

PSALM 43 – Prayer to God in Time of Trouble!

5/7/22 – Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com www.ptwente.com

PSALM 5! – Terry Clark (4:04)

Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my meditation.

Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray.

My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee and will look up. (3x)

Psalm 43 continues the same style of poetry of **Psalm 42**. David complains of his enemies and asks the privilege of communion with God as his surest deliverance from them. The Psalmist cries to God in prayer, verses 1-3. Promises praise in the anticipation of an answer, verse four, and childes himself for his despondency in verse five.

PSALM 43 - Send Out Your Light and Your Truth

Psa 43:1 Vindicate (judge, pronounce sentence) me, O God, And plead my cause against an ungodly nation; Oh, deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man!

- David here again is calling out for righteous judgement from God. That God would plead his righteous cause against an ungodly nation. It is sad to see a nation come under the influence of evil. It seems like the voice of evil cries loudly. I think of the evil causes that are espoused by the ACLU and how they stand for just about everything that I am against. It seems like those that are involved in litigation in the ACLU are determined to destroy anything that is pure, holy or good. In the name of freedom, they have brought our nation into the worst kind of bondage and slavery, the bondage to the flesh. Yet it seems like they triumph in almost every court case as they present their liberal causes to the liberal judges. The legislature is not really the law-making body of our nation always but many times it is the interpretation of the courts that establishes the law of land rather than the legislative processes. David is facing that kind of a situation, he is asking God to work and plead his case against this ungodly nation. Lord, You take up the cause.

Psa 43:2 For You are the God of my strength; Why do You cast me off? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?

- *For you are the God of my strength:* David declares. He recognizes his own weakness, he is relying upon the strength of the Lord. That **is an extremely important thing for us**, to recognize our limitations and our weaknesses in order that we might put our trust in God. He is our strength. Then David asks a question.
- *Why do You cast me off? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?* God why aren't You working? Why don't You defeat these forces? Lord, why is it that it seems like the righteous cause is suffering and the ungodly cause is prospering? Why Lord do You cast me off? Why am I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?

Psa 43:3 Oh, send out Your light and Your truth! Let them lead me; Let them bring me to Your holy hill And to Your tabernacle.

- *Oh, send out Your light and Your truth! Let them lead me;* A tremendous prayer of David here. "Send out Your light and Your truth. Let them lead me Lord that I might walk in God's light, that I might walk in His truth." He wants God to lead him to the holy hill, to the tabernacle of God.
- *Let them bring me to Your holy hill And to Your tabernacle.* Lead them to the house of God, the place of God. The tabernacle, in the Old Testament, was called the tent of meeting. It was the place where the people gathered to meet God. This is a building of meeting. We gather here to meet God. There are those who call this the house of God. I sort of object to that term in that this is no more the house of God than anyplace else. God dwells and fills the universe!

- I think that is wrong for us in our minds to seek to localize God as to a place. It is a part of our innate idolatry I think to sort of hold in reverence a place or spot where at one time God met me there in a wonderful way. If you have such a place, you have a special feeling towards that place because of some experience that you have with God there and you find yourself going back to that place, it is sort of a sad commentary on your current spiritual condition. It means that you lost that consciousness of God, that sense of His presence that you once had, and you are trying to recapture it by going back to that place where God moved in your life on a particular occasion.
- Yes, God dwells here but God dwells outside, in your home, in the universe and sometimes we think that as we come in now we have to act differently. I cannot laugh because I am in the house of God, and I have to change my behavior because I suddenly come into the presence of God. That is not good. I need to realize that as I go out of here I am in the presence of God, as I am driving home I am in the presence of God. “Where can I flee from Your presence O Lord? If I ascend into heaven You are there, if I descend into hell You are there. If I take the wings of the morning and flee to the uttermost parts of sea even there You encircle me, You surround me. We need to have the consciousness of the presence of God whenever and wherever we are and not in one place more than in another. Living in the conscience presence of God is so vital to our holiness and to our Christian walk. The place where we meet God, the place where we gather to worship God.

Psa 43:4 Then I will go to the altar of God, To God my exceeding joy; And on the harp I will praise You, O God, my God.

- *Then will I go to the altar of God, To God my exceeding joy:* I love this way by which David expresses to God that He is David’s exceeding joy! A joy of David’s life, that relationship with God.
- *And on the harp will I praise You, O god my God.*

Psa 43:5 Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; For I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God.

- *Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me?* In the modern language you would say, “Why am I so depressed? Why am I filled with such anxiety?” We are depressed often when we feel trapped. We are under pressure. Living in this society, there are pressures of many sorts in a personal relationship, financial pressures, spiritual pressures. When we are in a situation where we are overwhelmed, we cannot see any way out, we are uncomfortable with what is going on, but we cannot see any changes or any possibility for changes, it leads to depression, it leads to anxiety.
- To David it seemed like God was not working. He was mourning because of his enemies who were oppressing him. It seemed like God was not answering his prayer, that God had forgotten him, had cast him off. Thus, he was cast down, he was depressed. He was filled with anxiety. David, talking to himself and asking himself the question, “Why are you cast down? Why are you disquieted?” he gave to himself the solution.
- *Hope in God!* The reason why I am depressed and cast down is that I lost sight of God. God has been removed out of the equation. I am trying to figure out the answer apart from God, I am trying to find the solution, and I have not put God in the equation and thus I am trying with my strength, with my ability, to somehow cope with this situation. It is beyond me, I cannot do it. Therefore, I get depressed, I get upset, I get filled with anxiety. The answer to that is to come back and put God in, factor God into the equation; “Hope in God.” When you put God back into the situation then suddenly it is not impossible anymore. Suddenly you see the solution. “Hope in God” and your soul quieted, you are encouraged, you are strengthened because you know that God is on the throne and that God is going to take care of it. As God is factored in, as David said what happens?
- *For I shall yet praise Him,* The moment I factored God into the situation. I know now that I am going to come out victorious and I am going to come out praising God. I do not know yet how He is going to do it, I do not how He is going to work, I do not know what solution He is going to

bring to the situation, but I know that He is. I know that it is going to be good, and I know that it is going to be rejoicing my soul and I shall yet praise Him. So, factor God in and it turns your depression into praise! It turns your fear into hope! **Hope in God; For I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God.**

I WILL PRAISE HIM! Margaret J. Harris, Bill & Gloria Gaither (4:23)

Psa 43:5 Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; For I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God.

*When I saw the cleansing fountain Open wide for all my sin,
I obeyed the Spirit's wooing, When He said, "Wilt thou be clean?"*

*Refrain - I will praise Him! I will praise Him! Praise the Lamb for sinners slain;
Give Him glory, all ye people, For His blood can wash away each stain.*

*Though the way seems straight and narrow, All I claimed was swept away;
My ambitions, plans and wishes, At my feet in ashes lay. (Refrain)*

*Blessed be the Name of Jesus! I'm so glad He took me in;
He's forgiven my transgressions, He has cleansed my heart from sin. (Refrain)
For His blood can wash away each stain.*

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

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