



1/26/26

Who knew that we'd get to learn about dinosaurs in church! I have loved this series from Genesis. It's shown me so much of God's sovereignty and His incredible mind. I've loved how we have been able to see how we can be pro Bible and pro science at the same time. Truly God is Lord over science. He knows what He's doing!!! I don't know about you, but that gives me a lot of security. I hope it does for you, too.

*Blessings,
Jonna*

Psalm 5

Through Noah, God put a plan into motion that the descendants of Canaan would someday bow and serve the descendants of Shem and Japheth. But as in so many cases, God's timing is very different than mine. His timing could cover hundreds and thousands of years. That means that a follower of the Lord will be affected by the evil of an enemy of the Lord. So what do I do with that? Psalm 5 gives me a clear answer.

Vs. 1-3 ~ Take my struggles to the Lord...

"Give ear to my words, O LORD Yahweh; consider my groaning. Give attention to the sound of my cry, my King and my God, for to You do I pray."

If I'm asking Him to give ear to my words, that means I need to speak up. If I'm asking Him to consider my groaning, that means I have reason to groan. If I'm asking Him to give attention to my cry, that means I need to actually cry out and pray. He WILL listen. He WILL consider and understand. He WILL give attention. Why? He is Yahweh, personally invested in my life. He is my King, the one in charge and in control. He is my God, Elohim, all powerful one. That's why I CAN and WANT TO cry out to Him. He has the power to do something about it and the compassion that says He will.

"O LORD Yahweh, in the morning You hear my voice; in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for

You and watch."

In the morning... the Lord won't be my last resort. He will be the first place I go. I will literally speak up and offer Him my prayers. The Hebrew word for "sacrifice" means I "direct" my prayers to the Lord and watch... I watch to see how He will answer me, because He WILL answer me.

O Lord, please help me not to hold back, but to bring to You my words, or when I have no words... let me bring to You my groaning, and my cries and my prayers. Let me offer to You whatever is in my heart and watch to see Your faithful answer. Help me not to give You my last word, but my first. No one else has the power to answer like You do. No one else cares like You do. No one else has the wisdom to know the best answer like You do. Let me run to You.

Vs. 4-6 ~ I take my struggles to You, Lord, because You are the one who stops evil from taking over.

"For You are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with You. The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes; You hate all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man."

Lord, You don't delight in wickedness... You're not good with it. Just because You allow wickedness for a time, it doesn't mean You celebrate it. If You aren't putting a stop to wickedness, I can know that the story isn't over.

No matter what anyone says, even if a person claims to be a Christian, You look at the heart. And if the heart is filled with evil choices and desires, that person does not and cannot abide with You. Let me not be deceived... and let me not get caught in that trap.

You hate arrogance. The boastful, or arrogant, person cannot stand in Your presence. You oppose the proud. You say in Proverbs 16:5, "Everyone who is arrogant in heart is an abomination to the LORD. Be assured, he will not go unpunished."

You stand against those who stand against You. Those who stand against You are not just indifferent, but they are hostile to You, and You are hostile to them. It will not go well for them in the end.

You destroy liars. Satan is a liar. You will destroy him and You will destroy all the liars and deceivers along with him. Psalm 63:11 says, "For the mouths of liars WILL be stopped." Let me not stand with those who deceive, and let me not deceive my own heart or others.

You abhor the bloodthirsty and deceitful man. No matter what they say, You stand against them.

You stand against wickedness, evil, arrogant, deceiving, lying, bloodthirsty, and false people. If

they seem to be doing well, just wait. Their end is coming. Let me never think Your patience means You're good with what they're doing. You WILL put an end to them.

Vs. 7-8 ~ Where should my focus be in the midst of all the wicked that continues to go on? Focus on the Lord and His steadfast love.

"But I, through the abundance of Your steadfast love, will enter Your house. I will bow down toward Your holy temple in the fear of You. Lead me, O Lord, in Your righteousness because of my enemies; make Your way straight before me."

In the midst of all the wickedness, instead of focusing on the evil, I need to focus on the Lord. In these two verses, I see a reference to the enemy only once. But these two verses refer to the Lord seven times... Your steadfast love, Your house, Your holy temple, fear (worship) of You, O Lord, Your righteousness, Your way. God needs to be my focus, not the problem!

His love for me is steadfast, eternal, sacrificial, loyal, undying, unconditional. He welcomes me into His presence. I can worship Him. He leads me in His righteousness. He makes my path straight so that the enemy cannot derail my faith.

Vs. 9-10 ~ There is no need to focus on the enemy because the enemy brings no help or truth.

"For there is no truth in their mouth; their inmost self is destruction; their throat is an open grave; they flatter with their tongue. Make them bear their guilt, O God; let them fall by their own counsels; because of the abundance of their transgressions cast them out, for they have rebelled against you."

They speak lies. Their words will be their own destruction. They speak nothing but death. Just because they use flattery to get what they want, it does not mean they say anything of real value. They use flattery to manipulate, and when it doesn't work, they accuse. Their goal is not truth, but power. The Lord will bring their guilt on themselves. They will use their own advice and it will bring them down eventually.

They will be cast out. Why? They have rebelled against the Lord. They cannot know better than God. They do not have more power than God. They cannot fool God. They cannot stand against God. He WILL bring them down... just as He did when He brought the flood, and when He stopped the Egyptians by parting the sea for the Israelites, and when He brought down fire on Sodom and Gomorrah. Those are just a few examples of people who thought they could outsmart God or live in opposition to Him. No one can stand against God and keep standing.

Vs. 11-12 ~ My job is to go to the Lord in prayer (vs. 1-3), to put my focus on the Lord (vs. 7-9), and now... to take refuge in the Lord. He will be faithful.

"But let all who take refuge in You rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread Your protection over them, that those who love Your name may exult in you. For you bless the

righteous, O Lord; you cover him with favor as with a shield."

Why do I cry out to God? Why do I wait and watch for Him? Why do I focus on Him and not on my problems? Why do I take refuge in Him? He spreads His protection over me. While He stops the wicked, He blesses the righteous. What makes me righteous? Faith. With the Lord, my faith is counted to me as righteousness. He does not focus on my works or my failures. He focuses on my faith. And because He has given me the free gift of His righteousness (Romans 5:17), He covers surrounds me with His favor and pleasure as with a shield. I can rejoice and sing for joy rather than fear... I can love His name and exult in Him... because He truly is my refuge in every way.

O Lord, be my focus. Be my refuge. Be my delight. Let me not focus on the enemy... You're bigger than the enemy. Let me not look to anyone else for my protection. I just need You. Let me not delight in anything other than You. Anything other than You is less. Tomorrow morning, when I wake up, I will cry out to You and wait and watch.