

Summer

IN THE

Psalms



DANUBE
INTERNATIONAL CHURCH

Summer in the Psalms

Psalms for every season of the soul

Makoto Fujimura



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INTERNATIONAL CHURCH

When God Seems Silent

(A Journey of Honest Faith)

Psalm 13

Makoto Fujimura

When God Seems Silent

(A Journey of Honest Faith)

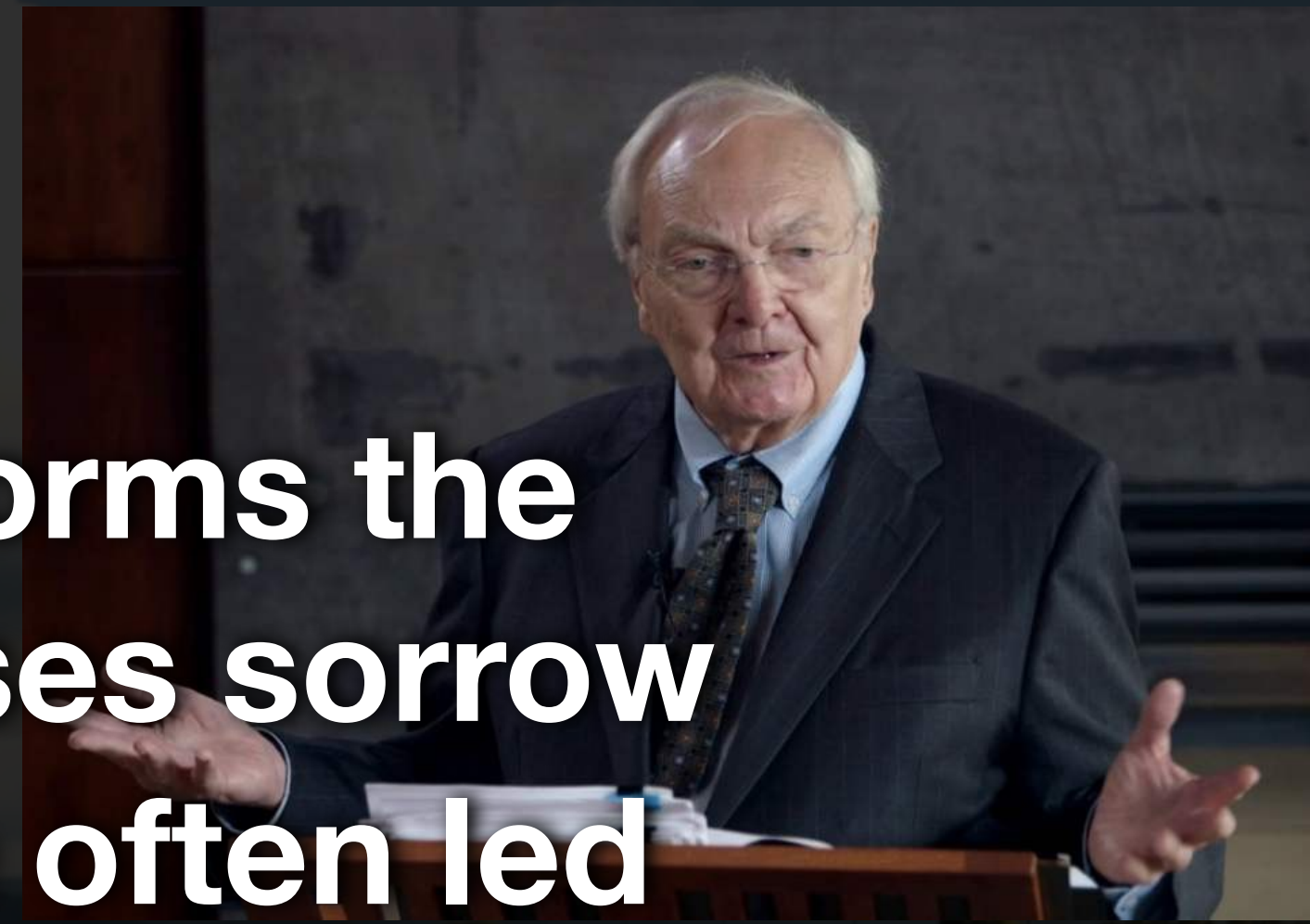
What is Lament?

A form of prayer in pain that leads to trust.



Lament

“Lament has a *formative role*—it transforms the sufferer. As the psalmist honestly expresses sorrow and appeals to God’s character, they are often led from despair to renewed trust and praise.”



Dr. Bruce Waltke

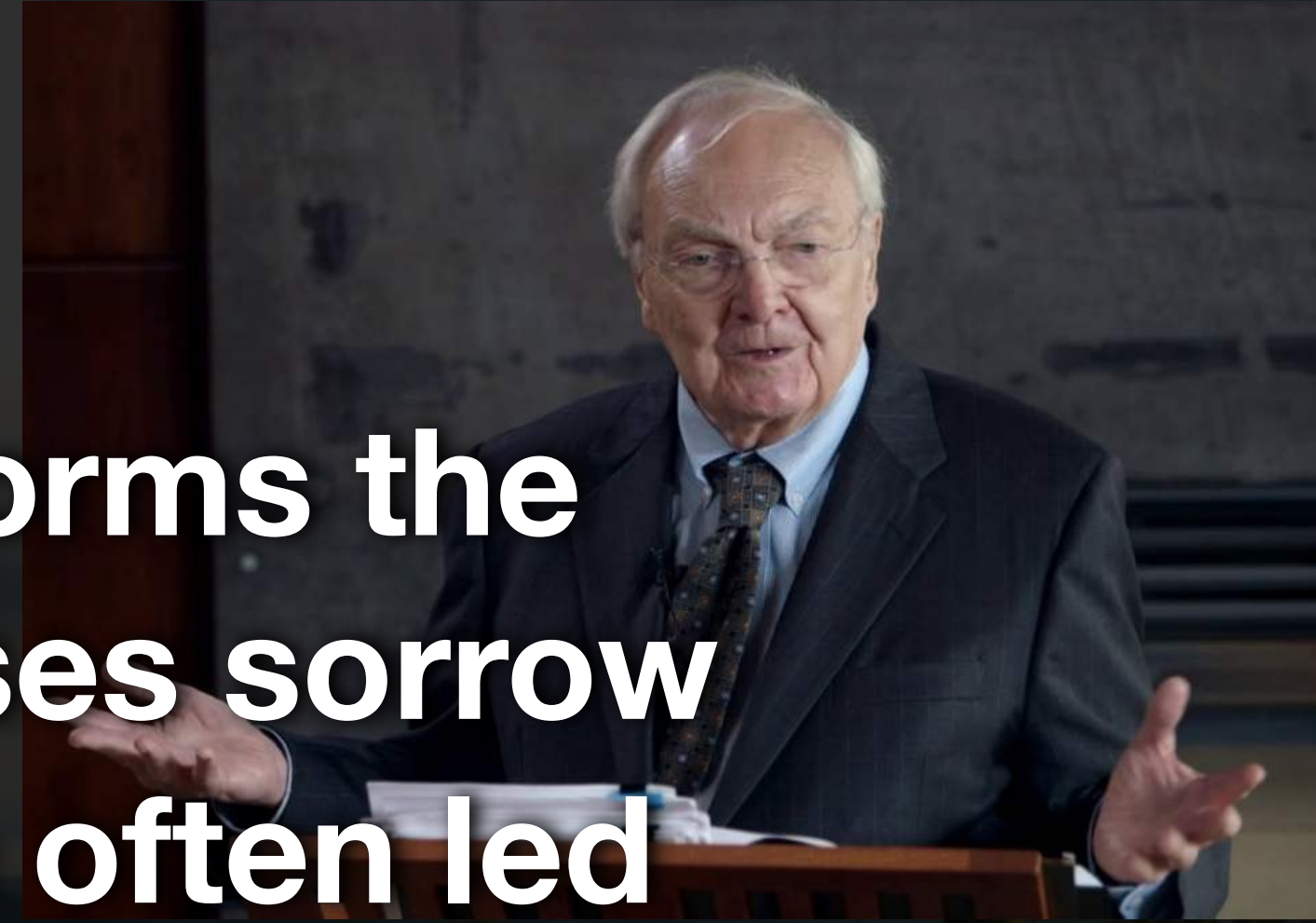


Lament

“Lament has a *formative role* – it transforms the sufferer. As the psalmist honestly expresses sorrow and appeals to God’s character, they are often led from despair to renewed trust and praise.”

“Lament is not just about resolution, but relational restoration.”

Dr. Bruce Waltke



When God Seems Silent

(A Journey of Honest Faith)

What is Lament?

A form of prayer in pain that leads to trust.

Psalm 13: When God Seems Silent

Scroll:- c.1010–970 B.C.

by [King David](#) (Author)

5.0  165,001 ratings

Goodreads choice **Award winner** ****“Raw, Honest, and Surprisingly Hopeful - A Short Read That Stays With You”**

Winner of the Heart Cry award and the best small lament award.

•*If you've ever cried out in the silence, felt forgotten by God, or wrestled with dark thoughts while clinging to light, Psalm 13 is your book. This six-verse masterpiece is a crash course in honest faith. The author (David) takes you on an emotional journey that begins in **anguish**, wrestles through **complaint**, and lands in **hope**. It's not sanitized or overly spiritual—it's brutally honest and spiritually rich.*

•*You'll feel the tension as David repeats, “**How long, O Lord?**” four times in just two verses. It feels like reading someone else's journal entry... and realizing it could be yours.*

•*This isn't a polished theological treatise—it's a **soul's cry in the dark**. The turning point comes when he doesn't get an answer, but he remembers something deeper: “**But I trust in your unfailing love.**” This isn't a happily-ever-after ending—it's a **trust-in-the-dark** ending. Not because the circumstances change, but because the heart anchors itself in **God's steadfast love**. Perfect for anyone navigating sorrow, doubt, or waiting.*

Psalm 13:1-6

**1 How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?**

**2 How long must I wrestle with my thoughts
and day after day have sorrow in my heart?
How long will my enemy triumph over me?**

**3 Look on me and answer, Lord my God.
Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death;**

**4 and my enemy will say, "I have overcome him,"
and my foes will rejoice when I fall.**

**5 But I trust in your unfailing love;
my heart rejoices in your salvation.**

**6 I will sing the Lord's praise,
for he has been good to me.**

Structure:

Psalm 13:1-6

Address to God

Complaint

**1 How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?**

**2 How long must I wrestle with my thoughts
and day after day have sorrow in my heart?
How long will my enemy triumph over me?**

Request for help

**3 Look on me and answer, Lord my God.
Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death;**

**4 and my enemy will say, "I have overcome him,"
and my foes will rejoice when I fall.**

Expression of trust

**5 But I trust in your unfailing love;
my heart rejoices in your salvation.**

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When God Seems Silent

(A Journey of Honest Faith)

I. Honest Faith Begins with Honest Lament vv. 1-2

II. Honest Faith Asks Boldly vv. 3-4

III. Honest Faith Holds Fast to God's Love vv. 5-6

When God Seems Silent

(A Journey of Honest Faith)

Big idea:

Faith is not the denial of anguish, but trust in God's steadfast love—even when He seems absent.

When God Seems Silent

I. Honest Faith Begins with Honest Lament vv. 1-2

1. Key truth: Lament is honest faith, not unbelief.

2. Key truth: God invites us to be honest in prayer, even in confusion and despair.

When God Seems Silent

I. Honest Faith Begins with Honest Lament vv. 1-2

1 **How long**, Lord? Will you forget me forever?

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2 **How long** must I wrestle with my thoughts
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How long will my enemy triumph over me?

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How long will my enemy triumph over me?

1. Spiritual Desertion
2. Divine Silence
3. Internal Turmoil
4. Relentless opposition

When God Seems Silent

I. Honest Faith Begins with Honest Lament vv. 1-2

1 How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever?

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1. Spiritual Desertion

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2. Divine Silence

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3. Internal Turmoil

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3. Internal Turmoil

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How long will my enemy triumph over me?

“It is not the presence of affliction, but the absence of God’s presence in it, that makes it unbearable.”

William Gurnall



Vertigo



“Do not rely upon feelings... Faith is a refusal to panic.”

When God Seems Silent

I. Honest Faith Begins with Honest Lament vv. 1-2

•The silence of God is not the abandonment of God.

•His hiddenness is not his absence.

When God Seems Silent

I. Honest Faith Begins with Honest Lament vv. 1-2

Are you pretending to be okay in prayer instead of telling God how you really feel?

Key truth: God invites us to be honest in prayer, even in confusion and despair.



When God Seems Silent

I. Honest Faith Begins with Honest Lament vv. 1-2

Application:

Self-Examination: Ask yourself: Where am I hiding my sorrow instead of bringing it to God? Am I pretending I'm okay or numbing my pain instead of praying through it?

Repentance and Rest: Repent of the subtle pride that says, "I shouldn't feel this way," or "God doesn't care." Rest in the truth that God already knows your pain—and invites you to speak it.

When God Seems Silent

II. Honest Faith Asks Boldly vv. 3-4

3 Look on me and answer, Lord my God.

Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death;

4 and my enemy will say, “I have overcome him,”

and my foes will rejoice when I fall.

Key truth: God welcomes our bold requests — not just our polite prayers.

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Request for help

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○ **Attention** – “Look on me” v. 3

○ **Intervention** – “Answer me” v. 3

○ **Restoration** – “Give light to my eyes” v. 3

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***“The battlefield is the heart, and the cry for God’s light
is a soldier’s cry in the fog of war.”***

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Self-Examination: Where do I look for “light” (relief, clarity, reassurance) apart from God? Am I more passionate in voicing my fears to others or in praying them to my Father?

Repentance and Rest: Repent of prayerlessness and of the lie that God won’t act. Delay is not Denial. Rest in the freedom to bring specific, urgent, even desperate prayers to your heavenly Father.



When God Seems Silent

(A Journey of Honest Faith)

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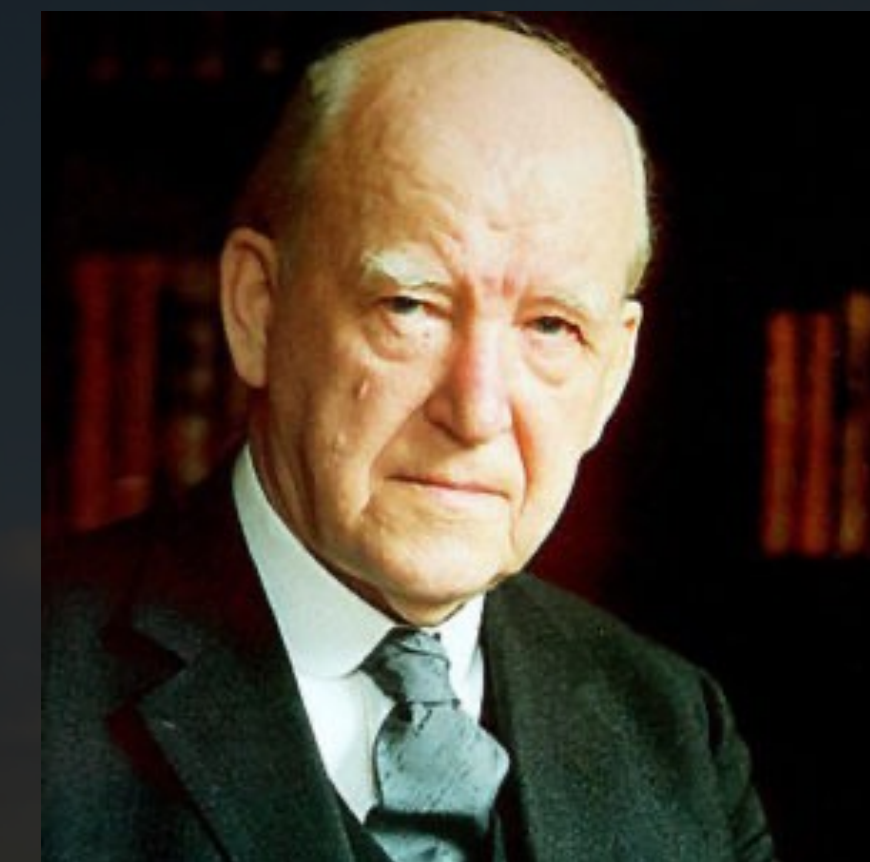
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**5 But I trust in your unfailing love;
my heart rejoices in your salvation.**

**6 I will sing the Lord's praise,
for he has been good to me.**

Expression of trust

When God Seems Silent



“Faith holds on, not because it sees the outcome, but because it remembers the character of the One who does.”

Martyn Lloyd Jones

When God Seems Silent

III. Honest Faith Holds Fast to God's Love vv. 5-6

Expression of trust

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Key gospel truth: The cross is God's final answer to our cries of "How long?"
In Jesus, sorrow has an end—and salvation has the final word.

When God Seems Silent

III. Honest Faith Holds Fast to God's Love vv. 5-6

Application

What narrative are you telling yourself right now—one of abandonment or redemption?

Where do you need to speak God's love over your own heart again?

**v.6 I will sing the Lord's praise,
for he has been good to me.**



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