

LESSONS FROM PSALMS FIFTY-FIVE

Scripture: Psalm 55:1-23

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Introduction:

- A. This is a Psalm of David written during the time of Absalom's rebellion.
 - B. Ahithophel was the trusted friend who turned traitor. He was David's counselor; but he encouraged and guided Absalom in the rebellion.
 - C. Hushai was also David's trusted friend. He went with David; but David sent him back with instructions to offer Absalom counsel contrary to Ahithophel's. This was done, and when Absalom followed Hushai's counsel, Ahithophel went out and hanged himself.
 - D. There are great practical lessons for us today.
- I. LEARN THAT GOD'S PEOPLE CAN COME TO THE PLACE THAT THEY WILL DESIRE TO LEAVE IT ALL BEHIND. vs.1-8
- A. They can come to the place that they feel that God doesn't hear them anymore. vs.1,2
 - B. They can come to the place that they fear what men may do to them. vs.3-5
 - C. They can come to the place that they seem to dream of somehow leaving all their problems behind. vs.6-8
- II. LEARN THAT THE HURT OF GOD'S PEOPLE CAN GIVE WAY TO ANGER AND DESIRED RETRIBUTION. vs.9-15
- A. We can be hurt by what is going on around us. vs 9-11
 - B. We can be hurt very badly by someone we loved and trusted. Ahithophel and Absalom. vs.12-14
 - C. We can be hurt so badly that we wish for their destruction. v.15
- II. LEARN THAT IN CALMNESS REASON WILL PREVAIL. vs.16-23
- A. Verses 16-18 teach us to reflect on the goodness of GOD.
 - 1. He saved us from sin. v.16
 - 2. He shall hear our prayers. v.17
 - 3. He hath delivered our soul from the battle. Maybe not the body, but the spirit can be at peace. v.18
 - B. Verses 19-21 teach us that God knows all about the wrong done us...AND He will settle all accounts in His own good time.
 - C. Verses 22 and 23 cause us to renew our confidence in God.
 - 1. He will take care of our burdens if we will only cast them upon Him. v.22
 - 2. Verse 23 points out that we are to trust in God knowing that He will bring His vengeance to bear on those who have troubled His people.