

I WILL CALL UPON GOD

PSALMS 55

Text: Psalms 55:16

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¹⁶ As for me, I will call upon God; and the LORD shall save me.

Introduction:

Spurgeon once said, "I bear willing witness that I owe more to the fire, the hammer and the file than to anything else in the Lord's workshop. I sometimes question whether I have ever learned anything except through the rod. When my schoolroom is darkened, I see the most."

Do you ever battle discouragement? Sail stormy seas? Face giants greater than yourself? We all do! But, remember today that victory lies in the Lord Jesus Christ. In this passage, we are presented with a man whose own son had turned on him, whose best friends were trying to kill him, a man who felt very alone. A man who was sailing one of life's stormy seas.

Note:

1. DAVID'S DISCOURAGEMENT (VSS.1-4, 9-15)

Psalms 55:1-4

¹ Give ear to my prayer, O God; and hide not thyself from my supplication. ² Attend unto me, and hear me: I mourn in my complaint, and make a noise; ³ Because of the voice of the enemy, because of the oppression of the wicked: for they cast iniquity upon me, and in wrath they hate me. ⁴ My heart is sore pained within me: and the terrors of death are fallen upon me.

Psalms 55:9-15

⁹ Destroy, O Lord, and divide their tongues: for I have seen violence and strife in the city. ¹⁰ Day and night they go about it upon the walls thereof: mischief also and sorrow are in the midst of it. ¹¹ Wickedness is in the midst thereof: deceit and guile depart not from her streets. ¹² For it was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I would have hid myself from him: ¹³ But it was thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance. ¹⁴ We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company. ¹⁵ Let death seize upon them, and let them go down quick into hell: for wickedness is in their dwellings, and among them.

A. He Felt Deserted (vs. 1-2)

B. He Felt Deceived (vs. 9-15; 20-21) -
Ahithophel – He was angry with David because
Bathsheba was his granddaughter.

Psalms 55:20-21

²⁰ He hath put forth his hands against such as be at peace with him: he hath broken his covenant. ²¹ The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords.

2 Samuel 17:23

²³ And when Ahithophel saw that his counsel was not followed, he saddled his ass, and arose, and gat him home to his house, to his city, and put his household in order, and hanged himself, and died, and was buried in the sepulchre of his father.

2 Samuel 23:34

³⁴ Eliphelet the son of Ahasbai, the son of the Maachathite, Eliam the son of Ahithophel the Gilonite,

2 Samuel 11:1-4

¹ And it came to pass, after the year was expired, at the time when kings go forth to battle, that David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the children of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah. But David tarried still at Jerusalem. ² And it

came to pass in an eveningtide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon. ³ And David sent and enquired after the woman. And one said, Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite? ⁴ And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness: and she returned unto her house.

C. He Felt Dirty (vs. 4) - Because of Uriah

D. He Felt Defeated (vs. 5)

1 Corinthians 15:57

⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 2:14

¹⁴ Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.

Note not only David's Discouragement but also:

2. DAVID'S DESIRE (VS. 6-8)

Psalms 55:6-8

⁶And I said, Oh that I had wings like a dove! for then would I fly away, and be at rest. ⁷Lo, then would I wander far off, and remain in the wilderness. Selah. ⁸I would hasten my escape from the windy storm and tempest.

- A. To Fly Away (vs. 6)
- B. To Flee Away (vs. 7)
- C. To Float Away (vs. 8)

The fact is no one can run from problems, we must face them with the help of the Lord.

See:

Numbers 13:33

³³And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

Deuteronomy 9:1-2

¹Hear, O Israel: Thou art to pass over Jordan this day, to go in to possess nations greater and mightier than thyself, cities great and fenced up to heaven, ²A people great and tall, the children of the Anakims, whom thou

knowest, and of whom thou hast heard say, Who can stand before the children of Anak!

We Noted David's Discouragement and Desire. Note also:

3. DAVID'S DELIVERANCE (VSS. 16-23)

Psalms 55:16-23

¹⁶ As for me, I will call upon God; and the LORD shall save me. ¹⁷ Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice. ¹⁸ He hath delivered my soul in peace from the battle that was against me: for there were many with me. ¹⁹ God shall hear, and afflict them, even he that abideth of old. Selah. Because they have no changes, therefore they fear not God. ²⁰ He hath put forth his hands against such as be at peace with him: he hath broken his covenant. ²¹ The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords. ²² Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved. ²³ But thou, O God, shalt bring them down into the pit of destruction: bloody and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; but I will trust in thee.

A. Call On God - Pray (vs. 16-17)

B. Commune With the Right Company (vs. 18)

C. Cast Away Burdens (vs. 22a)

1 Peter 5:7

⁷ Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

Matthew 11:28

²⁸ Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

D. Continue In Him (1 Cor. 15:58)

1 Corinthians 15:58

⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

E. Consider Him (vs. 23)

Hebrews 12:1-2

¹ Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, ² Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Ephesians 3:20

²⁰ Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

We need to remember what the Lord has done and can do.

Close:

Do you ever feel like David? Does discouragement haunt you? Do burdens weigh you down? Learn the secret of victory: get it to Jesus and He will help you as you sail life's stormy seas.