

DRAINS AND FAUCETS

June 30, 2019

I. TEN THINGS THAT DRAIN US

Psalms 73:1-2 Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold.

1. Envy

Psalms 73:3 For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

2. Comparison

Psalms 73:4-5 They have no struggles; their bodies are healthy and strong. They are free from common human burdens; they are not plagued by human ills.

3. Pride

Psalms 73:6-10 Therefore pride is their necklace; they clothe themselves with violence. From their callous hearts comes iniquity; their evil imaginations have no limits. They scoff, and speak with malice; with arrogance they threaten oppression. Their mouths lay claim to heaven, and their tongues take possession of the earth. Therefore their people turn to them and drink up waters in abundance.

4. Doubt

Psalms 73:11 They say, "How would God know? Does the Most High know anything?"

5. Delusion

Psalms 73:12 This is what the wicked are like— always free of care, they go on amassing wealth.

6. Discouragement

Psalms 73:13 Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure and have washed my hands in innocence.

7. Self-Centered Pity

Psalms 73:14 All day long I have been afflicted, and every morning brings new punishments.

8. Anxiety

Psalms 73:16 When I tried to understand all this, it troubled me deeply

9. Grief

Psalms 73:21-22 When my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered, I was senseless and ignorant; I was a brute beast before you.

10. Bitterness

II. THREE FAUCETS FOR FILLING DRAINED LIVES

1. The Presence of God

A. Go where God is.

Psalms 73:17 till I entered the sanctuary of God; then I understood their final destiny.

B. Rest in God's presence.

Psalms 73:23 Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand.

C. Be with God's people.

Psalms 73:27 Those who are far from you will perish; you destroy all who are unfaithful to you.

D. Give God control.

Psalms 73:28 But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge; I will tell of all your deeds.

2. The Perspective from God

Psalms 73:18-20 Surely you place them on slippery ground; you cast them down to ruin. How suddenly are they destroyed, completely swept away by terrors! They are like a dream when one awakes; when you arise, Lord, you will despise them as fantasies.

A. God's perspective is found in truth.

Psalms 42:11 Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

Psalms 73:24 You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory.

B. God's perspective is found in God's Word.

Psalms 119:105 Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Psalms 119:130 The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.

C. God's perspective is found in obedience.

Psalms 119:11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

3. The Praise of God

Psalm 73:25-26 Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

A. Praise reminds me that God is greater than my circumstance.

Psalms 66:1-4 Shout for joy to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious. Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies cringe before you. All the earth bows down to you; they sing praise to you, they sing the praises of your name."

B. Praise reminds me that God is better than any substitute.

Psalms 34:8 Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

C. Praise reminds me that God is stronger than my weakness.

Isaiah 40:29-31 He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

D. Praise reminds me that God is everything I need.

Psalm 73:25-26 Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.