

LESSONS FROM PSALMS FOUR

Scripture: Psalms 4

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Introduction:

- A. This seems to have been written at the same time Psalm 3 was. Some think it could have been a part of the third Psalm.
 - B. David is identified as the writer. It was written to his chief Musician. Its message is directed at times to God; sometimes to those who sought to harm David; and at times to God's own people.
 - C. There are some fine practical lessons that will help us in our generation.
- I. LEARN THAT PRAYER IS THE ONE GREAT REFUGE FOR GOD'S PEOPLE IN TIME OF TROUBLE.
- A. Godly prayer recognizes God as the source of our righteousness.
 1. All have sinned—there is none righteous...our righteousness is as filthy rags in God's sight.
 2. We recognize that we are counted righteous in Jesus Christ. II Cor. 5:21
 - B. Godly prayer recognizes God as our hope and our help in time of distress.
 - C. Godly prayer admits our failures and expresses our need for mercy.
- II. LEARN WHAT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF GOD'S PEOPLE TOWARD THOSE WHO OPPOSE GOD AND HIS PEOPLE.
- A. We should call their attention to their sin. v.2
 1. They turn God's glory into shame. They obscure God's glory... the glory God expected from His creation.
 2. They love vanity and seek after leasing. They set their hearts on shadows and follow after lies.
 - B. Selah...pause and think about this.
 - C. We should inform them that God claims the Godly for Himself and that He will hear their call ...The Lord has set apart the redeemed for Himself and will hear their prayers. v.3
 - D. We should encourage those who are lost: vs.4, 5
 1. To stand in awe before God... fear Him... tremble before Him.
 2. To sin not.
 3. To commune with their hearts on their beds...
 - a. Think about their sinful condition.
 - b. Think about the judgment that is to come.
 4. To be still ...be silent before God. Listen to God.
 5. To offer the Sacrifice of righteousness... Offer Jesus as your sacrifice—He alone is acceptable to God.
 6. Encourage them to put their trust in the Lord. See in Jesus the one hope for eternity.
- III. LEARN THAT THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN THOSE WHO MOCKED THOSE WHO TRUST IN GOD.
- A. Many ask, "who will show us any good?" v.6a
 1. When we tell the lost about Jesus, some will ask
 2. When we speak of the coming of the Lord back to His earth, many will mock.
 - B. II Peter 3:3, 4
- IV. LEARN HOW FULFILLING IS OUR TRUST IN GOD.
- A. The light of God's countenance is upon the redeemed...Lord, prove them wrong by letting the light of your face shine upon us... v.6b
 - B. God has put gladness in our hearts...The gladness you have given us is far greater than their joys at harvest time as they gaze on their bountiful crops. v.7
 - C. God gives us peace...and sleep. In peace I will lie down and sleep. v.8
 - D. God makes us to dwell in safety...For you alone O Lord, makes us to dwell in safety. v.8