

Summer IN THE Psalms

Has God Forgotten About Me?

Mike Sotski – July 14, 2019

Psalm 13

¹O LORD, how long will you forget me? Forever?

How long will you look the other way?

*²How long must I struggle with anguish in my soul,
with sorrow in my heart every day?*

How long will my enemy have the upper hand?

³Turn and answer me, O LORD my God!

Restore the sparkle to my eyes, or I will die.

⁴Don't let my enemies gloat, saying,

"We have defeated him!"

Don't let them rejoice at my downfall.

⁵But I trust in your unfailing love.

I will rejoice because you have rescued me.

⁶I will sing to the LORD

because he is good to me.

1/3rd of the Psalms are about Lament

Two Observations About Pain

1. Pain in life is a very real thing and it can last a long time.

2. Pain in life will always drive us to something.

There is a big difference between trying to numb pain and process it.

Henri Nouwen

To be grateful for the good things that happen in our lives is easy, but to be grateful for all our lives - the good as well as the bad, the moments of joy as well as the moments of sorrow, the successes as well as the failures, the rewards as well as the rejections - that requires hard spiritual work. Still we are only truly grateful people when we can say thank you to all that has brought us to the very present moment... let us not be afraid to look at everything that has brought us to where we are now and trust that we will soon see in it the guiding hand of a loving God.

God has given us the Psalms to help get us to the place where we can declare the last couple of verses in the Psalm.

Apprenticeship Prayer Partner Questions

- Are there times where it has felt like God had turned his back on you? Has it changed your level of trust in God's faithfulness?
- When we experience pain in our lives what is the most common way that we deal with it?