

LESSONS FROM PSALMS FORTY-TWO

Scripture: Psalm 42:2

Ray O. Brooks

Introduction: THIRSTING FOR GOD

- A. David was most likely the writer.
- B. The time must have been one of the two times he was cut off from Jerusalem; either by Saul or Absalom.
- C. David was saved at the time of this writing, but there are great lessons of soul thirst in three areas of life.

I. LEARN THAT THERE IS IN EVERY HUMAN SOUL AN UNCONSCIOUS THIRSTING FOR THE LIVING GOD.

- A. History's evidence reveals man as a worshiper.
- B. Are we, that the inner drive to worship evolved? Are we to believe that in the future cows and dogs and donkeys will become creatures of worship—making and worshipping idols seeking soul's satisfaction?
- C. Man was not created to find satisfaction in himself and what he could accomplish and then die the death of dumb animals.
- D. Man was created for eternal existence—to have fellowship and companionship with his living Creator, God.
- E. No person can exist as an island...No person is independent...No person can stand alone.
- F. If we are to find satisfaction...If we are to be blessed WE MUST look outside ourselves.
 - 1. We draw blessings and satisfaction from others.
 - 2. Without others, we live and die miserable and alone without ever experiencing the blessedness of soul satisfaction.
- G. If we are to find relief from soul thirst, we must look beyond THINGS. We must look to LIVING BEINGS.
- H. Man is a living soul.
 - 1. Does my soul thirst for riches? For possessions? No, my soul thirsts for God.
 - 2. My living soul thirsts for the LIVING GOD.
- I. Man has a heart. And, hearts want hearts, Not things.
- J. Man is spirit. And spirits want spirits. Not things.
 - 1. God is Spirit, the LIVING SPIRIT.
 - 2. And it is He for whom our souls thirst.
- K. Education, wealth, work, position, honor—all are OK; But none of them will satisfy the thirsty soul. Solomon testified to this truth in the Book of Ecclesiastes. He tried all and concluded, "Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."
- L. Man is a living being—thus, man must have a living God or his living soul will live and die in the midst of this well watered, green planet call earth never knowing soul's satisfaction.
- M. Man needs one Being who is all sufficient... One who can satisfy every need and every desire of the soul. HE must always be in our presence ...HE must be always conscious of our needs ...HE must be able to overpower every enemy... HE must be perfectly right, loving and rich in mercy and grace. WE HAVE THIS LIVING BEING IN OUR OMNISCIENT, OMNIPOTENT, OMNIPRESENT GOD WHO IS ALTOGETHER HOLY, LOVING AND KIND WHO GAVE HIS SON TO PAY OUR SIN DEBT.

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- N. Do you know the living God of whom I speak? Do you know Him as your heavenly Father?
 - O. If you do not know Him as your Father, you can. God would never have put that longing thirst in the soul of man without making a way for it to be satisfied.
 - P. Our living God planned the way in eternity past before He ever created man ...It is the GOSPEL WAY. I Cor.15:1-4
 - Q. When any thirsty soul hears the gospel message..asks God to forgive and trusts Jesus to save, he is born again, he is saved.
- II. LEARN THAT EVEN WHEN AN EARTH BOUND MAN KNOWS THE LIVING GOD AS HIS FATHER, THERE IS STILL A THIRSTING FOR THE LIVING GOD.
- A. This is best expressed by Philip in John 14:8, "Show us the Father, and it will satisfy us."
 - B. Job expressed this in Job 19:25-27
 - C. David expressed it in Psalm 17:15 "I shall be satisfied when I awake in thy likeness."
 - D. This life, even for the child of God, is marked by tears and pain, sorrow and heartache.
 - E. It seems that the closer we live to God, the worse the world treats us...and the more our souls thirst for God.
- III. LEARN THAT HEAVEN WILL ALSO BE A PLACE OF THIRSTING TO KNOW MORE AND MORE ABOUT OUR WONDERFUL CREATOR...THE LIVING GOD.
- A. Even now, the more we learn about God, the more we thirst for Him. The truly saved person who is living close to God can never hear enough about God.
 - B. Like reading a good book, the more we read, the more we want to read.
 - C. We all desire to know what heaven is like.. To me heaven will be an eternity of God revealing Himself to those who made the conscious choice to go there.

CONCLUSION:

- A. Let us set two passages of Scripture side by side...
 - 1. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God. Psalm 42:2
 - 2. Father Abraham, Send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue. Luke 16
- B. Here are two thirsts—ONE thirsting for God, the living God which finds satisfaction in heaven..THE OTHER, the thirsting for one drop of earth's water to cool the parched tongue which shall never be satisfied.
- C. Look with me to the last chapter of God's Book.
 - 1. Rev. 22:1 —God's River that will satisfy our thirst.
 - 2. Rev. 22:17 —Hear God speak to all who yet thirst for HIM. It is yours to take through repentance and faith.