

Do You Ever Feel Outnumbered?

Psalm 3

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June 11, 2017

The book of Psalms contains loads of verses that we hold dear and close. Others are poetic and slapped all over memes, inspirational posters and “get well soon” cards.

Psalm 1:1, 8:9, 23:1 46:10, 51:1 and 73:25

Psalms of lament are Psalms of *invocation* - cries to God in the midst of pain and trouble.

Have you ever been distressed, ashamed, flustered, anxious, stressed? Have you ever been outnumbered by the emotions running through your body that seem to be out of your control?

"Troubles always come in flocks. Sorrow hath a numerous family."
C.H. Spurgeon

Psalm 3:1

Make no mistake; you have numbers coming at you relentlessly from all sides in this world.

Heb 12:1-2 (ESV)

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

1. Cry Out to God.

Crying out is an act of faith and not sight. It's an act of trust.

David cried out.

Jesus cried out. (Matt 26:36-46; Luke 22:39-46)

Crying out to God is an act of humility.

How often are you okay with things turning out differently than you wanted or differently than you prayed?

2. Know God's Character and Place Your Confidence in Him.

Psalm 3:3-4

We should not be afraid of life or death and the numerous troubles all around, when we can rejoice in the truth that God hears our prayers!

If we only knew God more, we would run to him faster and without hesitation in our times of need.

God in His love always wills what is best for us. In His wisdom He always knows what is best, and in His sovereignty He has the power to bring it about. - Trusting God by Jerry Bridges

We need to speak truth to ourselves and pray to remind ourselves of what is true.

"Prayer is a good preparation for sleep." – W. S. Plumer

Psalm 3:5

We can count it JOY because of what we know to be true!

James 1:2-4 (ESV)

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

We can know that God is using it to make us more like Jesus!

What do you know today believer?

Before the angel came to strengthen him, Jesus prayed that the cup be removed (Luke 22:42)...Strengthening him for what? Presumably to do what he had to do. In other words, the angel was God's response to Jesus's first prayer. The angel bears God's message that there is no other way, but I will help you. Do not turn from your mission now, in spite of the terrifying prospect. I will help you. Here is my angel to strengthen you. "The Greatest Prayer in the World" by John Piper

Daniel 3:15-18 (ESV)

"Now if you are ready... to fall down and worship the image that I have made, well and good. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace. And who is the god who will deliver you out of my hands?" [They] answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up."

2 Sam 15:25-26 (ESV)

Then the king said to Zadok, "Carry the ark of God back into the city. If I find favor in the eyes of the Lord, he will bring me back and let me see both it and his dwelling place. But if he says, 'I have no pleasure in you,' behold, here I am, let him do to me what seems good to him."

Psalms 3:6 "I will not be afraid of 10,000 enemies.."

Why??

Psalms 3:8 "Salvation belongs to the Lord"

3. Remind Yourself, the Victory is Already Won!

The natural progression of faith flowing through the heart, soul, mind, and strength of a believer culminates and climaxes with the doctrine of salvation.

Believers, however, must search the scriptures and remind ourselves that Salvation Belongs To The Lord. Because we're prone to wander and forget. We're prone to be caught in living by sight and not faith.

"Thy blessing is upon thy people"... thy blessing is upon thy chosen, thy blood-bought, thine everlastingly-beloved people. "Selah:" lift up your hearts, and pause, and meditate upon this doctrine. "Thy blessing is upon thy people." Divine, discriminating, distinguishing, eternal, infinite, immutable love, is a subject for constant adoration. Pause my soul, at this Selah, and consider thine own interest in the salvation of God; and if by humble faith thou art enabled to see Jesus as thine by his own free gift of himself to thee, if this greatest of all blessings be upon thee, rise up and sing." - Treasury of David by C.H. Spurgeon