

Psalm 40

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To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

- ¹ I waited patiently for the LORD; And He inclined to me,
And heard my cry.
- ² He also brought me up out of a horrible pit,
Out of the miry clay,
And set my feet upon a rock,
And established my steps.
- ³ He has put a new song in my mouth—
Praise to our God;
Many will see it and fear,
And will trust in the LORD.
- ⁴ Blessed is that man who makes the LORD his trust,
And does not respect the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.
- ⁵ Many, O LORD my God, are Your wonderful works
Which You have done;
And Your thoughts toward us
Cannot be recounted to You in order;
If I would declare and speak of them,
They are more than can be numbered.
- ⁶ Sacrifice and offering You did not desire;
My ears You have opened.
Burnt offering and sin offering You did not require.
- ⁷ Then I said, "Behold, I come;
In the scroll of the book it is written of me.
- ⁸ I delight to do Your will, O my God,
And Your law is within my heart."
- ⁹ I have proclaimed the good news of righteousness
In the great assembly;
Indeed, I do not restrain my lips,
O LORD, You Yourself know.
- ¹⁰ I have not hidden Your righteousness within my heart;
I have declared Your faithfulness and Your salvation;
I have not concealed Your lovingkindness and Your truth
From the great assembly.
- ¹¹ Do not withhold Your tender mercies from me, O LORD;
Let Your lovingkindness and Your truth continually preserve me.
- ¹² For innumerable evils have surrounded me;
My iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not able to look up;
They are more than the hairs of my head;
Therefore my heart fails me.
- ¹³ Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me;
O LORD, make haste to help me!
- ¹⁴ Let them be ashamed and brought to mutual confusion
Who seek to destroy my life;
Let them be driven backward and brought to dishonor
Who wish me evil.
- ¹⁵ Let them be confounded because of their shame,
Who say to me, "Aha, aha!"
- ¹⁶ Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You;
Let such as love Your salvation say continually,
"The LORD be magnified!"
- ¹⁷ But I am poor and needy;
Yet the LORD thinks upon me.
You are my help and my deliverer;
Do not delay, O my God.

Main idea: The Lord Jesus perfectly responds to God, proclaiming His glory and the necessity of our responding to God with praise and proclamation.

Introduction: after the moment of urgency passes, a believer should still want to know how he should be interacting with God and others.

1. Introduction, v1–3

- a. A summary of the past affliction, vv1–2
- b. A summary of how the Psalmist is now responding, v3

2. Praise (application toward God), v4–8

- a. Praise with words, v5
- b. Praise with the life, v6–8

3. Proclamation (application toward others), v9–10

- a. Proclaiming God's work, v9
- b. Proclaiming God's character, v10

4. Perseverance (application toward self), v11–17 (cf. Ps 70)

- a. Looking to God for what we have declared before, v11—to appropriate it very personally, v17
- b. Regardless of how hard or well-deserved the trouble is, v12
- c. To bring about proper outcomes:
 - i. God's praise, v13
 - ii. The wicked's shame, v14–15
 - iii. The godly's joy, v16

Conclusion: Christ, of course, is the perfect Praise-er, Proclaimer, and Persevere-er. His ears exist so that our ears can properly serve the purpose of their existence... Hebrews 10:5-10.

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording referenced above)

Psalm 40. These are the words of God to the chief musician. A Psalm of David. I waited patiently for Yahweh and he inclined to me and heard my cry. He also brought me up out of a horrible pit out of the mire, my replay and set my feet upon a rock and established.

My steps. He has put a new song in my mouth. Praise to our God. Many will see it and fear and will trust. And Yahoo blessed. Does that man who makes y'all pay his trust and doesn't act the proud nor such a turn aside to lies. Many of y'all my god or you're wonderful works which you have done and your thoughts towards us.

Cannot be recounted to you in order. If I would declare and speak of them, they are. More than can be. Numbered sacrifice and offering you did not desire. My ears. You have opened burnt offering and sin offering. You did not require. Then I said, behold I come in the scroll of the book that has written of me.

I delight to do your will. Oh my god. And your law is within my heart. I have proclaimed. The good news of righteousness in the greater assembly. Indeed, I did not restrain my lips. Oh Yahweh. You yourself know I've not hit in your righteousness. Within my heart, I've declared your faithfulness and your salvation.

I've not concealed your loving kindness and your truth from the greatest assembly. Do not withhold your tender mercies from me. Oh, y'all way let your loving kindness and your truth. Continually preserve me for innumerable. Evils of surrounding me, my iniquities have overtaken me so that I am not able to look up.

They are more than the hairs of my head. Therefore my heart fails me. Be pleased or Yahweh to deliver me. Oh y'all may make haste to help me, let them be ashamed and brought to mutual confusion who seek to destroy my life. Let them be driven backward and brought to dishonor, who wish me evil, let them be confounded.

Because of their shame who say to me. Aha, let all those who seek you rejoice and be glad in you. But such as love your salvation say, continually Yahweh be magnified but I am poor and needy. Yet, you always think upon me. You're my help and my deliverer to not delay.

Oh my god. So far the beginning of God's inspired and aren't worth. Well, in Psalm 37, we had a bit of a theology of what to do in times of trouble. In Psalm, 38 and Psalm 39, we had some praying that David did as a model in the midst of, in the midst of trouble.

Psalm 40 deals, primarily with after He has come out of the trouble. And this is instructive to us because often, when the pressures on, I think we cry out to God. We become more urgent. We want wisdom. We want to know what to do. Like the beginning of James chapter 1, when we endure trials of many kinds, and he tells us how to think about them, but we're not good at thinking about that.

And so he says, if you lack wisdom to treat your trials that way, ask God and he will keep doing that work of perfecting you and completing you justice. As he has promised, don't doubt, but be sure that he does as he has said. And he will give you whatever wisdom is necessary for you to have in that situation.

Well, that's what we're liking. The midst of the trial, but when the trial is over, when the suffering ends and the cloud has passed, we still need to know and we still the believer to want to know. How do I respond to God?

The child, he gives you his spirit to be in you to make your heart cry out to God as your own Father. And then you read things like Hebrews chapter 12. What says, all of God's true children? He disciplines. And so if you have a clear conscience before God, and if you're maintaining that repentance of whatever sin, he makes you aware of, then you can have this confidence that he's not against you.

But that is the great trouble. That was the greatest trouble for Job, and his friends were in second place. They were worst and not any of the other earthly kind of things, but the, the biggest problem that Job had was the idea that the Lord might be against him and he was hopeful that he wasn't, but he wanted an audience with God, He wanted God himself.

If if God wouldn't affirm in his providence, the job was righteous with God, then he wished to have God affirmed, that righteousness, by grace, through faith. That Job was counting on verbally from God's Word. Well, the proclamation, then not only he respond with praise towards God. But plaque proclamation, especially of righteousness towards God, the provision that God makes and his righteousness and of his righteousness, for us.

And then the character of God in which he does that, and will consider that briefly in the second place. And then in the third place, he makes application toward himself because it's not like you go through trouble once and then the Lord brings you out of it. And that's it.

You're done with trouble in this life if the last, yeah, if you're most recent trouble was dying. Then you're done. If not then there's still trouble. Remember at the end of the first missionary journey, how Paul and Barnabas went around to all the churches, they had been planted and encouraged them saying through many tribulations.

We must enter the kingdom of God. Well, It was that way for the Lord Jesus. It was that way for the apostles. Once you do the first Thessalonians devotional tomorrow, you'll hear that, you know, you're following us who followed Jesus, talking about the Thessalonians that they had much affliction and in the midst of the affliction, the Holy Spirit, gave them joy.

And then that the Philippians in Macedonia, and the Corinthians in Echoa, also followed them and we're still following them, believers have many afflictions. So, not only is this an application towards others, many will see it, and fear and will trust in Yahweh. But one of the many is him himself in the future.

So those are the three big things that we take away from this Psalm of how to respond to having been delivered by God, from trial. First of all, not surprising at all that we praise him. That would be full of Thanksgiving and praise on 10 second that we proclaim it to others.

This also praises him, but encourages them. And then third that we persevere that we keep on clinging to who our God is, and what our God does, because we will have trouble again and David does have trouble. The end of the Psalm, really, almost the last third of the Psalm, is repeated all by itself in the Psalter later.

In Psalm 70. As as just a Psalm of crying out to God in response to the things that he describes about God. Then the first 10 verses. So first, then praise towards God. There's praise with words.

He says bless does that man who makes Yahweh has trust and does not respect the proud nor such as turn aside to lies. He's saying the Lord is reliable, No one else is reliable. But God Remember Psalm 146, don't put your confidence even in a key. And think about the difference, in the classes of people, and in the time of the Bible, the King was so powerful.

And he had so much money and whatever he said, goes, but he is about to die and get eaten by worms. And the worms are gonna poop him out as dirt. He's gonna return to the dust. He's not going to be able to help you even the best king, even the most powerful game and the best kings are still sinners, and the most powerful kings are still susceptible to many things.

But not the Lord, he made heaven and earth. He has stronger than the strongest king and he has never gonna die.

And is perfectly good. He loves to help those who are weak to be a father to the Fatherless and a husband to the widow to raise up the downcast. And so that's what David is embracing here. He's saying blessed. Happy literally, is that man who has made Yahweh his trust.

And so the Lord is infinitely, more reliably. He's perfectly faithfully, He's praising the Lord, and, and saying this isn't a one-time incident turret, even as many times as I can count incident, it's more than I could ever count Many of y'all away. My god or your wonderful works, which you have done and your thoughts toward us.

Cannot be recounted to you in order If I would declare and speak of them and the if and the them are being supplied by our translators, I declare and speak, they are more than can be numbered. And so it's like when you're trying to express gratitude to someone and often we do this with God himself, I think.

And we say words can't express. Lord how thankful I am. And so he starts out saying many are your wonderful works and can't even recount your thoughts towards us in order. Not only are there so many of them but they're so complex. All the good things God is doing to us all at once all the time.

And then he and then he makes his last statement that they can't be numbered at all. And so there's praise with the mouth, but God is worthy of more than just praise with the mouth. Isn't it? Isn't he? Sorry, sacrifice and offering you do not desire. This is a very important phrase coming from King David.

Because before King David there was King Saul and Saul had a choice one day. Do I obliterate all of the Malachites Or do I do I obey God in obliterate them? Or do I save some? And I won't say you'll have to take his word for it because when it's someone like Saul, you're probably shouldn't take his word for it.

But he claimed that the reason he saved them was for making sacrifices. And you remember what Samuel said, obedience is better than sacrifice heating. The Lord of bang keeping his word is better than the fat of RAM. So David by God's grace, to him. And under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Here, he's learned the lesson. He says yes I I want to praise God with my mouth and recount all that he has done, but I want to obey him more than anything else. Sacrificing offering you did not desire. My ears, You have opened burnt offering in sin offering. You did not require.

Then I said, behold I come and the scroll of the book. It is written of me. I delight to do your will. Oh my god. And your law is within my heart. Now, there's a very important versus because they're repeated in Hebrews chapter 10 of the Lord Jesus, But it's a little bit different for David than it is the Lord Jesus David needed his ears opened as it were twice, first, physically in the womb, but he also needed God to give him that hearing heart.

That would listen to what the commandments of God said And as King one of David's duties, and he was the second one who ever got to do this Because they had had this law for 400 years or so. And as King, what of

David's duties, was to make a copy of the first five books of the Old Testament.

And so he would, he would say when he says in the scroll of the book, it is written of me. Yes. When it talks about Jesus, when it quotes that about Jesus and Hebrews chapter 10, it's talking about something much fuller, then about King David. But for King, David, he also was written about.

He was a king and he had to make a copy in his own hand so that he would know these laws, but it wasn't just so that he could have King David's official copy of the law. It was so that the King David's copy of the law would not just be written with his hand on a scroll but would be written by the Spirit of God on his heart so that he would be a godly king.

When King Jesus comes, he actually when he says my ears, you have opened. Or I think the, the Greek there in Hebrews 10 is even more. Literally, my ears you have dug. It's, especially about the incarnation. He didn't need to be regenerated but it's glorying that God has made a king about whom.

These verses are perfectly true because the second person of the Trinity, had humanity added to himself so that he could obey perfectly righteously in your place, and my place and praise God in David's place. So that he David who wrote some of the best, Psalms for repentant, confessing sin and repenting of it, because of how great a sinner.

He was might have a righteousness from God. That was the righteousness of Jesus counted for him. Yes Mr. Phil, you're talking about the team. He was also supposed to have experience to get living against just pay attention to it reading every day. Yes. And that's the significance of verse 8.

That it wasn't just with him on the paper. It was with him in his heart. So, we are to praise God with words, but we are also especially to praise God with our life. Not only to comment, rejoice in the ones for all sacrifice of Jesus and offer him.

The sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, but we're also to offer our bodies as living sacrifices continually, Considering our whole self and even our physical bodies. The word there is the word for corpse in Romans chapter 12 as set apart and holy unto God. So first price, second proclamation, I have proclaimed.

The good news of righteousness in the great assembly. Indeed, I do not know, I have not your righteousness within my heart, he's not just mean that he hadn't memorized or upon. He's saying, he doesn't concealed it. I've declared your faithfulness and your salvation. I'm not concealed, you're loving kindness and your truth from the great assembly, right?

He says great assembly. Verse 9, Great assembly verse 10. When you go to public worship student's name And you are receiving from God of His grace and looking to him to give you his grace by use of those means. So, have a duty, don't you to be a singer, especially of his praise?

When we sing Psalm, 40, the Holy Spirit. Just by singing the psalm enables us to follow versus nine and 10. Because what happens, We admonish one another with these words of God and his word comes to dwell in us richly and we're filled with the Holy Spirit. You have a job.

You children I need for you to sing the words of God in the public assembly. Why? Because this is one of the ways that God reminds me and teaches me about his steadfast love and his faithfulness. So one thing I like about children is a come into a phase where they really sing heartily and loud, they are not concealing the hesit and Emmett the steadfast love and faithfulness of God.

And one thing that I wish older people wouldn't sometimes grow out of is singing less heartily the truth of God so that we're concealing it.

So proclaiming the Lord to one another proclaiming. First of all his work, the good news of righteousness that he has granted righteousness to sinners. But then also his character that the reason that God does what he does is because God is who He is, that he is full of steadfast, love and faithfulness or loving-kindness and truth as verse 10 has us, But he doesn't just proclaim it to others.

He's also as he as he has praised God and then as he has participated in the public worship, he's storing up truth to help himself when he comes into a new time of trouble and that that's the perseverance and you can see the transition from verse 10. Not concealing.

Your loving kindness and your truth from the great assembly to verse 11. Do not withhold. Your tender mercies from me. Oh Yahweh, let your loving kindness and your truth continually preserve me. So he says I still need and I'm going to keep needing the very thing that I have praised you for to others.

When you delivered me out of that trouble and when he comes into this next trouble, it sounds even worse. Now, the horrible pit is pretty significant trouble. In verse two, but look at verse 12. Innumerable evils, have surrounded me. Well, if you have the numerable evils and numerable, uncountable harm and trouble, you need the God of uncountable goodness, right?

So you can see how the way he has praised God in verses four through eight. And the way he has proclaimed to others in verses, 9 and 10, are the very things that he himself needs to hear for later. So not only does he need the the God of loving kindness and truth versus nine and 10, but he also needs the God of

innumerable.

Good. Wonderful works and thoughts towards him. In fact, the greatest of his evils and we've seen this several times and recently in 38 and 39 are His greatest, problem is his own sin. My iniquities have overtaken me so that I'm not able to look up. And so he knows that the Lord will bring out bring about at last the right results in verse 13 that the Lord would be faithful and be bring phrase to himself.

That verses 14 and 15 that the Lord would bring the wicked who know, not God in into judgment and then verses 16 and 17 rather verse 16 that the Lord would gladden all who seek him so that they would be able. Again, not only to rejoice first half of verse 16 but also to praise second half of 16 Let such as love your salvation.

Say continually Yahweh be magnified. Now the wonderful thing is that although David wrote and saying this under inspiration of the Holy Spirit, we know David was a sinner and he never praised even with this perfect. Psalm his use of it in his own heart and his own life when he comes later to trouble, and he has this spirit inspired prayer and song.

He didn't pray it with perfect righteousness or sing it with perfect righteousness and he didn't come to the assembly and and proclaim God's works to others with perfect righteousness. But there is someone who did isn't there and not only did he do Psalm 40 perfectly, But he was the one sacrifice that God did want Bulls and goats could never take away sin, but Jesus's sacrifice did take away sin.

And so the ears that were formed in the womb of the Virgin, Mary for our Lord, Jesus Christ by which he offered unto God. Perfect hearing that has counted in our place, a much encouraged when you hear a sermon well, but none of us have ever heard a sermon perfectly.

The Lord Jesus heard the word of God perfectly every time that's counted for us when we believe in Him. But the body in which he offered that perfect obedience, He also in his greatest act of obedience offered himself up as an atoning sacrifice. And so in Hebrews chapter 10, it says quoting.

This Psalm of the Lord Jesus. Therefore, when he came into the world, sorry, I'll start in verse 4 for. It is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins Therefore when he came into the world he said sacrifice and offering you did not desire but a body you have prepared for me and burn offerings and sacrifices for sin.

You had no pleasure. Then I said behold I have come in the volume of the book. It is written of me to do your will o God, previously saying sacrifice it and offering burnt offerings and offerings for sin. You did not desire nor had pleasure in them, which are offered according to the law.

Then he said, behold I have come to do your will O God He takes away the first that he made establish the second by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And if you belong to God, in the Lord Jesus Christ, You can be confident, You can be sure of that steadfast love, and that faithfulness by which he will deliver you out of every trouble.

And every trouble you come out of, you will have opportunity to praise God, and to proclaim him to others. Who has delivered you out of your most recent trouble and to store up the knowledge of him so that you may persevere in the next trouble that comes all because Christ has done it perfectly and Christ has atoned for us and earned that favor of God for us.

Amen.