

HOPE IN GOD

PSALM
43:5

Sunday Morning, January 7, 2024 » Pastor Josiah Kagin

Message Title: Hope in God (Part 1)

Message Text: Psalm 42

Introduction:

Some studies suggest that hopelessness is a public health crisis in the United States. It is striking to think that the wealthiest nation on earth seems to be bankrupt of hope. God's people are not exempt from this reality today nor in the times in which the Bible was written. David is believed to be the penman of Psalm 42 and 43. These two Psalms are linked together with a common message—Hope in God. The noise of uncertainty, the endless clamor of enemies and pestilent murmur of worry had overwhelmed David's soul. However, because he had a personal relationship with his God, his persistent refrain was, "Hope in God." This same refrain should be ours' as well.

1. A _____ Heart (42:1-5)

A. Longing for _____ with God (42:1-3)

Psalm 42:1-3 As the hart panteth after the water brooks, So panteth my soul after thee, O God. 2 My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: When shall I come and appear before God? 3 My tears have been my meat day and night, While they continually say unto me, Where is thy God?

HART — Deer

DEFINITION—PANTETH: to strongly desire something

DEFINITION—THIRSTETH: to long for something

DEFINITION—APPEAR: to interact; to present oneself formally, as before an authority.

WHERE IS YOUR GOD NOW?

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Psalm 63:1 O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: My soul thirsteth for thee, My flesh longeth for thee In a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;

EXERCISE: If I could only _____, then I would be _____.

B. Living in the _____ (42:4)

Psalm 42:4 When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me: For I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, With the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday.

DEFINITION—POUR OUT: to express without restraint.

Psalm 62:8 Trust in him at all times; ye people, Pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah.

NOTE — The memories of good times in the past became a crushing burden in the midst of David's difficulties.

Ezra 3:12 But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers, who were ancient men, that had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice; and many shouted aloud for joy:

C. Looking For _____ from God (42:5)

Psalm 42:5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him For the help of his countenance.

DEFINITION—CAST DOWN: to despair; sink down

DEFINITION—DISQUIETED: to be distressed; marked by anxious uneasiness

DEFINITION—HOPE: *to wait expectantly; such waiting involves trust that the awaited event will occur.*

Job 19:25 For I know that my redeemer liveth, And that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth:

DEFINITION—HELP: the state of being saved or preserved from harm.

DEFINITION—COUNTENANCE: the presence or proximity of someone understood in terms of the face; with the implication of being before or in front of them.

QUOTE: If you look at the world, you'll be distressed. If you look within, you'll be depressed. If you look at God you'll be at rest. — Corrie Ten Boom

2. A _____ Heart (42:6-11)

A. _____ in Despair (6-7)

Psalm 42:6-7 O my God, my soul is cast down within me: therefore will I remember thee From the land of Jordan, and of the Hermonites, from the hill Mizar. 7 Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts: All thy waves and thy billows are gone over me.

O Mr GOD

DEFINITION—CAST DOWN: to despair, conceived of as sinking down.

NOTE — David remembers God from the distant places of Jordan, Hermon, Mizar.

QUOTE: A “cast down” sheep is an old English shepherd’s term for a sheep that has turned over on its back and cannot get up again by itself.
—William Keller

Lamentations 3:26 It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord.

B. _____ with Questions (8-11a)

1. Psalm 42:8-11a Yet the Lord will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, And in the night his song shall be with me, And my prayer unto the God of my life. 9 I will say unto God my rock, Why hast thou forgotten me? Why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy? 10 As with a sword in my bones, mine enemies reproach me; While they say daily unto me, Where is thy God? 11 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me?

WHAT DAVID KNEW ABOUT GOD (8)

HIS _____ — “...his lovingkindness...”

HIS _____ — “...his song shall be with me...”

See Psalm 40:1-3

HIS _____ — “...my prayer unto God...”

HIS _____ — “...God of my life...”

HIS _____ CHARACTER — “...God, my rock...”

QUESTIONS FOR GOD (9)

A QUESTION FROM ENEMIES (10)

QUESTIONS FOR HIMSELF (11)

Mark 15:34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

C. Looking for _____ from God (11b)

Psalm 42:11 ...Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, Who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

NOTE — There is a subtle difference in this refrain. Same questions, same message to himself, *different realization about his God.*

Psalm 62:5 My soul, wait thou only upon God; For my expectation is from him.

DEFINITION—HEALTH: Savior God; the God of Israel understood according to his activity in rescuing Israel from danger. {Only here and 43:5}

DEFINITION—MY COUNTENANCE: the whole human person conceived of in terms of the face.

DEFINITION—MY GOD (*ELOHIM*): God (Israelite); the supernatural being who originated and rules over the universe; the object of ancient Israelite worship.

NOTE — Hope would be experienced within the context of David's personal relationship with God.

Psalm 23:1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Conclusion

PRAYER: Father, I have allowed my adversaries, my afflictions, my anxieties, my annoyances to cause me to forget that you are My God. I have been hopeless in my situation because I had not paused to realize that you are My God. Today, I say with David to myself, "*Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, Who is the health of my countenance, and my God.*" You are my hope. You are my song. You are my Savior God. You are supreme over all and you are My God. Help me to fix my hope in You.



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