

Series: Pathway Through the Psalms

O LORD, WHO SHALL STAND

PSALMS 130

Text: Psalms 130:3

Psalm 130:3

³ If thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?

Introduction:

This psalm is a psalm of hope in spite of failure.

God forgives our sins, and He will save us from our condemnation.

Note:

Sermon Content:

1. THE APPEAL OF THE PSALMIST (VS. 1-4)

Psalm 130:1-4

¹ Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O LORD.

² Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications. ³ If thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? ⁴ But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared.

Notice:

A. The Place of the Appeal (vs. 1) – “Out of the depths”

In the lowest depths of his troubles, the psalmist turns to the Lord for help.

The great thing about help from God is that our bad circumstances are no hindrance to any help He would give.

Remember Psalms 46:1:

Psalm 46:1

¹ God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

So many sources of help give out when our troubles become great, but the greater our troubles, the greater God's help.

There is no place where we cannot cry to God for help

Notice not only the Place of the Appeal but also:

B. The Petition in the Appeal (vs. 2) – “Lord hear my voice: let thine ear be attentive to the voice of my supplication”

The psalmist pleads for God to not only listen to his prayer but to answer it.

Notice not only the Place and Petition in the Appel but also:

C. The Problem for the Appeal (vs. 3) – “If thou, Lord shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?”

The problem is a great one and troubles the psalmist. Sin will condemn us before God.

Unless our sin is forgiven, we cannot stand in judgment before God.

Sin will stop our prayers from being heard Psalm 66:18.

Psalm 66:18

¹⁸ If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:

Notice not only the Place, Petition and Problem in the Appel but also:

D. The Pardon for the Appeal (vs. 4) – “But there is forgiveness with thee”

The problem in verse 3 is solved here in verse 4.

Now understand that the pardon is not primarily for the pardoned one but for the One Who pardons.

Divine pardon is found in the gospel of Christ and is the greatest news and blessing mankind can know and enjoy.

We have considered The Appeal of the Psalmist note secondly:

2. THE ANTICIPATION OF THE PSALMIST (VS. 5-6)

Psalm 130:5-6

⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope. ⁶ My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning: I say, more than they that watch for the morning.

The psalmist had great anticipation or hope.

Anyone who keeps his eyes on the Lord, as the psalmist did, will have hope.

Notice:

A. The Patience in the Anticipation (vs. 5) – “I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait”

This is not waiting "on" the Lord which would be service, but this is waiting "for" the Lord to act which takes much patience.

Understand:

God has His own time and moment for everything. Faith recognizes that God's time is the best time.

Satan has many shortcuts to tempt man to not wait but get it now.

But these shortcuts also have consequences that wise men want to avoid at all costs.

Waiting is very hard on the flesh and requires much patience of which all of us have very little.

Waiting is not easy, but it is right.

It is a conviction deep down inside that refuses to take one of Satan's shortcuts.

B. The Promise for the Anticipation (vs. 5) – “In His word do I hope.”

This refers to a promise which God has made.

God keeps His Word; you can count on that.

This is what the psalmist's hope is built upon, namely, the Word of God.

If your hope is built on anything else but God and His Word, you are without true hope.

Notice not only the Patience and Promise in the Anticipation but also:

C. The Passion in the Anticipation (vs. 6) – “My soul waiteth more for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning”

The reference here is to those who have stood watch throughout the night and are very anxious for morning to come so they can be relieved of the watch.

The psalmist is waiting for God to act with great anticipation.

For the believer we are waiting with anticipation for the Lord's return.

John said it this way in Revelation 22:20:

Revelation 22:20

²⁰ He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

We have considered the Appeal and the Anticipation of the Psalmist note lastly:

3. THE ADVICE OF THE PSALMIST (VS. 7-8)

Psalm 130:7-8

⁷ Let Israel hope in the LORD: for with the LORD there is mercy, and with him is plenteous redemption. ⁸ And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

After the psalmist has prayed and declared his own dedication to hope in God for deliverance, he exhorts others to hope in the Lord and gives some good reasons to doing so.

People foolishly hope in man—a new king, a new president, a new governor or mayor—but the best hope is hope in God.

God will deliver; He will not fail. His promises are not the promises of a politician.

They are something we can anticipate occurring, for God keeps His Word.

Not only does God keep His Word but also God shows us His mercy. (vs. 7)

Psalm 130:7

⁷ Let Israel hope in the LORD: for with the LORD there is mercy, and with him is plenteous redemption.

And there is no shortage of redemption with God either.

Thus the psalmist advises the reader to hope in the Lord.

Close:

There is much that we can glean from these words of Psalms 130.

We too should make our appeal know to God.

We too as believers should with great anticipation look for His coming.

We too should follow this advice and find our hope in the Lord.