

Psalm 63

Psalms 63:1 [New King James] *“O God, You are my God; early will I seek You; my soul thirsts for You; my flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water.”*

The true Christian devotes to God the early morning hour, thirsting for those things that this world cannot give and they can receive through prayer and meditation on the Word of God, the Christian Bible.

Compared with the many eternal blessings we can receive from an intimate relationship with our Creator God, what this world offers looks like a dry and arid desert.

Psalms 63:2 [New King James] *“So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, to see Your power and Your glory.”*

David’s yearning for God was intensified by his keen sense of exclusion from the Temple in Jerusalem and his separation from the ark, the symbol of divine presence, his heart’s desire to be close to God and his bodily habit of attending worship in the Temple were both thwarted by circumstances.

It was when David was in the wilderness of Judah seeking refuge from Absalom’s rebellion that this Psalm was written, the wilderness of Judah had become also a spiritual wilderness.

If we are lonely or thirsty for something lasting in our lives remember David’s prayer for God alone can satisfy our deepest longings.

Psalms 63:3-5 [New King James] *“Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise You. Thus I will bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name. My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips.”*

Did God give David a vision in his mind of the sanctuary to cause this sudden change from despondency to joy?

God has provided in His Word, the Christian Bible, glimpses of His glory and power, [**Isaiah 6:1-5; Ezekiel 1:1-28; Revelation 4:1-11**].

Where others in David’s circumstances would have cried out for bodily rest and refreshment, David’s longings were for God’s presence.

In addition to being in the wilderness, David had lost his throne and kingdom to Absalom, yet he saw God’s steadfast love remained and was better than anything else, so his mind and tongue were filled with praise for God.

Psalms 63:6-8 [New King James] *“When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches. Because You have been my help, therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice. My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me.”*

David’s experiences were humanly deprivation and insecurity, but his experience of the presence of God was more than compensating.

In naval and army terms the night is divided into three “watches.” Someone who was aware of all three would be having a sleepless night that can be caused by illness, stress or worry. But such sleepless nights can be quiet times of reflection and thankful worship of our Creator God.

Use such times to review how God has guided and helped you in the past, and thank Him for such times.

Psalms 63:9-10 [New King James] *“But those who seek my life, to destroy it, shall go into the lower parts of the earth. They shall fall by the sword; they shall be a portion for jackals.”*

In stark contrast was the end of all who sought to destroy David, they had nothing to look forward to beyond this short life.

Psalms 63:11 [New King James] *“But the king shall rejoice in God; everyone who swears by Him shall glory; but the mouth of those who speak lies shall be stopped.”*

To “*swear by*” means to acknowledge and obey as under an oath will rejoice because of the love and goodness of the Creator God.

David calls himself “*the king*,” if this is written from his banishment at the hands of Absalom, the royal title becomes a reassertion of his calling by God.

A Christian parallel, one of many, as to our calling is found in the writing of John, a prisoner banished on the island of Patmos.

Revelation 1:4-6 [New King James] *“John, to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”*

This is the kingly calling that all true Christians are called to in every generation up to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, [verses 7-8].

Join David in our praise and thankfulness for our calling to kingship with Jesus Christ, [**Revelation 20:4, 11-13**].