

Psalm 63

Water for the Thirsty Soul

Intro: David composed this Psalm while he was king. He was in the wilderness of Judah at the time. Even though David is passing through a dry and weary land, his heart was not deserted for he retained the vision of God he had received from the sanctuary. David realized that God was his God, there was a personal relationship with God that caused David to seek God.

I. SEEKING AFTER GOD: VS. 1-8 ¹O God, thou *art* my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; ²To see thy power and thy glory, so *as* I have seen thee in the sanctuary. ³Because thy lovingkindness *is* better than life, my lips shall praise thee. ⁴Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name. ⁵My soul shall be satisfied *as with* marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise *thee* with joyful lips: ⁶When I remember thee upon my bed, *and* meditate on thee in the *night* watches. ⁷Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice. ⁸My soul followeth hard after thee: thy right hand upholdeth me.”

A. Seek God.

1. Early.
 - a. David uses two figures to describe his seeking.
 - (1) soul thirsteth for God.
 - (2) flesh longing for God in a dry land.
 - b. The word “early” not only indicates time but also immediateness or eagerness.
2. These two figures represent seeking God with the whole being.
 - a. The entire man and all his energies.
 - b. Mat. 6:33 ³³ But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”
 - c. Mat. 22:37 ³⁷ Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.”
 - d. He must be filled or perish; Mat. 5:6 ⁶ Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.”
 - e. God will not and is not pleased with man’s half-hearted service.
3. To see God’s power and glory.
 - a. See means to perceive or experience.
 - b. God’s power
 - (1) Psa. 62:11 ¹¹ God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God.”
 - (2) God’s power is expressed in three ways.
 - (a) Creative power
 - (b) Recreative power (ability to save)
 - (c) Sustaining power
 - c. God’s glory (honor).
 - (1) Isa. 6:3 ³ And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.”
 - (2) Rev. 4:11 ¹¹ Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.”

B. Seek God's love.

1. It is more important than life itself.
 - a. We are given meaning to life. What would life be without God's love.
 - b. Mat. 16:26 ²⁶ "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"
2. It will satisfy us.
 - a. David uses the figure of having just eaten a feast of the highest festive nourishment (the marrow and fatness).
 - b. God will give man what he needs.
 - (1) Phi. 4:19 ¹⁹ "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."
 - (2) God gives us physical blessings.
 - (3) God gives us spiritual blessings.

C. God's help to man.

1. He is our help.
 - a. Psa. 54:4 ⁴ "Behold, God is mine helper: the Lord is with them that uphold my soul."
 - b. Heb. 13:5-6 ⁵ "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. ⁶ So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."
2. He is our protector.
 - a. Psa. 118:6 ⁶ "The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?"
 - b. Rom. 8:31 ³¹ "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"
3. By His power He upholds us.
 - a. 1 Pet. 1:5 ⁵ "Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."
 - b. 1 John 4:4 ⁴ "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."

D. Cause us to Praise God.

1. With lips.
 - a. Heb. 13:15 ¹⁵ "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name."
 - b. Rev. 7:12 ¹² "Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen."
2. With joy.
 - a. When we are baptized into Christ we rejoice.
 - (1) Acts 2:41 ⁴¹ "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls."
 - (2) Acts 8:39 ³⁹ "And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing."
 - (3) Acts 16:34 ³⁴ "And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house."
 - b. The Christian life is one of joy.
 - (1) Phi. 4:4 ⁴ "Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice."
 - (2) 1 The. 5:16 ¹⁶ "Rejoice evermore."
3. Our entire life.
 - a. Mat. 10:22 ²² "And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved."

- b. 1 Cor. 15:58 ⁵⁸ "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."
- c. Rev. 2:10 ¹⁰ "Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

E. Causes faithfulness to God.

- 1. Rom. 2:4 ⁴ "Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?"
- 2. 2 Cor. 5:14-15 ¹⁴ "For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: ¹⁵ And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again."
- 3. 1 John 4:19 ¹⁹ "We love him, because he first loved us."

F. We have fellowship with God.

- 1. David soul "followeth hard" or is glued or cleaves to God. This shows fellowship or unity with God.
- 2. John 17:21 ²¹ "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me."
- 3. This fellowship is based upon our faithfulness to God's word.
 - a. John 17:17, 20 ¹⁷ "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.... ²⁰ Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word"
 - b. 1 John 1:7 ⁷ "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

II. DESTRUCTION OF ENEMIES; VS. 9-11 ⁹ "But those *that* seek my soul, to destroy *it*, shall go into the lower parts of the earth. ¹⁰ They shall fall by the sword: they shall be a portion for foxes. ¹¹ But the king shall rejoice in God; every one that sweareth by him shall glory: but the mouth of them that speak lies shall be stopped."

A. Notice the contrast between David and his enemies.

- 1. David sought after God.
- 2. David's enemies sought after him.
 - a. Their intent was to destroy David.
 - b. If they had been following after God they would not have tried to destroy David. cf. Num 16 (Korah, Dathan, and Abiram's rebellion against Moses).

B. The destruction of his enemies.

- 1. God will mete out justice to the evil-doer.
 - a. Rom. 12:19 ¹⁹ "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."
 - b. Heb. 10:30 ³⁰ "For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people."
- 2. There is partial justice meted out in this life.
 - a. David's enemies will die (a probable reference to death in war).
 - b. They will not be buried, but become meat for the animals (foxes, jackals).
- 3. Ultimate justice will be in the resurrection.
 - a. 2 The. 1:6-9 ⁶ "Seeing *it is* a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; ⁷ And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, ⁸ In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: ⁹ Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;"

- b. Mat. 13:40-42 ⁴⁰ As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. ⁴¹ The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; ⁴² And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”

C. Result of their destruction.

1. Rejoicing
2. Glorify God

Conclusion: Through Christ comes the true fountain of God. John 4:14 ¹⁴ But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.” When we seek after Him, we can find Him, walk in His way and never thirst again.