

CALMLY WAITING FOR GOD IN CHRIST

Psalm 62

Truly my soul silently waits for God; From Him comes my salvation.
He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be greatly moved.

How long will you attack a man? You shall be slain, all of you, like a leaning wall and a tottering fence. They only consult to cast him down from his high position; They delight in lies; They bless with their mouth, but they curse inwardly. Selah

My soul, wait silently for God alone, for my expectation is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be moved. In God is my salvation and my glory; The rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God.

Trust in Him at all times, you people; Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. Selah

Surely men of low degree are a vapor, men of high degree are a lie; If they are weighed on the scales, they are altogether lighter than vapor. Do not trust in oppression, nor vainly hope in robbery; If riches increase, do not set your heart on them.

God has spoken once, twice I have heard this: That power belongs to God. Also to You, O Lord, belongs mercy; For You render to each one according to his work.

My Bible entitles this Psalm as "Waiting for God". I prefer the title that is found on BibleGateway.com It says **Psalm 62** is "A Calm Resolve to Wait for the Salvation of God".

Psalm 62 is not considered, probably by most people, to be one of the "better" Psalms. It does not have the same flow and rhythm and progression that some of the more popular Psalms have. **Psalm 1** gives us a metaphor and a visual of one being a tree planted by the rivers of water that brings forth its fruit in its time. Those rivers of water can be attributed to the Holy Spirit, as Jesus told the Samaritan woman by the well, "whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life." Once you have partaken in the river of life that Jesus was talking about, you know what David was then saying in **Psalm 1:2**, "But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night."

Abiding in the Word of God is a major component to abiding in Christ that Jesus spoke of in **John 15**. Other important elements are in prayer and in doing the will of God, letting Him work in us, as the Apostle Paul said, "for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure." To keep that in context to what was being said, Paul said, "Therefore, my beloved, as you have always **obeyed**, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure." As God begins working in His child who has believed on Christ and received Him, it is up to His child to then begin to walk in that, through obedience. As we walk in obedience, showing a desire to honor and to please God, He delights in us, and we then begin to delight in Him!

Speaking of God leading us in His will and His way, **Psalms 23** gives us the metaphor of the Lord being our shepherd who leads us and takes care of us. While Psalm 23 is speaking of the Good Shepherd, or the Great Shepherd (being Jesus), it is also from the perspective of David, the writer of the Psalm, that he is always looking to His beloved Shepherd and to where He is leading him. It could be said that David again was delighting himself in the Lord since he states, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." David was certainly delighting in the goodness of mercies of God.

Once it finally sinks into one's heart that you are a most precious and beloved child of God, your perspective, actions and responses change to your circumstances. As a born-again, child of God, "you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." We cannot please God and earn God's favor and blessings by doing good works. We can only find God's favor and blessings by loving Him, delighting in Him, and walking in what He is working in us. As Paul said in **1 Corinthians 1:30** that God, through Christ, is our 1. Wisdom 2. Righteousness 3. Sanctification 4. Redemption. "That, as it is written, "He who glories, let him glory in the Lord.""

Likewise Paul tells us in **Ephesians 2:8-10**, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." We love Him because He loves us. We delight in Him and He delights in us. How so? Jesus said, "Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." (**Luke 15:10**) It is always said that when someone is saved that the angels in heaven rejoice. No doubt, but Jesus said, "there is joy in the presence of the angels of

God over one sinner who repents." Jesus Himself is rejoicing over His people who turn to Him and put their hope and trust in Him. He delights in us as we delight ourselves in Him!

In **Psalm 27**, David starts that Psalm saying, "The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?" David is mostly speaking of God being His protection from evil but He also alludes to his delight being in God by saying, "One thing I have desired of the Lord, that will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple." To be with God, to see His glory and beauty, and to know Him and His will and His ways. Yes, God was his and is our protection, but what David is speaking of in Psalm 27 is mostly about delighting in the Lord, despite his grievous circumstances. That is only something that can be learned, as we continue to put our trust in Him and continue to walk in His ways. For me, once it finally took over my thoughts and my heart that God IS perfect in all His ways. As David said in **Psalm 18:30**, "As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the Lord is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him", my perspective changed to humbly honor Him as El Elyon, God Almighty.

Also in **Psalm 18**, David speaks of God being his Strength, his Rock, his Fortress, and Deliverer, his Shield, Salvation, and Stronghold. In verse 19 David gives the reason for God's protection and favor. David says, "He also brought me out into a broad place; **He delivered me because He delighted in me.**" What we find over and over again in the Psalms, most especially in the Psalms of David, is the reciprocal relationship that he has with his Lord, God, and Savior. It is exactly the same for us. Our relationship with God, in Christ, goes both ways, Him to us and us to Him. We love God because He first loved us. We learn to trust God as He trustworthy, perfect in all of His ways. We learn to delight in God as He delights in us.

God leads us to believe, through the Holy Spirit, that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. He leads us to want His Holy Spirit so that we can become born-again and become a new creation in Christ. The Holy Spirit not only leads us to sense the need for the Holy Spirit but to also want and long for the Holy Spirit, to be made into the image of Christ-to become like our Lord and Savior, Jesus. Jesus stated, "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!**" (Matthew 9:11-13)

While it is true that God will give of His Holy Spirit to someone who has not yet been born-again, as it is written, "For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved", Jesus was preparing them for the giving of the Holy Spirit that came on Pentecost, after Jesus had been crucified and had risen from the dead, and had appeared to His disciples. The apostles soon after had faced persecution, and they prayed, "by the mouth of Your servant David [You] have said: 'Why did the nations rage, and the people plot vain things? The kings of the earth took their stand, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord and against His Christ.' For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done. Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus." And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness." (Acts 4:25-30)

In Psalm 62, David starts off by meditating to himself saying, "My soul, wait silently for God alone, for my expectation is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be moved. In God is my salvation and my glory; The rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God. Trust in Him at all times, you people; Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us." For us today, as children of God, we are His royal priesthood, His own special people, we are His witnesses, His ambassadors, His ministers of reconciliation, pointing people to Christ Jesus for repentance and forgiveness of sins and for deliverance and healing. We are also "standing in the gap" for others by praying for them, praying to God for His abundant mercies and grace, for ourselves and for others.

"God has spoken once, twice I have heard this: That power belongs to God. Also to You, O Lord, belongs mercy; For You render to each one according to his work." Our lives are but a vapor, one day we're here the next we're not. Generations come and go. Kingdoms rise and kingdoms fall. One day all may be well and the next one may be faced with severe persecution. One thing is for certain. As Jesus stated "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6) To go along with that Jesus claimed, "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. "I am

the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; **for without Me you can do nothing.** If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples." (**John 15:1-8**)

In truly trusting in Christ, we can have "A Calm Resolve to Wait for the Salvation of God". Yet, God is also working in us to have not only a passion for Him but also for His people so that they too are, in the words of David in **Psalm 40:2**, pulled out of the "horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my steps." That longing for God that David frequently spoke of is not just for ourselves but for others. As Paul said, "And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it." (**1 Corinthians 12:26**)

As was mentioned last week, we are taking up the whole armor **of God**, and then "praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—" (**Ephesians 6:18**)

Having a calm resolve, waiting on Him, only comes from Him. The fruit of the Spirit is "love, joy, **peace**, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control." (**Galatians 5:22-23**) "My soul, wait silently **for God alone**, for my expectation is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be moved. In God is my salvation and my glory; The rock of my strength, and my refuge, is **in God**. Trust in Him at all times, you people; Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. Selah"