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How Long, O Lord?

Psalm 13:1-6

- 1) Problem: prolonged waiting for God can lead us to despondency (13:1-2)
 - a) Struggles within the family; singleness
 - b) Ongoing health problems
 - c) Financial burdens that never improve
 - d) Satan's pursuit of us (cf. 1 Peter 5:8)
 - e) Biblical examples: David, Elijah, Jesus
- 2) Solution: prayer; at rock bottom we cry out to God (vv. 3-4)
 - a) Acknowledging God says we know He is there
 - b) "Consider" (look)—Stop ignoring me!
 - c) "Answer"—yes, no, or slow
 - d) "Light to my eyes" (John 8:12; Jas 1:17)
- 3) Result: worship of God (vv. 5-6; cf. Rev 6:10; 22:7, 12, 20)
- 4) Observations & Applications
 - a) Tozer: "It is doubtful whether God can bless us greatly until He has hurt us deeply"
 - b) Be like Hannah, boldly before God's throne (Heb. 4:16)
 - c) Don't be like Saul, taking matters into your own hands
 - d) Plead like Paul: three times I pleaded! (2 Cor 12:9)
 - e) "God answers the weak man's prayer and the new convert's prayer miraculously. But as the Christian life proceeds, God's voice becomes more faint; His refusals more frequent. They become more unmistakable and more emphatic." C.S. Lewis

