

Psalms 13

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Psalms 13

YouTube Prayer Link

Why I don't feel God

Psalm 13

David wept over the oppression of his enemies, prayed for God to save him, and was determined to praise Him with faith that God would deliver. This is a prayer poem. It is a poem of personal appeal. The writer is seriously ill (v.3), oppressed by his enemies (v.2,4), and forsaken for God (v.1), crying out to God in agony. Verse 2: "Mental Planning" When faced with the enemy's attack, the psalmist asks whether there is any evil that has sinned against God.

The Psalms are very special, and the words reveal very rich and real emotions, so from the Psalms, we can use emotions to experience the poet's mood, and get comfort and heart touch from it, like finding a soulmate who understands me.

The book of Samuel tells the story of David from the outside, and the Psalms tell the story of how David's heart told how he prayed to God at that time. Without the Psalms, it is impossible to know how people cry out in affliction; Without the book of Samuel, we would not know what was going on outside at that time.

"How when" is an eternal question. David cried out four times, "How when?" to express his pain in the midst of his dire predicament. This cries out from everyone who has endured suffering for so long that they do not understand why God is slow to act, why Jesus is not coming again. And when we "plan in our hearts" about suffering, we will feel even more "miserable all the time,"

without peace and unbearable. David constantly stated his suffering, even asking and wondering where God was. Is God hearing my prayers? Does God still care for me? Does God still care about me? On the cross, the Lord Jesus also cried out to God, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" And throughout the ages, there have been many people who have asked, "God, where are you, God?" This is a question mark that people in difficult situations often have. During the Second World War, Hitler slaughtered 6 million Jews at the time. In the face of calamity, Jews often ask questions from the depths of their hearts: "God, where are you?" "O God of our fathers, why hast thou hid thy face from us?" Does God really not care about His own chosen people, the Jews? David still insisted on returning to God to pray, and did not leave God, which is faith in God. Further, I went into the prayer of supplication, calling on God to watch over and answer me, so that my eyes would be "brightened" so that I would not fall asleep. "Sleep" means that I may see the works of God and the truth of life, so that I may not fall. Further, I declare God's victory, even before I see it, and declare that I will trust in God's lovingkindness, and I will sing praises to God, and may my heart rejoice in God's salvation.

This is David's prayer of prayer that turned from lament to thanksgiving. In this psalm of suoration, David pleads against God's disregard; Then he pleaded with God to take care of him; Finally, his declaration of faith, his firm trust in God, and joyful singing to God, most notably David's dramatic conversion. His prayer, his hope, and his comfort lifted him from the abyss of despair to the pinnacle of joy and faith. David suffered a lot because he had been hunted down by Saul for many years. In the midst of difficult difficulties, he was troubled in his heart, so he repeatedly "wailed": "How when?" But in his desperation, he "prayed," asking God to watch over him and answer him. This is his turnaround. This shows how important and indispensable prayer is. By restoring his trust in God through earnest "prayer," David turned from sorrow to joy, from grumbling to thanksgiving, from sighing to singing.

David's complaint was not primarily about hoping that Jehovah would open the way for him, purge his enemies, and change his situation. He "complains" because he can't see anything, he can't feel anything, and he has been doing so for some time. He feared that God's attitude towards him would change and that he would no longer pay attention to him. God's silence was the thing that bothered David the most and the reason he felt alone.

Sometimes we don't feel God, we feel that God has forgotten us, that God has ignored us, forsaken us, and left us. Especially when you are lonely and helpless, you don't feel God's presence. In fact, God did not promise us that the sky would always be blue, but that there would be suffering in the world. Often in the midst of suffering, we feel that God has forgotten us and hid His face from us. David's circumstances didn't change, but he turned to God and his heart changed. It is not difficult for God to turn night into day, so let us trust Him with peace of mind that the tribulation will eventually pass, and that no matter how bad the situation may be, we will still rely on His grace to treat us and save us through earnest prayer.

Let's pray together.

Merciful Father, God who redeems me, let us cry out to You in times of trouble, and not rely on our own schemes. Let us keep seeing Your grace, Lord, and keep our eyes open, so that we may see clearly and understand. When we think You have forgotten us and hid your face from us, Lord, open our eyes and let us see that You are always there for us and that You have never left us. Yes, Lord, I will sing to You! I will sing of Your lovingkindness, of Your faithfulness, of Your righteousness, of Your salvation. Pray that we will be able to trust you more firmly and variously, because your promises are eternal.

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, amen.

Psalm 13

King James Version

1 How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord? for ever? how long wilt thou hide thy face from me?

2 How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily? how long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?

3 Consider and hear me, O Lord my God: lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death;

4 Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him; and those that trouble me rejoice when I am moved.

5 But I have trusted in thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice in thy salvation.

6 I will sing unto the Lord, because he hath dealt bountifully with me.

Psalm 13 is a heartfelt lament from David during a time of deep personal distress. It is one of the shorter psalms but powerfully captures the emotional journey from despair and questioning to trust and praise. The psalm is structured in three parts: David's desperate cry to God, his plea for help, and finally, his renewed trust in God's love and salvation.

Full Description:

Verses 1-2: David's Desperate Cry

How long, LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?

How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me?

David begins by expressing his sense of abandonment by God, repeating the question "How long?" four times, which emphasizes his feelings of prolonged suffering. He feels as though God has forgotten him and hidden His face, leaving David alone in his distress. Internally, he

struggles with overwhelming sorrow and anxiety, and externally, he faces the threat of an enemy who seems to be winning. This section reflects a deep emotional turmoil, common in the psalms of lament, where the psalmist feels isolated and forgotten by God.

Verses 3-4: David's Plea for Help

Look on me and answer, LORD my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death, and my enemy will say, "I have overcome him," and my foes will rejoice when I fall.

David shifts from expressing his despair to directly asking God for help. He prays that God will "look on" him, implying he feels unseen in his suffering. He also asks God to "give light to my eyes," which likely refers to a request for life, strength, and hope, contrasting with his fear of "sleep in death." Without God's intervention, David fears that his enemies will triumph, and they will gloat over his downfall. This section underscores his desperate need for God's deliverance and the urgency of his request.

Verses 5-6: David's Renewed Trust and Praise

But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation.

I will sing the LORD's praise, for he has been good to me.

In a surprising shift from the earlier verses, David expresses renewed trust in God's unfailing love. Despite the feelings of abandonment in the first part of the psalm, David chooses to trust in God's covenant love (Hebrew: *chesed*), which is steadfast and unwavering. He anticipates God's salvation, causing his heart to rejoice. Finally, David commits to praising God, acknowledging that God has been good to him in the past, which strengthens his faith for the present.

Important Verses:

Verse 1 – "How long, LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?"

This verse highlights David's profound sense of abandonment and his heartfelt questioning of God. It is a key verse because it introduces the emotional depth of the psalm and shows the raw honesty of David's prayer.

Verse 3 – "Look on me and answer, LORD my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death."

This verse is crucial because it is David's direct plea for help, asking for God's intervention in a desperate situation. "Give light to my eyes" symbolizes hope and life, contrasting with the despair of death.

Verse 5 – "But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation."

This is the turning point of the psalm. David moves from lament to trust, reminding himself of God's unfailing love and faithfulness. It reflects the power of faith to change one's perspective, even when circumstances haven't yet changed.

Verse 6 – "I will sing the LORD's praise, for he has been good to me."

The psalm ends on a note of praise. David's declaration to sing praises to the Lord, even while still in distress, shows his confidence in God's past faithfulness and future goodness.

Summary:

Psalm 13 is a psalm of lament that demonstrates the journey from despair to faith. David begins by feeling forgotten and abandoned by God, struggling with his sorrow and the threat of his enemies. In his desperation, he pleads for God's intervention, asking for strength and hope to overcome his circumstances. The psalm concludes with a powerful affirmation of trust in God's steadfast love and a commitment to praise Him for His goodness. This psalm offers a model for how to bring raw emotions to God in prayer while holding on to the hope of His faithful love and salvation.