

## **PSALM 42 – Yearning for God in the Midst of Distresses!**

4/30/22 – Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com)

### **AS THE DEER** – Nystrom, *The Maranatha! Singers* (4:09)

As the deer panteth for the water So my soul longeth after Thee  
You alone are my heart's desire And I long to worship Thee  
You alone are my strength, my shield To You alone may my spirit yield  
You alone are my heart's desire And I long to worship Thee  
As the deer panteth for the water So my soul longeth after Thee  
You alone are my heart's desire And I long to worship Thee  
You alone are my strength, my shield To You alone may my spirit yield  
You alone are my heart's desire And I long to worship Thee  
You're my friend And You are my brother  
Even though You are a King I love You more than any other  
So much more than anything You alone are my strength, my shield  
To You alone may my spirit yield You alone are my heart's desire  
And I long to worship Thee

**Psalm 42** begins the second book of the Psalms. This Psalm is a beautiful expression of the appreciation for church, for the assembling together of the saints. It is a great one for promoting that within our hearts. The Psalmist is in a very difficult trial, coming out of a difficult season in the life of a worshipper of God. In verse six, he says he is very far away from home, far away from the temple in Jerusalem. In verse seven, he tells us of the circumstance that he is in. They are like waves that buffet him! Like he is being swept away by life. He is not able to stay on top of everything that is happening. The imagery of the language is like a sailor on the deck of a ship in a great storm. It's all he can do is to keep his head above the water. He feels completely overwhelmed by life! Additionally in verse nine, we see he feels completely forgotten by God. It is never a good time to feel that God has forgotten us, but it is especially bad when one is in these kind of circumstances. Then in verse ten, we're told that all of his enemies are reproaching him, saying things that are causing great personal pain in his life. It's like the breaking of bones.

### ***PSALM 42 - Why Are You Cast Down, O My Soul?***

***Psa 42:1 To the Chief Musician. A Contemplation of the Sons of Korah. As the deer pants for the water brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God.***

***Psa 42:2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?***

- On the last day the great day of the feast, John seven thirty-seven, Jesus stood and cried saying, "If any man thirst let him come unto me and drink". The Feast of the Tabernacles was held in the seventh month of the Jewish calendar which is equivalent to the tenth month of our calendar. The Feast of the Tabernacles was a commemorative feast, as they all were. It commemorated the forty years of wilderness wandering by their fathers, being miraculously preserved by God.
- There are the Bible critics today that try to discount the forty years of the wandering of the children of Israel in the wilderness the numbers that are declared in the Bible. According to the Bible, the total number would be approximately a million and a half people. They try to discredit that because it would be an impossibility for a million and a half people to survive in the wilderness for forty years. That's right. It would take a miracle for them to survive. That's right, but if you don't believe in God you have a real problem; if you believe in God you have no problem. So, the Bible tells us how God fed them with manna which was on the ground each morning and how God brought them water out of the rock when they were thirsty. It was God who preserved them, it was a miracle, a miracle of God's preservation. Thus, the Feast of Tabernacles was to commemorate that miracle in their history; God preserving them for the forty years of wandering in the wilderness.
- It is also called the Feast of Succoth or Booths because this is the feast where the Jews built their little booths beside their houses. They move out of their houses, and they live in these little thatched booths for a week's period during the feast to remind them how their fathers slept under the stars and slept in the open in the wilderness, slept in these temporary tents or little lean-to shacks that they would build.
- There in Jerusalem on the temple mount, hundreds of thousands of Jews would gather for these feasts. The priests each day of the eight-day feast would make a procession down the many steps from the temple mount to the Pool of Siloam, which is in the Kidron Valley down Mount Ophel from the temple mount

area. They would come up the steps with these large water jugs on their shoulders that were filled with water from the Pool of Siloam.

- As they would come through the gates and into the temple mount area, the big pavement steps of the temple mount, they would take these jugs of water and pour them out on these great steps or on these great stones. As the water would splash the people would sing the Psalms and they would remember how God gave them water out of the rock to their fathers so that they did not perish in the wilderness. A very moving experience and a memorable experience. The whole idea was to remind them of God's miracles in the preserving of their fathers.
- Now in the last day, the eighth day of the feast, there was no procession to the pool nor pouring out of water which was to acknowledge the fact that God had kept his promise. The forty years of wandering in the wilderness was over. They are now dwelling in the land God has promised to Abraham and to his descendants forever. Thus, dwelling in the land that was well watered filled with milk and honey, they no longer needed the miraculous supply of water out of the rock. Thus, on that eighth day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood, and he cried to the multitude of people that were there worshiping, "If any man thirst, let him come to me and drink." Jesus was not talking about the physical or emotional thirst but the spiritual thirst of man for God.
- Man is a threefold being of body, soul and spirit. The body of man has certain needs, our biological drives. The second strongest is the thirst drive. A very powerful drive because your body needs moisture to exist. Without the moisture, your body dehydrates. We know what it is to be extremely thirsty from a physical standpoint as our body is dehydrating but Jesus wasn't talking about physical thirst.
- We have certain emotional needs. We need security, we need love, we need to be needed, we need to be noticed, Jesus wasn't talking about those sociological thirsts. Down deep in the spirit of every man there is a need for a meaningful relationship with God. David was talking about that here, "My soul thirsts for God, for the living God: As my soul pants after thee O God". David was expressing a universal thirst that is in every man, that thirst for a meaningful relationship with God.
- We try to supplement it, we try to substitute, and we try to fill that thirst with many things, but they don't satisfy.
- David is expressing that same thirst that is in every man; a thirst for a meaningful relationship with God. You may hide it behind a mask, behind a "I've got it made, I can handle myself macho kind of a thing" but way down deep there is a yearning for God. "My soul thirsteth after the O God, as the deer pants" Beautiful words of David, how expressive of that experience that we've all had in our quest and in our thirst after God.

***Psa 42:3 My tears have been my food day and night, While they continually say to me, "Where is your God?"***

- That's a familiar taunt that is tossed by those who are upset because of your trust in the Lord. They know that your trusting in the Lord and when something goes wrong they love to taunt you saying, "Where is your God now?" So, with David, as things were going wrong, the enemies were taunting him saying, "Where is your God now?" and David says< "My tears have been my meat day and night, while they are saying continually to me, Where is your God?"

***Psa 42:4 When I remember these things, I pour out my soul within me. For I used to go with the multitude; I went with them to the house of God, With the voice of joy and praise, With a multitude that kept a pilgrim feast.***

- David was in one of those calamities again and things were going tough, and he could remember those glorious days. Those days when he went into the house to worship God with the multitude of people, the joy, the gladness that they were experiencing as they saw the power of God in their midst. Now David is going through some real turmoil and the enemies are pounding him saying, "Where is your God?" Inside, he found himself thirsting after God like a deer panting after the water brook. He had lost that consciousness of God. Sin always has that disastrous effect of causing you to lose that consciousness from God, feeling distant from God. So, David spoke to himself.

***Psa 42:5 Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him For the help of His countenance.***

- There are scriptures where it declares that David encouraged himself in the Lord. This is one of those places where David was encouraging himself in the Lord and he did it by talking to himself, putting things in perspective. He said to himself why are you cast down? What's your problem? Why are you disquieted. Why are you so upset man? He then gave his own solution. Put your hope in God for He will help, you will yet praise him for the help of his countenance. Put your hope in God, He's going to help you.
- The way some people act you would think that God was dead. They're cast down, they're upset, they're disquieted and every time you see them there is turmoil, there's anxiety, there's strife, they've lost perspective; hope in God.

***Psa 42:6 O my God, my soul is cast down within me; Therefore I will remember You from the land of the Jordan, And from the heights of Hermon, From the Hill Mizar.***

- From the depths of my being, I am calling out to you. This depth from my innermost calls out for God.

***Psa 42:7 Deep calls unto deep at the noise of Your waterfalls; All Your waves and billows have gone over me.***

- I am drowning in the experience. I am going down.

***Psa 42:8 The LORD will command His lovingkindness in the daytime, And in the night His song shall be with me—A prayer to the God of my life.***

- How glorious it is when in the midst of our misery and sorrow and problems that in the night season, when things usually get more bleak, God sends a song within our hearts, a song of deliverance. It's glorious! Daytime there always seems to be hope, the light daylight and so forth but night when you're going through misery it seems so dark and oppressive.

***Psa 42:9 I will say to God my Rock, "Why have You forgotten me? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?"***

***Psa 42:10 As with a breaking of my bones, My enemies reproach me, While they say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"***

- This taunt, David was facing it all the time and it bothered him. It made him feel discouraged and defeated. Why are you cast down oh my soul? Why are you disquieted within me? Then commanding "hope thou in God for I shall yet praise him who is the help of my countenance and my God". I know that God shall deliver me.

***Psa 42:11 Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; For I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God.***

- A beautiful Psalm! It is a great Psalm to turn to when our souls are cast down. Every child of God hits that one time or another. We see our hope is indeed, in God! "For I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God!"

**"CORNERSTONE"** (My Hope is Built on Nothing Less) Hillsong (3:28)

***Psa 42:11 Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God;***

**My hope** is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness I dare not trust the sweetest frame But wholly trust in Jesus' name (2X)

Christ alone; cornerstone Weak made strong in the Savior's love. Through the storm, He is Lord, Lord of all! When Darkness seems to hide His face I rest on His unchanging grace In every high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil.

Christ alone; cornerstone Weak made strong in the Savior's love Through the storm, He is Lord, Lord of all! He is Lord! Lord of all!

Christ alone; cornerstone Weak made strong in the Savior's love Through the storm, He is Lord! Lord of all! Lord of all!!

**FOR OUR NATION'S LEADERS: PRAY FOR CALIFORNIA: PRAY FOR WORLD LEADERS: -**

**Pray for World Leaders, especially their salvation, including: Xi Jinping – China; Narendra Modi- India; Joe Biden – USA; Joko Widodo - Indonesia; Jair Bolsonaro - Brazil; Arif Alvi - Pakistan; Muhammadu Buhari - Nigeria; Hasina Wazed - Bangladesh; Vladimir Putin- Russia; Lopez Obrador – Mexico; Naftali Bennett – Israel; Olaf Scholtz – Germany; Boris Johnson – U.K.; Kim Jong-un – North Korea; Yoon Suk Yeol– South Korea.**

**PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH/PERSECUTED CHURCH; SCHOOLS; POLICE OFFICERS/MILITARY; ISRAEL:**