

“Knowing the God Who Alone Knows”

Text: Psalm 39

Scripture reading: Hebrews 12:1-13

Intro.: Heb. 4:14-16

I. A time for silent restraint – vv. 1-3

A) Muzzled mouth – vs. 1

B) Silent sorrows – vs. 2

C) Heated heart – vs. 3a

II. A time for spiritual reflection – vv. 3b-7

A) Limited days – vv. 4-5

B) Empty images – vs. 6

C) Hopeful waiting – vs. 7 (Heb. 12:10-11; Ps. 51:10; Ps. 32:10)

III. A time for sovereign resignation – vv. 8-13

A) Sin recognized – vv. 8-9

B) Relief requested – vv. 10-11

C) Comfort restored – vv. 12-13 (Heb. 11:13-16; I Pet. 2:10-11)

Conclusion: God is to be worshiped...

1) ...because He _____.

2) ...because we _____.

3) ...because He _____.

“God corrects me with the same love that He crowns me. God is now training me up for heaven; He carves me to make me a polished pillar fit to stand in the heavenly mansion.”

-Simeon Ashe; English clergyman; died 1662

SERMON QUOTES:

I. A time for silent restraint – vv. 1-3

C) Heated heart – vs. 3a

C. H. Spurgeon,

“A sound course of action may be pushed to the extreme, and become a fault. ...The pent up floods (of the heart) are swollen and agitated. Utterance is the natural outlet for the heart’s anguish, and silence is, therefore, both an aggravation of the evil and a barrier against its cure.”

William Plumer,

“...though bound to a wise silence before men, we may always pour out our cries to God. Nay, the greater our sorrow the more need of prayer to Him, who made the world.”

III. A time for sovereign resignation – vv. 8-13

William Plumer,

“We must indeed close all such prayers with the sentence, ‘Thy will be done!’”