

## **RESTING IN THE VENGEANCE OF GOD**

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Psalm 55

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### **INTRODUCTION: BETRAYED**

Perhaps no pain is worse than the pain of betrayal.

Our tendency in these times of betrayal goes in one of three directions.

1. A people pleaser
2. A recluse
3. A fighter

The Bible shows us a more excellent way in Psalm 55. This more excellent way happens when we stop finding our satisfaction in people and find our satisfaction in God alone.

### **I. DESPERATE CIRCUMSTANCES, VV. 1-3**

On stringed instruments...

David begins this psalm as he begins many others with a cry of despair something has caused him anguish. So he cries out to the Lord.

Consider the last two verses of the psalm.

2 Timothy 3:16, 17

## **II. THE ADVERSARY, VV. 12-14, 20, 21**

### **A. WHO HE WAS TO DAVID**

1. An Equal, v. 13
2. A Close Companion, v. 13
3. A Familiar Friend, v. 13
4. A Brother In Christ (as it were), v. 14

### **B. WHO HE WAS IN HIS HEART**

1. Broke Covenant, v. 20
2. Deceived v. 21

### **C. CAUSED TROUBLE, VV. 9-11**

? How would you deal with such an adversary?

## **III. THE RESPONSE, VV. 4-8; 16-19; 22, 23**

### **A. WORLDLY RESPONSES**

1. Obsessing vv. 2-3
2. Dwelling on the Terrors of Death vv. 5-6

3. Fleeing Like a Dove v. 7
4. Finding shelter, vv. 8-9
5. Hiding
6. Defending Myself, v. 16

These all make sense from a human perspective. That is why David mentions them as options. But he rejects them.

Romans 12:9-21

## B. A GODLY RESPONSE

1. Call To God, vv. 16, 17

2. Rest In the Promise of Redemption, v. 18

### **Isaiah 41:10**

Do not fear, for I am with you; Do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will also help you, I will also uphold you with My righteous right hand.'

### **Deuteronomy 31:6**

Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid or in dread of them, for the Lord your God is the One who is going with you. He will not desert you or abandon you.

### **2 Thessalonians 3:3**

But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

### **Psalms 34:19**

The afflictions of the righteous are many,  
But the Lord rescues him from them all.

### 3. Trust God To Deal With your Adversary, v. 19

God is enthroned, He is the judge.

## **CONCLUSION: FINDING SATISFACTION IN GOD**

When your satisfaction is in God you can have close friends without pandering to them. You can entrust yourself to people not because they are trustworthy but because God is trustworthy. You can keep relationships even after the worst hurt. You will be able to forgive and whether or not the relationship continues, you will always be at peace and steady.

This psalm gives us two seemingly opposite sentiments: rest and vengeance.

peace v. 18 and stability v. 22

God will cast them down, v. 23

## **APPLICATION:**

Cast your burden he won't permit you to be moved

Trust In God

? Do you trust God enough to do nothing to defend yourself?

Philippians 4:6