt bountifully with me." - (Psalm 13:6)

Problems taken to the Lord in prayer will lead to solutions, as well as assurance; and solutions and assurance will lead you to praise.