

How Long? How Long? (Psalm 13)

- In the last few psalms, there has been an increase of intensity in the psalmist
 - Ps 12, David feels alone, in the sense that the it seems the godly are no more
 - Ps 13, David feels abandoned by godly men, but also now by God himself
1. #. Feeling abandoned by God is a lot more common than we think
 2. #. Although this a common problem, helpful material is hard to come by
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- Vs 1-2 Expressed David's feelings of abandonment
 - Vs. 3,4 prayer in which he asks God to turn his face toward him & answer him
 - Vs. 5,6 express David's recovered trust in God & have a tone of rejoicing
 - We need to take special note of the place of prayer in this psalm

I. Abandonment and Dejection

- David expresses his intense feeling of abandonment before God
- 1) **A prolonged struggle**: (x4), we find these words in vs. 1,2 “how long o Lord”
 - 2) **Lack of apparent blessing**: it seems so long since David had God's blessings
 - 3) **Dark thoughts & uncontrollable emotions**: David focuses on his failures
 - 4) **Enemies**: David laments that his enemies are relentless in their pursuit of him

II. Turning the Corner

- David's feeling abandoned by God show us we are not unique in our struggles
 - But David moved through this dark valley into the light of God's love. How?
 - The turning point for David came when he sought the Lord in prayer
 - To feel so abandoned by God, very simply means that you know God is there
 - David shows us the way out of this sense of abandonment is a life of prayer
- 1) He asks God to turn around & look in His direction once again: “consider me”
 - 2) He asks God to answer his questions: “answer me”
 - 3) He asks God to give him understanding “O God light up my eyes” (vs. 3)

III. Come Lord Jesus

- Rev 6: 10 the souls of those martyred for their testimony in Christ cry out
- Their cry is “how long O Lord” the reply is, be patient, just a little bit longer
- Rev 22: 7, 12, 20: Lord Jesus assures the saints their suffering will not be long
- Feeling abandoned by God is a familiar theme, but God will not leave us there