



## Introduction

- The basis for our Laments is that God is our portion

## Why God is our Portion

- His free favor and love
  - *“The distance between God and the creature is so great, that although reasonable creatures do owe obedience to him as their creator, yet they could never have attained the reward of life but by some voluntary condescension on God’s part, which he hath been pleased to express by way of covenant.” 2LBCF 7.1*
- Covenant of Grace
  - *“For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. 17 So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, 18 so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. 19 We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, 20 where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.” (Heb 6:16–20)*

## How is God our Portion?

1. Present Portion
  - a. *“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. 2 Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, 3 though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling” (Ps 46:1–3)*
  - b. *“When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. 18 The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.” (Ps 34:17–18)*
  - c. *“The nature of that presence which the Lord promises to his followers ought to be understood spiritually; for it is not necessary that he should descend from heaven in order to assist us, since he can assist us by the grace of his Spirit, as if he stretched out his hand from heaven. For he who, in respect of his body, is at a great distance from us, not only diffuses the efficacy of his Spirit through the whole world, but even actually dwells in us.” ~ John Calvin*
2. Immense Portion
  - a. *“Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales; behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust. 16 Lebanon would not suffice for fuel, nor are its beasts enough for a burnt offering. 17 All the nations are as nothing before him, they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness...It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; 23 who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness” (Is 40:15–17, 22–23)*
3. All-Sufficient Portion
  - a. *“O Christians! God is an all-sufficient portion; his power is all-sufficient to protect you; his wisdom is all-sufficient to direct you; his mercy is all-sufficient to pardon you; his goodness is all-sufficient to provide for you; his word is all-sufficient to support you and strengthen you; and his grace is all-*



sufficient to adorn you and enrich you; and his Spirit is all-sufficient to lead you and comfort you; and what can you desire more?" ~ Thomas Brooks

#### 4. Necessary Portion

- a. For the destiny of our soul
- b. For restoring us in repentance
- c. To live out our purpose as image bearers

#### 5. Pure Portion

- a. *"This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all." (1 John 1:5)*

#### 6. Blessed Portion

- a. *"Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!" (Ps 33:12)*
- b. *"You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore." (Ps 16:11)*

#### 7. Peculiar Portion

- a. God appropriates himself to us experientially
- b. *"Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. 17 Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, 18 and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. 19 When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. 20 For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you" (Mt 10:16–20)*

#### 8. Universal Portion

- a. *"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" (Rev 5:12)*
- b. *"There is none but God, that is a universal good, that can truly say, All power, wisdom, all strength, all knowledge, all goodness, all sweetness, all beauty, all glory, all excellency, etc., dwells in me. He that can truly say that is a god, and he that cannot is no god... All excellencies that are scattered up and down in the creatures, are united into one excellency in God; but there is not one excellency in God that is fully scattered up and down among all the creatures. There is a glorious union of all excellencies in God, and only in God." ~ Thomas Brooks*

#### 9. Secure Portion

- a. *"Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them." (Heb 7:25)*

#### 10. Suitable Portion

- a. *"The soul can crave nothing, nor wish for nothing, but what is to be found in this portion. Here is light to enlighten the soul, wisdom to council the soul, power to support the soul, goodness to supply the soul, mercy to pardon the soul, beauty to delight the soul, glory to ravish the soul, and fullness to fill the soul...and this speaks out the excellency of this portion above all other portions." ~ Thomas Brooks*

#### 11. Incomprehensible Portion

- a. *"But when we turn our thoughts to the great God by whom the boundless universe was created and is continually governed and upheld, and try to form an adequate conception of his eternal duration, his underived existence, his universal presence, his all-sustaining power, and other unsearchable attributes which pertain to him, we find ourselves utterly baffled in the vain attempt. For though he 'has not left himself without witness,' but 'has made the invisible things of his eternal power and Godhead to be understood by the things which he hath made,' yet notwithstanding all we thus must know of him, we cannot 'find out the Almighty unto perfection.'" ~ T.J Crawford*

#### 12. Inexhaustible Portion



- 
- a. *“Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” (Jn 4:13–14)*
  - b. *“Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. 26 My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever” (Ps 73:25–26)*

13. Incomparable Portion

- a. Logical conclusion