

SERMON OUTLINE

In Psalm 89 we are taught 4 truths about the Davidic Covenant.

- I. The Davidic Covenant reveals God's eternal steadfast love and faithfulness.
 - A. Praises from the congregation (vs. 1-2).
 - B. Promises from the Covenant Maker (vs. 3-4).
- II. *The Davidic Covenant includes a Throne behind the throne.
 - A. Yahweh's majesty (vs. 5-8).
 - B. Yahweh's mastery (vs. 9-13).
 - C. Yahweh's moral grandeur (vs.14-18).
- III. The Davidic Covenant has an earthly king.
 - A. God chooses David, which demonstrates his sovereignty (vs 19-21).
 - B. God champions David, which demonstrates His power (vs. 22-27).
 - C. God covers David, which demonstrates His faithfulness (vs. 28-37).
- IV. **The Davidic Covenant requires faith in Yahweh and His promises.**
 - A. **But now have you renounced your covenant and rejected your king (vs. 38-45)?**
 - B. **How long will you hide from us (vs. 46-48)?**
 - C. **Where is your promised steadfast love and faithfulness (vs. 49-51)?**

*I have borrowed point II in this outline from: Derrick Kidner, *Psalms 73-150* (Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 1975, reprinted 2008), 352-4.

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, December 11, 2016

Passage: Psalm 89:38-52

Memory Passage: Psalm 89:1-4

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Psalm 89:19-37.** Write a one-paragraph review of what you learned last week as you studied vs. 19-37.
- (b) Choose 3 applications from last week's study and sermon, and record specific actions you will take to practice each one.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Psalm 89:38-52 & 2 kings 23:36-25:30.** Second Samuel 24 & 25 describe the fall of Judah at the hands of the Babylonians, a time in Israel's history that best fits the descriptions found in Ps. 89:38-52.
- (b) Why does the psalmist charge God with casting off and being full of wrath against His anointed, renouncing His covenant with David, and defiling his crown in the dust?
- (c) The psalmist charges God with destroying and humiliating His king's kingdom (vs. 40-43) and throne (vs. 44-45). Are these valid charges? Why or why not? Why does the psalmist repeatedly say "You have" rather than "the Babylonians have"?
- (d) What did you learn in verse 1-37 that give the psalmist the expectation and hope that these events should have never happened (be sure to take note of words & concepts used in vs. 38-45 that have already been used in vs. 1-37)?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Psalm 89:38-52.** "How long?" is a question asked 22 times in the Psalms (cf. 6:3; 13:1-2; 35:17; 74:10; 79:5; 80:4; 90:13; 94:3; 119:84 et. al.). What does this question convey about the psalmist's understanding of his situation?
- (b) Why does the psalmist ask Yahweh to "remember how short my time is!"?
- (c) What does the fact that men cannot deliver themselves from death have to do with the psalmist's appeal (v. 48)?
- (d) To which of Yahweh's character traits does the psalmist appeal in verses 46-48?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Psalm 89:38-52.** Why does the psalmist return to the truth of the Davidic Covenant in v. 49, the end of his lament?
- (b) What does the mocking of the nations have to do with God's covenant with David, His *chesed*, and His faithfulness?
- (c) How does the tone of the psalmist's prayer (vs. 46-51) differ from his tone in vs. 38-45, and what does this change reveal about his true thoughts concerning Yahweh and His covenant, even in light of the nation's destruction?
- (d) What is missing from the psalmist's lament (hint: why did God punish Israel by taking them into exile? [cf. 2 Kings 17:7-23 & 24:3-4], and what should have been/be their response)?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Psalm 89:38-52.** Was the psalmist's assessment of his situation a true assessment? Did he have the right to complain to God? Does the presence of this Psalm, and others like it, give us permission to complain to God? Explain.
- (b) Was the psalmist's faith weak in vs. 38-52? In other words, why was it difficult for him to apply all of the strong theology of vs. 1-37 in his response to his own situation and to change his complaints to God?
- (c) Did the psalmist ever see God fully answer his question (v. 49)? What difference does this make for him? Have you seen God fully answer his question? What difference does this make for you?
- (d) What have you learned from this Psalm that helps you better assess any situation in which you find yourself wondering about God's faithfulness to His promises (please give detail about what you learned as well as how you will apply it)?
- (e) What have you learned from this Psalm that helps you more fully cry out to God in such circumstances (again, give details about what you learned as well as how you will apply it)?

DATE: December 11, 2016

PASSAGE: Psalm 89:38-52

Where Are You, God? Part III