

“The Call of the Cast Down” – pt. II

Text: Psalm 43

Scripture reading: I Thessalonians 3

Reading: Psalm 42-43

I. A Christian perspective on despair – Ps. 42 (last week)

II. A Christian path from despair – Ps. 43

A) Principles for recovery – vv. 1-3

1. Praying from _____
(Jas. 4:2)

2. Speaking with _____
(Matt. 18:20)

B) Praises from recovery – vv. 4-5

“When a man gets to despair he knows that all his thinking will never get him out. He will only get out by the sheer creative effort of God. Consequently he is in the right attitude to receive from God that which he cannot gain for himself.”

-Oswald Chambers; Scottish evangelist and teacher; 1874-1917

SERMON QUOTES:

II. A Christian path from despair – Ps. 43

Martin Lloyd Jones,

“Indeed I can put it, finally like this; the ultimate cause of all spiritual depression is unbelief.”

“Unhappy Christians are, to say the least, a poor recommendation for the Christian faith; and there can be little doubt but that the exuberant joy of the early Christian was one of the most potent factors in the spread of Christianity.”

“...Nothing is more important, therefore, than that we should be delivered from a condition which gives other people, looking at us, the impression that to be a Christian means to be unhappy, to be sad, to be morbid, and that the Christian is one who ‘scorns delight and lives laborious days.’”

A) Principles for recovery – vv. 1-3

2. Speaking with _____

Martin Lloyd Jones,

“Very briefly at this point, the first thing we have to learn is what the Psalmist learned – we must learn to take ourselves in hand. This man was not content just to lie down and commiserate with himself. He does something about it...”

“Have you realized that most of your unhappiness in life is due to the fact that you are listening to yourself instead of talking to yourself?”

“You have to take yourself in hand, you have to address yourself, preach to yourself, and question yourself. ...you must remind yourself of God, who God is, and what God is and what God has done, and what God has pledged Himself to do.”

B) Praises from recovery – vv. 4-5

C. H. Spurgeon,

“If God be thine, why this dejection? If He uplifts thee, why art thou so near the ground? The dew of love is falling, O withering heart, revive.”