

Notes

WAITING ON GOD

Dublin Baptist Church April 24, 2022

Psalm 130

“Out of the depths I cry to You, O LORD! O Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy! If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities; O Lord, who could stand? But with You there is forgiveness that you may be feared. I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I hope; My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, mor than watchmen for the morning. O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with Him is plentiful redemption. And He will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.”

What do you do when the bottom falls out of life?

The Significance Of Suffering

There is the physical pain of suffering and the emotional pain of suffering.

When we hurt there is the mental pain of suffering.

When we hurt there is the spiritual pain of suffering.

This psalm sets the anguish out in the open for all to see. It does not try to hide it in a closet. It does not treat it as a problem to solve

This psalm teaches us to respond to pain and suffering as a reality of life.

This psalm also does not make a religious out of suffering.

This psalm addresses pain and suffering through prayer.

Eight times Lord is mentioned in this psalm.

- To the Lord we cry
- The Lord hears our cries
- The Lord marks our iniquities
- The Lord forgives
- It on the Lord we wait
- The Lord is our hope
- The Lord loves us with an enduring or steadfast love

“The Son of God suffered unto death, not that men might not suffer, but that their suffering might be like His”

George MacDonald

The Worth of Waiting

The central part of the psalm are verses 5-6. We cry out to the Lord in our pain, we know He hears, but we must wait on His word or action.

Waiting is hard work. The Psalmist helps us by reminding us of why we wait.

First, know that God hears your prayer, especially your prayer in pain

Second, know that God is a forgiving God. If God kept a record of our wrongs, who could approach Him? Because God forgives us, we can come to Him with out pains.

Thirdly, know that in God there is hope and love. This is what we long for, what God can give, and so we wait for it.

The image of a watchman waiting on dawn is repeated twice here.

A watchman walks the wall or the perimeter of the city. He watches for any danger that might come under cover of the night. His duties are done mostly in solitude, under darkness, and with little fanfare.

Even when the watchman sounds an alarm, there is little he can do to change it. He can only make others aware.

The watchman waits for dawn. At daybreak his job is over. But because of his job, every other job in the village can operate.

The watchman’s job is not to run other businesses or to dictate what they do.

We wait and let God do what He does. But what does God do exactly?

“But those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles. They shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.”

Isaiah 40:30

The Restoration of Redemption

God is the author of redemption. Twice in these verses the Psalmist points out the redemptive work of God in our lives.

The work of redemption is done in a culture of love and hope.

When you first suffer, you get sympathy. Next you get advice. Then you get abandoned.

God never abandons you, He continues to love you. Knowing that He is at work in terms of redemption brings us hope.

This psalm points out that the difference is not what you suffer, but how you suffer.

Know God hears you

Know God forgives you

Know that He loves you

Find hope in the redemptive process.

He is working.

If you know those things, you can wait. Dawn will come, and with it a new day.