

PSALM 143 2024 – An Earnest Appeal for Guidance and Deliverance!

7/27/24 – Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com www.ptwente.com

PSALM 143 An Earnest Appeal for Guidance and Deliverance!- A Psalm of David - David had a life that was filled with problems and troubles. Thus, David was a man of prayer. It's amazing how difficulties and problems can drive people to their knees.

Psa 143:1 . Hear my prayer, O LORD, Give ear to my supplications! (Psa 4, 39, 54, 84, 102) In Your faithfulness answer me, And in Your righteousness.

- David had all kinds of problems, and thus, was driven so many times to pray. He begins this Psalm by asking God, *Hear my prayer, O LORD, Give ear to my supplications! In Your faithfulness answer me, And in Your righteousness* To give ear to his supplications and in God's faithfulness, answer him, and in God's righteousness.

Psa 143:2 Do not enter into judgment with Your servant, For in Your sight no one living is righteous.

- He says, Lord, I don't want judgment because if You would judge, then no one could stand before You. He's really asking for mercy. And prayers never, well, I guess there are times when we pray for justice, in a situation, but most generally for ourselves, we are asking for mercy.
- The story is told how that Napoleon was riding down in a parade down the streets in France. A young girl came rushing out of the crowd that was watching the parade. When he came to that area, she came rushing out, up to his horse. She began to cry, mercy Sire, mercy! Mercy for my father! He said, who is your father? She named her father. He said, your father is a traitor to France, he deserves to die! She said, I didn't say justice, Sire. I said mercy!
- And just to say, we deserve to die, but by the mercy of God, we have eternal life through Jesus Christ! Lord, we're not really asking that You would enter into judgment with me, because I know that no living man could stand before Your judgment, but Lord, I desire Your mercy

Psa 143:3 For the enemy has persecuted my soul; He has crushed my life to the ground; He has made me dwell in darkness, Like those who have long been dead.

- *For the enemy has persecuted my soul!* Again, in the previous chapter, David's enemies were the cause of his seeking the Lord. We find it again, the enemies persecuting him.
- *He has crushed my life to the ground!* David, again, is at the bottom. David surely went through the wide gamut and spectrum of emotions. I suppose he must have been sort of a sanguine. He just, you know, I mean he could hit the peaks in praise and in glory, in celebration, dancing before the Lord, the excitement, I mean, just really at the top. But then also, he could go way down to the bottom. I mean, you know, just like the bottom has fallen out. And Lord, it's smitten my life down to the ground.
- *He has made me dwell in darkness, Like those who have long been dead.* That darkness that comes when all hope is gone. Now, there is that phrase, while there is life, there is hope. In fact, David sort of used that at one time. When he had had this illicit relationship with Bathsheba, and she became pregnant as a result. When the baby was born, and David had gone over and tried to cover his sin. He had Bathsheba's husband put to death in battle. He had sent him to battle in such a way, that he surely would be killed. Then David took Bathsheba as his wife and as far as the people around Jerusalem, they were none the wiser. They just figured that David was a very magnanimous person Not really knowing the whole story.
- David, when the child was born, the child became very sick. David, for days lay with his face in the dirt, weeping and crying before God to spare the child. And God did not spare the child. God took the child. The servants were standing around. David heard the guys whispering and he realized something was up. He could feel it. He said, is the child okay? They said, David, your child died. And David stood up and he said, well, I'll get a bath. He said, have dinner ready. Man, what's wrong with you? You know, while, how come—this dramatic change? He said, well, as long as the child was alive, I'd hoped that maybe God would be merciful and heal the child. Now that the child is gone, I cannot bring it back. I shall go to be where he is. But I can't bring him back to me. Thus,

there is nothing more I can do. As long as the child was alive, he had hoped. He had hoped, you see. But death brings that end to hope.

- When Jesus was crucified and on the road to Emmaus, He joined with the two disciples that were walking along. He said, what's wrong with you guys? You like, you know, death warmed over. What happened? They said, are You a stranger around here? You don't the things that have been going on in Jerusalem the last few days? He said, what things? What are you talking about? Oh, how Jesus of Nazareth, a man who went around doing good—a marvelous man. We had hoped in Him for the salvation of Israel. Death ends the hope. David is talking about that hopelessness that happens at death. I was in that darkness of hopelessness. As those who had been long dead.

Psa 143:4 Therefore my spirit is overwhelmed within me; My heart within me is distressed.

- The enemies were pressing him. His spirit was just overwhelmed. I don't know what to do.
- *My heart within me is desolate.* It's just empty! There's nothing left inside.

Psa 143:5 I remember the days of old; I meditate on all Your works; I muse on the work of Your hands.

- I remember how God has worked in the past. And that's always good! To reflect on what God has done, because the past blessings of God are prophecies of the future. If God has worked in the past, He has not brought me here to just leave me perish at this point. The Lord will perfect that which concerns me.
- So, I remember the days of old; *I meditate on all thy works; I muse on the work of thy hands.* I look around and I can see the work of God in my life. I can see how God had His hand upon my life. I can see in those situations that were so dark and I didn't know how I was ever going to get out of it. But I see how God provided! I see how God came through! I see how God met the need! And I just meditate on these things. God has been faithful. God has brought me this far.

Psa 143:6 I spread out my hands to You; My soul longs for You like a thirsty land. Selah

- Therefore, *I spread out my hands to You!* A form of prayer. The Bible tells us we should lift up holy hand unto the Lord. The lifting of hands is a sign of supplication, also, a sign of surrender. It's one of those things of just lifting up your hands in supplications to the Lord.
- *My soul longs for You like a thirsty land* (strong intensity!) As the deer panted for the water brook, David said, so panted my heart after Thee, oh, God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God. And here again, my soul, Lord, just thirst after thee. How true this is! Not only of David, but of every man. Every man has a thirst deep within for a relationship with God. Man, basically is incomplete when his spirit is dead. Man is not a total being until the spirit is alive. And sin is spiritual death. Sin brings about spiritual death.
- God said to Adam, in the day that you sin, or eat, which was the sin, you will surely die! It brings spiritual death. And thus, you has He made alive who were dead in your trespasses and sins. You were two-thirds of a person. You were body and consciousness, but your spirit was dead. And thus, you were functioning on an animal level, a body conscious level. It was not until you received Jesus Christ, and your spirit came alive, that you became then, a total person. Now, the body has its thirst, the physical thirst of the body. The emotions have their thirst. The thirst for love, the thirst for security, the need to be needed, but the spirit also has its thirst. My soul thirsteth for God. And way down deep in every man, there is that thirsting after God. Jesus said, if any man thirsts, talking about the spiritual thirst, let him come to unto Me and drink. For he that drinks of the water that I give, as the Scripture says, out of his innermost being there will flow rivers of living water. My soul thirsteth after God.

Psa 143:7 Answer me speedily, O LORD; My spirit fails (Help)! Do not hide Your face from me, Lest I be like those who go down into the pit.

- So now the petitions. This is the background to the prayer. Now the petitions of David are, first of all: *Answer me speedily, O LORD:* How many times has David prayed, Lord, make no tarrying, you know? Hurry up, Lord! If you would pray before you got into such a desperate situation. It probably wouldn't be so that I would have to pray, Lord, right now! It's too bad that we wait so long before we pray about a situation. We wait until it's absolutely desperate and hopeless, then we pray. Thus, as we pray, usually it's at that point where we need help immediately.
- Answer me speedily, O Lord, for *my spirit fails:* I'm just wiped out, Lord! I have no reserve left. I am empty.
- *Do not hide Your face from me, Lest I be like those who go down into the pit.* . Lord, if You hide Your face from me, I'm through! I've had it! I'm dead!

Psa 143:8 Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning, For in You do I trust; Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, For I lift up my soul to You.

- *Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning;* Lord, let me hear Your words of comfort, Your words of assurance, in the morning. There is that Scripture that says that crying endureth for the night, but joy cometh in the morning. It seems like when a person is very, very ill, it's the night hours that are the hardest. If they can just make it through tonight, you know,...tomorrow! With the dawning of a new day seems to be no hope, and new strength. Lord, let me hear Your lovingkindness in the morning.
- *For in You do I trust.* There's no place else to turn. My trust is in God. I freshly commit to You!
- *Cause me to know the way in which I should walk; For (because) I lift up my soul to You.* I'm turning to You, Lord, for guidance, for direction for my life.

Psa 143:9 Deliver me, O LORD, from my enemies; In You I take shelter.

- *Deliver me, O LORD, from my enemies:* Those who have persecuted me and have driven me down to the ground.
- *For In You I take shelter.* He gives the petition and then he states his position in relationship to it.

Psa 143:10 Teach me to do Your will, For You are my God; Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness.

- *You are my God. I am surrendering my life to be mastered, to be controlled. Therefore, O Lord, teach me to do Your will.*
- *Your spirit is good!* That's why I find it easy to submit myself to God. You know, they say that God is sovereign. God rules. That the purposes of God are established and set. They don't alter or change. God's purposes stand. And who can resist Him? What God is going to do, He is going to do! What God wants to do for my life, He can do! I mean who am I to resist God? God is sovereign. He knows all about me. He knows all about my life. He knows the end from the beginning. And I am like a piece of clay on a potter's wheel. And my life and the shape of my future is completely in the hands of God. He can make out of me anything He wants.
- *God loves me!* Because God is good and God loves me, I can say, okay, God, You do want You want in my life. I can surrender to God. I can surrender to the purpose and plan of God for me, though I don't know what it is. I can surrender to it because I know that God is good. I know that God loves me and His plan for me is good. And therefore, teach me to do Thy will, for You are God. You are sovereign. But Thy Spirit is good! Because of that I can surrender!
- *Lead me in the land of uprightness.* Lord, lead me to the right life. I don't want to be crooked. I want to be upright. I want to be honest and forthright in the things that I do. Lord, lead me into that forthrightness.

Psa 143:11 Revive me, O LORD, for Your name's sake! For Your righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.

- *Revive me, O LORD!* Make me alive, O Lord, to the things of the Spirit.
- *For Your name's sake! For Your righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.* Notice David isn't saying for my sake, Lord, but because I have committed myself to You! My life is in Your hands for righteousness' sake. Because God is a righteous judge. And if I commit myself completely to Him, He will do what is right. If I'm surrendered and yielded to Him, what He does will be right, so Lord, for Thy righteousness' sake, bring my soul out of the trouble.

Psa 143:12 In Your mercy cut off my enemies, And destroy all those who afflict my soul; For I am Your servant.

- David again gets back to those enemies. They've been persecuting him. They've driven him into the ground. He prays for deliverance in verse nine, from these enemies.
- Now, he prays God! *Cut off my enemies and destroy all those who afflict my soul. For I am Your servant.* Because I'm Your servant, Lord, take care of me! Protect me! Be my protection. The glorious thing is, if you are a servant of God, He will protect you! He will take care of you! No weapon that is formed against you will prosper. This is the heritage of the children of the Lord. If you are a servant of the Lord, God's going to watch over you. God's going to protect you. You don't have to worry. Lord, take of my enemies because I'm Your servant.
- *(Joh 10:27-30) My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. [28] And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. [29] My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. [30] I and My Father are one."*

HE TOUCHED ME! – William Gaither (3:17)

Psa 143:3 For the enemy has persecuted my soul; He has crushed my life to the ground; He has made me dwell in darkness, Like those who have long been dead.

*Shackled by a heavy burden, 'Neath a load of guilt and shame.
Then the hand of Jesus touched me, And now I am no longer the same.*

*Refrain: He touched me, Oh He touched me, And oh the joy that floods my soul!
Something happened and now I know, He touched me and made me whole.*

*Since I met this blessed Savior, Since He cleansed and made me whole,
I will never cease to praise Him, I'll shout it while eternity rolls. (Refrain)*

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LEADERS: - Pray for World Leaders, especially their salvation, including Xi Jinping – China; Narendra Modi - India; Joe Biden – USA; Joko Widodo - Indonesia; Luiz Lula da Silva - Brazil; Arif Alvi - Pakistan; Bola Tinubu - Nigeria; Hasina Wazed - Bangladesh; Vladimir Putin - Russia; Lopez Obrador – Mexico; Benjamin Netanyahu – Israel; Olaf Scholz – Germany; Keir Starmer – U.K.

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FOR STATES POSTING THE TEN COMMANDMENTS! LOUISIANA! TENNESSEE!**

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