

Psalm 62

- Like Psalm 61, Psalms 62-64 are thought to have been written in connection to when David departed from Jerusalem, fleeing from his rebellious son Absalom.
-

V: 1 David is looking to God, to God only for his salvation. Learning to wait on the Lord, learning to be still before Him, that singleness of mind and purpose that we would have no other, knowing there is no other - all our hope is in Him!

Psalm 46:10 “Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.”

- It is an important lesson for us to learn, to wait on the Lord, probably the most difficult lesson to learn at the same time - but David is there. His soul / heart is waiting on the Lord in this time of incredible difficulty.
- Lord help us to learn that same lesson, and to apply it.

V: 2 “**He only...**” no other.

Isaiah 45:5 “I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside Me:..”

- ¹Truly, only ^{2,4,5,6}, Surely⁹ All the same Hebrew word: “ak” surely, truly, only.
- David is endeavouring to communicate his faith is in God alone, not God + anything.
- He is my “Rock” - my stability, my standard, my foundation. (Metaphor)

Deuteronomy 32:4 Moses introduces God as “He is the Rock...”

V: **32:18** “The Rock that begat thee...” “... that formed thee.”

V: **32:31** “For their rock is not as our Rock,...” they are different, our Rock delivers!

- Nebuchadnezzar had that dream of the future world governments in the form of a statue. Daniel gave him the interpretation, He Nebuchadnezzar was the head of gold, given the preeminence, next was the arms and chest of silver, the Persians and the Medes, then the middle of brass, the Grecian empire, after that the legs of Iron, representing the Roman empire, the strength of steel, two pillars, two capitals - then finally the one empire that has yet to rise up, the feet of iron mixed with clay - the revived Roman empire, not as strong as before - the European union with it's 10 weak toes.

- Nebuchadnezzar's dream goes on to describe the destruction of this prophetic image:

Daniel 2:45 "Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold;..."

The NT helps us to interpret this just in case we're missing it:

1 Corinthians 10:4 "... for that Rock was Christ."

- He is my "Salvation" - my life, my existence.
- "... my defense.." "My fortress, my high tower, my stronghold.

"... I shall not be greatly moved."

- No attack from the enemy will be successful, no tactic, no method, no weapon will work.

Isaiah 54:17 "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper;..."

V: 3-4 Speaking of his enemies: how long are you going to continue this impossible battle? It will be the end of you, this will only end in your death.

- Like a bowing wall or a tottering fence, you can see it coming, it eventually falls.

Genesis 6:5 "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thought of his heart was only evil continually."

- They delight in lies; they are deceptive - they bless with their mouth, they say nice things, but inwardly they are cursing.

V: 5-6 Repeating the same sentiment from verses 1 & 2: "I'm waiting on, I'm counting on you Lord - none else.

- It's almost as if he's commanding himself; "self, here's what we're gonna do..."

Psalms 42:5 "Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why art thou disquieted within me? Hope in God: for I shall yet praise Him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God."

- David commands his soul - "wait on the Lord," in other words "don't take things into your own hands.
- "5... for my expectation is from Him." My expectation, my deliverance, my help is from Him.

- All of this resulting in the same declaration: "... I shall not be moved," as opposed in V: 2 to not being "greatly moved."
- David's resolve has increased, he is more determined, his faith is stronger - he won't be moved.

V: 7-8 David declares in this one verse that God is his salvation, his glory, his rock, his strength, and his refuge.

- ⁸He is our all in all as well! David encourages those around him to trust in the Lord as well.
- David encourages us to "pour out our hearts before Him..." being willing to be absolutely honest with God, crying out in a deeper more profound, perhaps even in a more desperate way at times.

Just like David said previously:

Psalm 61:1 "¹Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer. ²From the ends of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the Rock that is higher than I."

- ⁸No doubt the people around him needed encouragement. They were fleeing with David, tying their own fate to his - God is not just a refuge for me, but for us, all of us.

V: 9 Men of low degree are useless, men of high degree are simply an illusion; none can help, save God Himself.

Psalm 39:5b "... verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity."

- David is describing the frailty and weakness of man:

James 4:14 "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

- Our lives are just a wisp of time, then we're gone.

Psalm 118:8 "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man."

V: 10 David is describing his enemies who have oppressed him, and robbed him of his kingdom - their actions are not legitimate or lawful, God will deal with that.

- David then gives a bit of practical advice: "... if riches increase, set not your heart upon them." As his adversaries are coming into the kingdom, taking the spoils, the riches - don't let them get ahold of you.

1 Timothy 6:9-10 “⁹But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. ¹⁰For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”

- Absalom probably had many things that motivated him to steal the kingdom from his father, power and wealth were no doubt among them.

2 Samuel 18:15 “Then said Joab, I may not tarry thus with thee. And he took three darts in his hand, and thrust them through the heart of Absalom, while he was yet alive in the midst of the oak.”

- Absalom ended up being pierced through with many sorrows.

V: 11 “God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this...” this is part of the poetry, a Hebrew expression - kind of like “If I’ve told you once, and told you twice, I’ve told you a million times...” I’ve told you many times.

- David is acknowledging what Jesus would later describe:

Matthew 28:18 “... All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth.”

- For His is the kingdom, the power, and the glory! For ever and ever amen!

V: 12 God owns mercy, He is mercy:

Exodus 34:6 “And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, the Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth...”

- The first adjective God uses to describe Himself is “merciful...”

Psalms 107:1 “O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good: for His mercy endureth for ever.”

- He does render to each man his reward according to his work: (Messianic prophesy)

Deuteronomy 32:41 “If I whet My glittering sword, and mine hand take hold on judgment; I will render vengeance to mine enemies, and will reward them that hate me.”

Matthew 16:27 “For the Son of man shall come in the glory of His Father with His angels; and then He shall reward every man according to his works.”

Psalm 63

V: 1 That affirming declaration - Thou art my God! This speaks of relationship.

- Because they have that relationship the next step is fellowship, or communion: Early will I seek Thee. We can't have that fellowship without the relationship.
- Same thing for prayer, without a proper relationship prayer is meaningless unless it is to establish that relationship.
- There is something to be said for seeking Him early, giving him the first fruits, the best time, in the quietness of the morning.

Proverbs 8:17 "I love them that love Me; and those that seek Me early shall find Me."

Speaking of mana, the bread from heaven:

Exodus 16:21 "And they gathered it ever morning, every man according to his eating: and when the sun waxed hot, it melted."

- We too need to have that time with the Lord early on, before the day waxes hot and is upon us.
- His soul & spirit are yearning for that closeness to God.

Psalm 42:1-2 "1As the deer panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. 2My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God:..."

Jesus said:

Matthew 5:6 "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled."

- David is longing for more of the Lord in a land, the earthly land that cannot provide that which we long for. We're not going to find it in the flesh; we're only going to find that satisfaction, that quenching of that spiritual thirst in our relationship with Him.

John 7:37 "... If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink."

- People so often look to other things, worldly things in an attempt to satisfy a spiritual thirst.

The prophets have warned us:

Amos 8:11 “Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord.”

Jeremiah 2:13 “For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken Me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.”

- Like David, as Jesus instructed our prayer should be - “Lord, give me a hunger and a thirst for your word, give me a desire, then fulfill it Lord.”

V: 2 David declares that he wants to see another glimpse of the glory of God, like he’s seen in the sanctuary.

- The experience, the presence of God is addictive, once we’ve experienced it we want more - but it comes at a price.

David wanted what Moses wanted:

Exodus 33:11 “And the Lord spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend.”

Exodus 33:18-20 “¹⁸And he (Moses) said, I beseech thee, shew me Thy glory.
¹⁹And He said, I will make all My goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy. ²⁰And He said, thou canst not see My face: for there shall no man see Me, and live.”

- As we like David, like Moses ask God to reveal Himself to us more and more, because we want to see His power, we want to see His glory we shouldn’t be surprised that as He answers that prayer in the affirmative we begin to die, our life starts falling apart in some ways - we start to go through it - yet in the process we see Him in His glory

Galatians 2:20 “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God who loved me, and gave Himself for me.”

- The presence of God isn’t tied to just one place, yet so often we associate the presence of God, in a nostalgic sense, with a particular place.

V: 3-4 There is nothing better than His lovingkindness, nothing better than that abiding relationship with Him! That’s the true life!

John 1:4 “In him was life; and the life was the light of men.”

John 10:10 “I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”

- As a result, because of these things I will praise you with my lips, I will raise / lift up my hands - the raising of the hands is a form of worship for the hebrews, it also looks a lot like surrender, perhaps reaching out to God - mash it all together and it's simply a response to Him revealing Himself to us.

V: 5-6 “*My soul shall be satisfied...*” We will only be satisfied and content in this life when we are in a right relationship with God - everything else falls short, leaves us wanting.

1 Timothy 6:6 “But Godliness with contentment is great gain.”

- When we praise God and worship Him, it is simply a response to His love to us.
- Marrow and fatness brings the image of the sacrifices; they would take the fat and burn it upon the altar, then a portion of the meat would be roasted and given back to the worshippers. The fat being burned upon the altar was a sweet smelling savour unto God, and oh did it smell good!
- ⁶Going to bed at night, waking up in the morning, thinking about God, grateful to Him, rejoicing in Him, considering, meditating in His Word.

V: 7 The bible uses this figure of speech many times: the shelter, the comfort, and protection of being under the shadow of His wings:

Jesus lamented:

Matthew 23:37 “Oh Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!”

- Being overshadowed by God:

Psalm 91:1 “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.”

V: 8 David is a God seeker, I like that. To me that is the heart of a disciple, not willing just to sit back and be kind of a passive Christian, but pressing forward, pursuing a deeper relationship with God.

Philippians 3:13-14 “¹³Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, ¹⁴I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in christ Jesus.”

V: 8b David knows that it is God that sustains him, that keeps him.

V: 9-10 Those that are trying to kill me, they are doing so against the declared will of God, they will die and go to hell.

- They will fall in battle, they won't be honored with a decent burial, their bodies will be consumed by the animals of the field.

V: 11 But - contrast: the King / David will rejoice in God - David is confident.

- David is speaking about those who have been lying about him: God will stop their mouths, God will silence them. "Dead men tell no tails..."
- God will be his defense, God will take care of them.

Romans 12:19 "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

- David rested in God, knowing that He had things well in hand.

Psalms 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

- This Psalm started with a relationship and it ends that way, David trusting in the Lord.