

Soul Music – Part 5 – Psalm 88 – Knowing Suffering with Jesus

Intro: When you don't have the words to express your suffering...

Psalm 88: A swirling Psalm – the themes & laments tumble around – waves of suffering and grief

Layers of suffering

Physical – afflicted since youth (V.15)

Relational – cut off from friends (v.8 & 18)

Emotional / Psychological – overwhelmed (v.3,4,15, 16)

Theological

Perplexity & Confusion (v. 6-8, 10-12)

Wrath & punishment? (v.16 & 14)

No Resolution

Persistent Faith – v.1-2 – Crying to the Lord, God of Salvation

Suffering is not necessarily faith destroying

Psalm 88 as Preparation for the Sufferings of Christ

He lets God's wrath weigh heavily on him so that we don't need to suffer it

Raging against suffering, and yet suffering continues – the tension

4 Reasons we need this Psalm:

Are we thankful?

Are we prepared?

Are we caring?

Are we convinced?