Psalm

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Date: 22 May 1994

Preacher: Simmonds, Peter (1936-1994)

[0:00] The End The End Psalm 22 and the first verse.

Psalm 22 and the first verse. My God, my God.

Why hast thou forsaken me?

Why art thou so far from helping me? And from the words of my roaring.

This morning we tried, we trust by the Blessed Spirit to consider the blessedness of having this God as our God.

[2:29] And we tried as helped to trace out one or two instances in the life of a child of God where they are brought by the Spirit in exercise to feel their need of their God.

And we spoke of the work of the Spirit in bringing us to seek for the manifestation of the work of grace in the soul.

And this evening, as the Lord shall be pleased to help us, we would continue it in this way.

Why hast thou forsaken me? Why art thou so far from helping me? You see, dear friends, there are various reasons whereby the Lord will cause his people to feel to be forsaken.

We tried to speak a little of the Lord Jesus upon the cross this morning.

But we want now to take it a little further. The Lord brings us to feel and see His hatred towards sin.

Why hast thou forsaken me? David, why has the Lord forsaken you?

Because you have numbered the people, and I told you not to. Have faith, David, to believe that those that are given to you are given by my hand.

You have no need to number the people. And that is disobedience to God's Holy Word.

David? David?

[5:59] David? David? You say the Lord has forsaken you? David? Well, dear friend, in David's sin with Bathsheba, he wasn't worried about that, was he, when he was walking in his sin?

But as soon as the prophet Nathan came, then he was in trouble. Jonah?

Jonah? Jonah? Jonah the Lord has forsaken you why?

because you're walking in disobedience you're going in the opposite way to the way that I have commanded you oh there was much need for Jonah to be brought back there was so much need for David to be brought back but you see dear friends if we walk in disobedience to the known will of God the Lord will feelingly forsake us what about Ephraim let him alone he's let him alone he's tied up with idols forsaken by his God apparently have you got an idol dear friend that takes your heart we shall not prosper if we have idols dear friend we shall not have the smile of God upon us if we have idols now

David why hast thou forsaken me and a poor sinner is brought to this place Lord is it because I am walking disobediently to thee and before thee is it because there is some un un the word has just gone a sin which we have I have not been unable to repent on Abel I know repentance comes from God I know that but you see the evils of our heart are such we hide up some of them don't we we don't want to get that taken away we don't want to mention those dear friend in this pathway you'll be brought before God to confess every sin every sin and that's why the Lord will forsake you to bring feelingly that is to bring you to his fate seeking for repentance on account of every sin you say to me

[10:31] I can't remember all the sins that I've ever committed the blessed spirit will so work in you dear friend you'll confess every sin because you'll ask him that he will pardon every sin and don't leave one thing Lord in my heart that offends thee you see this path dear friends will make you honest before God why has thou forsaken me because of sin and you'll feel it you'll mourn over it you'll have to plead before God Lord pardon mine iniquity the whole lot of it for it is right not some sins every sin you'll

God puts away sin all of it not certain sins sin and you'll pray for that Lord pardon sin in my heart blessed place to be brought to dear friend and I believe the Lord's people are brought there because of this path that the Lord will bring you to feelingly feelingly that the Lord has forgotten you forsaken you what is this there is an effect isn't there in this this is the way that the Lord will humble humble

I often speak to my own people for the grace the need of humility pride that hideous monster pride it gets everywhere doesn't it and it is in everything but you see when a poor sinner is brought to this place wilt thou be favourable no more is thy mercy clean gone forever the psalmist knew this Job knew it Jeremiah knew it but you see this grace of humility is given

Lord deal with me as thou seest I need as I said this morning deal with me Lord whatever it may cost me but deal with me deal with me as a son as a daughter I don't the desire here is Lord don't leave me out don't leave me out Lord I'll take the lowest room in heaven if there is thus but a little space for me this is the work and the effect of this text in the psalm why art thou so far from helping me well dear friend have you got a special need this night have you got something which is a burden to you we spoke of sin this morning that may be your burden at this time

I wish that it were so all the time but especially David knew it Peter knew it the burden of iniquity why art thou so far from helping me Lord I do so desire to feel pardoning love in my soul Lord it's an easy thing for thee to pardon my sin and set me free Lord wilt thou not come and speak peace and pardon into my soul is that your desire dear friend if that is your desire by the

Holy Spirit he's going to come yes he will you read that 107th psalm he brings them out of their distresses distresses but you see dear friends there's an appointed time and we must remember this that God has a gracious discipline those of you that have children do you give your children everything that they desire just because they asked for it if you do you're a bad parent but you'll give them that which is necessary that which is proper of course you will dear younger friends and I would be homely about this you might say that that you would like some sweets sweets all the day but they're not good for you occasionally yes now there's a blessed discipline in God's work and that discipline we have to learn that it is his why his why why art thou so far from helping me because it's not the time what about

Abraham Abraham got it impatient didn't he and so did his wife but what was it God honoring God overruled it and Abraham said unto the Lord oh that Ishmael might stand or walk before thee you see and then the Lord gave Abraham a promise but you see that sin and it was a sin of Abraham and Sarah we have the effect of that today you say in what way between the

Arabs and the Jews you'll never whatever man does they will never be reconciled as people they will be reconciled in grace if they're right characters on yes they will but as a people they'll never be reconciled today we have the sin of Abraham before us but with with Abraham you see we get to this point don't we well the Lord is not going to come he's promised to come and unbelief comes in and the devil will come in and say you were mistaken it was not as you thought it was give it up give it up that's what the devil says you see the devil is just in in everything he desires to undermine and destroy the

Lord's people he seeks to destroy Christ's work oh how much we need to pry against the activities of Satan and that's what Satan says and what did the Jews say before the Lord Jesus he trusted on the Lord that he would deliver him let him deliver him seeing he delighteth in him and then you have to pray don't you for that great blessing for faith to believe faith to go on faith to follow and this will bring dear friends you to that place

Lord give me faith to believe faith to believe that thou campst help me and that thou wilt help me well dear friend are you in trouble tonight something which is a heavy burden to you and this burden is getting heavier why art thou so far from helping me dear friend if only you could say the

Lord is by your side just as God the father was by the side of his beloved son when he suffered upon the cross he hid his son that is the father hid his face for a moment he could not look upon that sin which Christ took he was made sin for his people and that moment God could not even look upon his beloved son just for a moment well friend you may well be in this place this evening why art thou so far from helping me now this is feeling like he sees dear friends your need he sees where you are he now he sees what you will be brought into and he will show you what he will bring you out of is there something very special to you you want the

Lord to guidance direction now it may be something like this and I will put it in this way with these words Lord thou hast exercised me in this matter I desire to do thy will I need thee to show me thy way I desire Lord that thou shouldst be the author and the finisher of this exercise Lord

I have carried it for many a day I tried to bring it before thee in prayer Lord it carry it I carry it about with me Lord but thou art still silent to me Lord is this thy work Lord are these thy leadings Lord the time is getting short I need an answer why art thou so far from helping me dear friends he'll come as I have said already he'll come but it'll be in his time and when he does come it'll be the right time and it'll have a blessed end

I often think of that dear woman that brought her daughter to the Lord she was in trouble her daughter was grievously afflicted and we read this as she came and told her case we read this that Jesus answered her not not a word why was that but he because she hadn't opened her whole heart that's why why do you think there was a delay in the case of

Hannah because she had to come to this place Lord if thou dost give me a son I'll give him to you that's what she was saying in essence and that's where we have to come dear friend in these places Lord not my will but thine be done Lord I don't want any prize any glory to myself Lord get to thyself glory and honour in this matter nothing for me Lord but do hear me do come this is the teaching of humility tenderness by the spirit why art thou so far from helping me well you see that dear woman with her daughter she didn't get her answer when she thought did she what a suspense there must have been he answered her daughter a word will he grant it will he send me away no no he'll grant you that request because it's put in your heart to plead for it but he will have all the glory yes he will and when he brings this to pass that you are so exercised in you'll give him all the glory you'll be able to say from the whole heart lord thou didst it all lord it was thy work and you'll feel dear friend to be the vilest sinner out of hell yes you will the most unworthy when the lord does bless you why art thou so far from helping me and then another reason we're so independent as creatures i don't know how it is with you but you know if i could manage all things that come upon me if i could manage them on my own i wouldn't call upon god oh what a confession to make but that's what's in my heart dear friend how necessary these places these afflictions these burdens how necessary are they to

bring us to see the worth and merits of a dear redeemer why do you need what you desire [34:09] before anything else tonight this exercise that is upon you is that the first thing so that you can live a little more comfortably is that the first thing well i believe the lord does look into our hearts and we would have to say this yes we're perplexed we're perplexed with all these things but there's one thing that is needful and i feel the need of it that i may know that my name is written in heaven that christ came to suffer bleed and die for my sin and that my treasure is above now when you come to that dear friend you'll be made willing to wait the lord's time if you have that that tender fear in the heart that is the desire for that right thing that desire to be made right and kept right you'll be made willing to dear friend to wait his time and all these things and the time has nearly gone and from the words of my roaring but you see all these other things are to show you the worth of christ the hymn writer says i can't remember the words now i must leave that but you see to feel the worth of christ in everything not just things one thing not on a few things it's everything dear friend and this will be in the heart my god my god why hast thou forsaken me lord i cannot live without me lord i need daily strength i need thee i need to feel thee near i need thee to hold my right hand but now they are gone lord i need patience love faith hope but lord they are gone now what

must i do you see there is an urgency isn't there lord i need thee to direct me in all the way but now thou art gone why hast thou forsaken me why art thou so far from helping me lord i shall die i shall die of a broken heart if thou dost not come and it brings forth the love of christ in the soul amen i will be helped to conclude our service this evening with him eight hundred and seventy one happy the man that bears the stroke of his chastising god nor stubbornly rejects his yoke nor faints beneath his rod him eight hundred and seventy one hit us two one a purchase szcz the

CHOIR SINGS Lae Lucas andksam

I hope for a happy look of the night Where the waters of my ages rest in here And the waters of my age Where the waters of my age And the waters of my age rest in here O is the praise of the end of grace

And the waters of my age Thank you.

[44:33] Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.