

# Psalm (Quality: Good, Incomplete)

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Date: 23 June 2013

Preacher: Pont, Philip

[ 0 : 00 ] For the Lord helping us, I would ask your attention to the reading, Psalm 102, verse 17.

Psalm 102, verse 17. He will regard the prayer of the destitute and not despise their prayer.

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When I first was drawn to this word before the weekend, one thing stood out in this little verse, this 17th verse, was the mercy of this word, the comfort of it.

Oh, you've heard, and I've spoken many times, I suppose, about this condition. But first and foremost, the mercy of such a word.

[ 1 : 19 ] It is such a means of comfort to God's people to be told by the Lord that whatever condition they stand in, what feeling condition they may have, as far as their spiritual life is concerned, they're not out of the sight of, nor out of the sweet influence of God's mercy and grace.

that seemed to me almost overwhelming when I first took a look at this verse. He will regard the prayer of the destitute and not despise their prayer.

What would the world say of those who feel, in a sense, this destitution? What does Satan say about the destitute?

Would he not say, well, that's a clear indication that you're not one of these that are the children of God? What does God say about them? That's what's important.

Whatever condition your soul is this night, dear friends, should you feel to be destitute, one day you'll bless God for it, and you'll bless God too because he will not disregard, nor will he despise the condition.

[ 2 : 49 ] We solemnly are reminded also of, shall we say, the opposite. The last church of the seven in the third chapter of the book, or is it the third?

Yes, the third chapter of the book of Revelation was the Laodicean church. Now, under any description, they couldn't be called destitute.

They wouldn't have that they were destitute because the scriptures tell us that they were rich in the need of nothing. Oh, but what did the Lord say about their rich in the need of nothing condition?

That they were lukewarm. And he said he would spew them out of his mouth. But if grace is working in your heart, and you're brought from time to time to feel this state and condition, may this text be a comfort to you.

But he doesn't despise the prayers of the destitute, neither does he disregard the state of their destitution. It's a great mercy, dear friends, when you've got something on your side.

[ 4 : 11 ] The Apostle Paul, writing in that familiar Acts of Rome and said, if God be for us, who can be against us? And dear friends, if you suffer at the hands of Satan, all his friends come to that, and you're brought into this low, low condition, destitution, be sure of this, dear friends, if it is spiritual, then you have the Lord on your side.

There's a vast difference between these destitute, as we've spoken of here, and those who really are destitute, who have no life, that are destitute of spiritual life, no cry, no desire, no seeking.

And dear friends, what was a few days making this, you know, when we were speaking about the Apostle, when he came to, when he came to the borders of, of that city, he was destitute, really destitute, religious, well, plenty of religion.

But the Lord stopped him, and changed his destitution, literally, to a time of, destitution spiritually. And the Lord heard his, cries and his prayers.

Oh, solemnly to be left, to be destitute, of grace, of life. I am calm that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

[ 5 : 58 ] No life in the soul, that's destitution. Emptied of anything and everything, which is spiritual and profitable. No, desire for, no seeking, spirit after, though long in desire, for the things of God.

No cry, out of the heart, none but with them may I be, now and through eternity. Nothing like that. That's destitution. But this destitution, is somewhat different.

It's something that God doesn't despise. It's something that the Lord, indeed, comforts his people, that however they may be, spiritually, or feelingly, spiritually destitute, are not forsaken of their God.

Oh, you know, even in, spiritual things, there's, there's what some people call, attainment. They've been in the way, some years, I'll say, and they've been through, various experiences.

And what has it done for them? Has it humbled them? Has it brought them in, still dependent? Does it bring them to the throne of grace, poor? The psalmist said, but I am poor and needy, yet the Lord thinketh upon me.

[ 7 : 17 ] He doesn't despise the poverty, oh, the workings of grace in the soul. What a mercy, dear friends, if you and I know something of this, word destitute.

Perhaps you can, some of you, I hope all of you, at least in, some measure, be able to, look at the things, that you have learned, along the years.

Perhaps you've remembered, some sweet occasions. And it comes back to your mind. And I think we quoted from Job, during the day, when we said, oh, that it was with me, as in days past.

But the Lord knows, how and why you're destitute, in your feelings. You would, that you could turn the clock back, and enter into those sacred seasons, and times again.

Dear friends, if you look at it, in that I believe, in the right view, God hasn't changed. If through your sin, or if through his divine purpose, if he chastens you, what did the apostle say?

[ 8 : 26 ] No chastening for the present, seemeth to be joyous, but grievous, nevertheless afterward, it yieldeth the peaceable fruits, of righteousness, to them which are exercised thereby. But I'm sure of this, dear friends, that those who are in this state, and case, in a spiritual sense, are not comfortable.

And the reason, for their cries, and groans, and sighs, is that the Lord, would revive, and restore. Many years ago, taking a servant of God home, he turned to me, and he said, how are you?

And I said, well, if you want to know, in the dark. And he said, is it all right? Do you like being in the dark? And I said, no. He said, good.

Because men love darkness, rather than light, because their deeds are evil. And I felt that was an answer, which encouraged, at least it did for the time.

Now, dear friends, destitution. And what sort of destitution is this, that says he will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not disguise their prayer?

[ 9 : 47 ] Do you know what it is to be poor? Do you know what it is to be emptied, from vessel to vessel? Do you know what it is to, I was going to say, search around and find something, that you felt was indeed, of grace and of God?

We spoke of Jonah this afternoon. You can well consider his destitution. I am cast out of thy sight. We spoke of David.

Despite his sins, he could say, as he acknowledged his sins, and confessed them before the Lord, and pray to the Lord, that he might wash him, wash away all sin and iniquity.

Then he asks for the Lord to restore, unto him the joy of his salvation. You can understand the destitution, of such souls, that are recorded in Holy Scripture.

But I am sure of this, you will find, you won't find many children of God, that understands what it is to be destitute, of spiritual life.

[ 11 : 00 ] They would be sorely tried, to find an answer, and they would probably, if you could speak to them in that state, and case, would, would, would, actually consider that they were, completely out of the secret.

What has destitution done for them? Or a sense of destitution? What has destitution done for you, if you are spiritually taught of God?

If you are emptied out, as it were, if you find you have got nothing, and having nothing, is a very painful pathway. Oh, how it attracts the opposition of Satan, and amongst the children of God, they don't understand this condition, some of them.

But what does the Lord say about destitution? Bear in mind this, dear friends, that all his children, are, first of all, destitute of grace, and destitute of life.

And then, dear friends, are brought into, certain pathways, where they seem to possess nothing. It is, and you know, Satan takes great advantage, of the feelings, of the children of God.

[ 12 : 22 ] Your cry will be, that the Lord won't forsake you. That he might turn again, and have compassion. That he might speak a word in season.

I remember once, complaining of the state, and condition of, hearing. Myself, I'm talking about, not other people.

Somebody wrote and said, well, if there's no rain, was there any dew? And dew, really, dear friends, is, refreshing. It was, if we might look at it, as far as those, countries of the Bible, concerned.

Jew, but if there's no rain, nor dew, then it is dry. And if you and I, had to sit under a ministry, which was dry, what profit, would it be to our soul?

But, dear friends, let me say this to you. When you come to the house, of God, as a destitute sinner, in need of the Lord's appearance, do you look to the ministry?

[ 13 : 25 ] Or, do you look to the God of all grace, and the Father of all mercies, that he might have compassion on you? And that he himself, God doesn't depend on men.

Men depend on God, but he doesn't depend on men, to speak his word, or to be an encouragement, to dear souls. But he can come, and does come himself, and refresh them.

Now, there's one thing, that is very certain. A child of God, isn't destitute. Not of grace. certainly not of life.

Have you ever heard, of a child of God? One who has, professed the name, of Jesus Christ. One who has, testified of his grace, and mercy. Have you ever heard, of a child of God, that's left to perish?

Those who are really destitute, will perish. But those who feel, themselves to be destitute, are as safe, as the covenant of grace, is safe.

[ 14 : 36 ] But then, there's this, mark of his, of his love, and mercy. He will regard, not he may, he will regard, the prayer of the destitute.

It's often said, well if they're destitute, how can they pray? Well, we quoted, from the book of Jonah, this afternoon. I am cast out of thy sight, yet when I look again, towards thy holy temple.

I've often said, you read that, account in Jonah, just go to the end, of the chapter, and you'll find, these words, salvation, is of the Lord. Now, dear friends, he will regard, the prayer of the destitute.

What sort of prayers, may they be? Well, it wouldn't be for me, to, analyze the prayers, of the destitute, other than, what I know myself. They may not be long, but they'll certainly be real.

They'll come into the, needs of the soul, in a few, words. You know, the woman, that is described, as the Syrophenician woman, in the 15th, and Matthew, was, indeed, brought to a low place.

[ 15 : 50 ] And her prayer, was, Lord, help me. I'm sure of this, that, it seems to her, as though she was, indeed, left to that sad state, of unanswered prayer.

But she pressed her case, Lord, help me. Well, it drew from, Jesus Christ, encouragement. He will regard, the prayer, as a destitute.

I don't feel, and I have to say this, by experience, as well. I don't feel, that these destitute souls, are what I might call, long, long in prayer.

That is a point, the case of the publican, we spoke about, during the day. short prayer, very short prayer.

Effectual, yes, it was. But it described, what he needed. Mercy. Dear friends, if you feel, to be, destitute, of comfort, of the gospel, comfort, of the presence, of Christ, comfort, of any blessings, and favors, if you feel, to be in that, poverty stricken condition, may you be, able to go again, and turn again, seek again, ask again, but dear friends, come as you are, you can't improve, your condition, God, and only God, can improve, your condition, but come as you are, poor as you are, breathe out, the sorrows, of the way, tell him, what it is, to be empty, empty, you'd want to be, empty of earth, a believer, doesn't want, too much world, doesn't want any world, as far as, worshiping is concerned, but you know, when you haven't got, a breath of prayer, or you haven't got, a desire, for the things of God, or it seems to be, as though there's, no life left in your soul, and you truly, are destitute, an upward, glancing of an eye, when none, but God, is near, that's what, the destitute, praying soul, it wouldn't be true, would it, would never be true, to say, well a destitute, soul's got nothing, to pray for, he's got everything, to pray for, return, oh holy dove, return, sweet messenger, of rest,

[ 18 : 24 ] I hate the sins, that made thee mourn, and drove thee, from my breast, oh he's got, plenty to pray for, the breathings of a, of a dear soul, that is feelingly, destitute, dear friends, won't be long prayers, perhaps, but it will be, real prayers, oh how much, reality is in our prayers, we might ask ourselves, how much repetition, a chapter in, the gospel of Matthew, that contains the, what's called, the Lord's prayer, it also contains, information about, other prayers, the prayers of the heathen, the prayers of the hypocrite, you read it, at some time or other, it will tell you, about these characters, who are described, by Jesus as hypocrites, and heathens, dear friends, as they pray, the Pharisees, there's a character, in Luke, totally destitute, but he didn't stop him praying, but there was no need, in his prayer, no desire, no hunger, no thirst, no mention of sin, or salvation, no mention of mercy, he was destitute, he was destitute, of a condition, a right condition, a right condition, a right condition, but these that are, destitute in their feelings, and it seems as though, life itself is extinct, dear friends, they are still, in possession of life, and are still in possession, of the mercy of God, in grace, the prayer of the destitute, be it, be it, but a brief, upward glancing, be it, but a brief, word or so, from such lips, well it will, it will discover, as it were, the condition, it will reveal, the need, it will be real, and it will come, from the heart, and it will ascend, into the, into the ears, of the Lord God, to obey it,

I go back, to what, as I said, struck me so, very sweetly, about this word, what a comfortable word, to those that are poor, God doesn't despise, his poor, oh they might be, I was going to say, on, desperate states, they might be, so needy, and so poor, that they can hardly get it, before the throne of grace, they might have, as you might say, nothing to say, about themselves, well you don't boast, about your, your destitution, what they need, is this life reviving, this life restoring, what we, what they want to need, is what the psalmist says, he shall call, and I will answer, oh dear friends, the solemn sense, of this destitution, that is spoken of here, but God will regard, the prayer, of the destitute, and not despise, their prayer, why doesn't he, because he's the author, because he's the author, dear friends, the, workings of grace, how dependent, a grace taught soul, is upon that grace, prayer, it's the life, of the soul, it expresses the need, the, we, we, quoted or spoke, about this, prayer of Saul of Tarsus, behold he prayeth, living souls, understand the prayer, of Saul of Tarsus, it isn't recorded, in scripture, living souls, three days, and three nights, he was in this condition, no drink, no food, nothing, how, dark, he must have felt, how far off, he must have felt, how desperate, he must have felt, he had dealings, with Jesus Christ, but he was, also, under the eye, of his God, he will regard, the prayer of the destitute, and there came a time, when that good man, was delivered,

I, you know, what does it say, somewhere, Hezekiah, that's right, in the, 38th, chapter of, Isaiah's prophecy, it speaks about, Hezekiah's prayer, there was a man, was told by the lords, the prophet went to, Hezekiah, and said, set thine house in order, thou shalt die, and not live, what a solemn message, to receive from God, Hezekiah, turned his face, toward the wall, and trade, unto the Lord, and said, remember, now, O Lord, I beseech thee, how I have walked, before thee, in truth, with a perfect heart, and have done, that which is, good in thy sight, and Hezekiah, wept sore, well, we read the answer, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen, thy tears, behold, I will add unto thy days, fifteen years, and it brought me, to think about this, dear friends, set thine house in order, and thou shalt die, and not live, there's a day coming, isn't there, when that will be true, of all of us, set thine house in order, for thou shalt die, and not live, appointed time,

God has appointed, when He shall take, His people home, to glory, wonderful mercy, dear friends, if you feel, the strength, and comfort, of the rock of ages, wonderful in that, great day, dear friends, if you, can confidently rest, on the finished work, of Jesus, my hope is built, on nothing less, than Jesus blood, and righteousness, I dare not trust, the sweetest frame, but wholly lean, on His dear name, on Christ, the Son of Rock, I stand, or other ground, is sinking sand, now that's a lot, of the people of God, but these dear souls, these experienced, sinners, these experienced, children of God, who, ebb and flow, as I was going to say, sometimes, sometimes, they, are in, some confidence, and comfort, of the Lord's dear presence, supporting, heart, and, and provision, for, for their souls, then, they are brought, into this low place, some people describe, this destitution, as, as if it's, certain times, in the life, of the people of God, there are certain times, when they, are brought into blessings, and favors, and certain times, when they're not, for that, we have to leave, dear, dear friends, but, this isn't, this isn't about the time, or the place, or the experience, so much, as about the mercy of God, in his children's life, and pathway, in their spiritual condition, that, though these things, seem to fail them, oh, what, what would people say, about, souls, that are found, in prayer, at prayer meetings, who profess, to be, destitute, what would they say, when they heard the cries, and groans, of those, who feel, somewhat, of their destitution, perhaps it would be, good prayer meetings, it would certainly be, real wouldn't it, it would, reveal, the real condition, it wouldn't be, oratory, it will be feeling, it will be experience, a destitute soul, has got something, to pray for, not nothing, to pray for, a destitute soul, in this condition, of destitution, are indeed, able to breathe out, a few sighs, and groans, to their God, that his mercy, may, once again, take up their case,

I'm sure, of this, dear friends, if you, are convinced, of sin, and, that, convincing, of sin, has brought, such darkness, of mind, and such, low state, or condition, of soul, well, you would, consider yourself, that you was hopeless, you was lost, amongst the lost, amongst the desolate, for I am desolate, and afflicted, that's what the, writers of these, Psalms often, refer to, of their condition, religion, but you say, there's a purpose, it may be, dear friends, it's not for me, to explain, what it is, that the Lord, has in mind, that's the mind, of God, but it may be, that you, have been through, such times, as you've been careless, your condition, you're satisfied with, you've flowed along, as it were, with religion, and such is the poverty, of your spirit, that it needs the Lord, to as it were, bring you into, his school, and to show you really, what destitution is like, careless sinners, children of God, who, assume their right, or, or presume their right, careless people, who forsake, the prayer meetings, or forsake the, means of grace, who forsake, the daily, reading, or prayer, in their own homes, these that are left, to, grow cold, as it were, and careless, and indifferent, how will he bring, the child of God back, how will he restore them, to those, healthy, prayerful conditions, that, a true child of God, often prays for, he applies, poverty, to their soul, that's how he does it, dear friends, if you and I, grow careless, or indifferent, about the things of God, be sure of this, if we're one of his, he'll chasten us, and there cannot be, a more, solemn chastening, if the Lord, withdraws his presence, if you never felt, shut up in prayer, or I've stood in, two pulpits, in this denomination, or I couldn't pray, if I, praying was to save my life, and I really mean that,

[ 29 : 36 ] I was absolutely, destitute of prayer, well for whatever purpose, that was, I don't know, but I tell you this, I've never been back, in their pulpits, not once, have I ever entered, as far as I know, I don't even remember, entering the house, of God again, not in those places, it was as if, the Lord took, his spirit away, when he takes, his spirit away, then dear friends, or hides his face, or withdraws his influence, then you feel, this destitution, I remember once, in a very solemn, state of spirit, I vowed and declared, I'll never preach again, I remember saying, to a deacon of a chapel, I said, you won't see me here again, he said, why not, I said, I've finished, no more preaching, and that dear old saint, had enough wisdom, to ring me up, on the following morning, to say, or to ask the question, how was I,

I vowed to declare, I wouldn't preach, in their chapel anymore, and I didn't feel, I could preach, anywhere anymore, such was the state, of my soul, and such was the state, of my feelings, now it may be, it's not for me, to say the Lord's, will and purpose, but when you and I, get careless, or indifferent, and cold, and we assume things, and we're not exercised, we, the world's got in our hearts, and religion flows out, oh you might still attend, God's house, and so on, but you know, to get his children back, at the footstool of mercy, he applies, his hand and need, is felt again, in the soul, he puts a cry, in their heart, dear friend, if you've, had the privilege, of hearing, a little child cry, we did hear one today, and we heard two of them, cry today, and it's often been my, thoughts you know, if a little child, naturally cries, there's something wrong, and invariably, it's because he wants something, or he's uncomfortable, or he's hungry, would the Lord, grant us that blessing, spiritually, instead of just, ambling on through, this journey of life, sometimes indifferent, sometimes careless, sometimes exercised, but I'm sure of this, dear friends, he, he used to be a minister, in Kent, who's gone to glory now, but,

I've heard him say, more than once, he loads their shoulders, well with woe, and thus obtains his end, and dear friends, if, he does this to you, it will enliven, your, exercise, it will burden you, with a desire, for the things of God, because you and I, if we are believers, in Jesus Christ, cannot live, without tokens, of his love, David, the man of God, said, show me a token, for good, that they which hate me, may be ashamed, David, the man of God, said, restore unto me, the joy of thy salvation, uphold me, with thy free spirit, oh, it's very solemn, dear friends, when, one who fears God, gets into those, dreadful conditions, those low, careless conditions, when their prayers, if their prayers at all, are, are, purely and simply, but nothing but poverty, they don't reflect a need, because they don't feel a need,

I often think of those, and I, I say it about right, I trust I say it in the right spirit, that use the prayers, that are recorded in the scriptures, how many did I, have rehearsed, as it were, oh, they've learnt it like children, learn their pieces, the Lord's prayer, it's a wonderful prayer, Jesus Christ, came from the lips of Jesus Christ, but dear friends, it didn't come from the heart, of the sinner, the Lord will teach you to pray, by revealing your need, making you feel your need, bring you to the throne of grace, and then you'll feel, what a mercy is to, have the Holy Spirit as a teacher, but you neglect the means of grace, and I mean the throne of grace, or the mercy seat, you neglect it, and you get careless, and you're rich and in need of nothing, and you don't, feel the need of anything, dear friends, if you're a child of God, he'll chase you, and he'll withdraw, that help, and he'll make you feel your poverty, in the, 40th, psalm, if I can find it, starts off,

I waited patiently for the Lord, and inclined unto me, and heard my cry, he brought me up also, out of a horrible pit, out of the mary clay, set my feet upon a rock, and established my going, and he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto my God, unto our God, many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord, but then you get to the end, of that, psalm, be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me, O Lord, make haste to help me, let them be ashamed, and confounded together, that seek after my soul, to destroy it, let them be driven backward, and put to shame, that wish me evil, let them be desolate, for a reward of their shame, that say unto me, aha, aha, let all those that seek thee, rejoice, and be glad in thee, that such as love thy salvation, say continually, the Lord be magnified, but, I am poor, and needy, yet, the Lord thinketh upon me, thou art my help, and my deliverer, make no tarrying,

[ 35 : 57 ] O my God, I tell you something, very solemn, you have an opportunity, to hear, the ministry, some ministry, is very good, on oratory, very well balanced, and so on, you have an opportunity, to hear a poor sinner, preach, one that has been, knocked about a bit, one that has, walked in the depths, of experience, those who, fulfill what Jesus, or what the, word of God tells us, that they, tasted and handled, and felt, of the good words of life, you find a poor sinner, in a pulpit, that has, experience of his own, sinful nature, and the wickedness, of his own heart, and is able, to preach something, of the mercy of God, and of the comfort, of the gospel, dear friends, what suits your, what suits your, spiritual condition, a ministry, that, exalts Jesus Christ, and, lays the sin alone, a ministry, which is, sound on truth, and righteousness, a ministry, dear friend, which is sound, on experience, of the mercy, of God, in Christ Jesus, those, and those alone, are those, ministries, that suit, the sinner, in the pew, you know, not, not, comforted, and blessed, with oratory, but rather, illustrating, the goodness of God, the prayer, of the destitute, you ask, the ministers of God, that you know, how they start, their ministry, on the Lord's Day, you ask those, who, whom God has sent, into the word, dear friends, in this sad day, there's all sorts, of religion, all sorts, of religion, but you find out, those whom God has sent, and you, they'll tell you, they start with nothing, are wholly dependent, the poor sinner, that is destitute, one of the signs, of destitution, will ever be, he's, totally dependent, on the mercy of God, emptied of earth, we would be, but when we're, seemingly empty, of grace, that's very solemn, when we've got nothing, and are nothing, nothing to pray about, but the, the Lord's appearance, and his help, when you come down, to real poverty, dear friends, you're destitute, destitute, destitute of comfort, that is, you're not destitute, of life, you're not destitute, of grace, there's a cry, there's a, there's a little spot, of life, there's like a glowing, coal, isn't it, but those are the prayers, of the people of God, and God has promised, and he will regard, the prayer, the destitute, and not despise, their prayer,

I feel, that's something, very sweet to be, and thankful, for the Holy Spirit, for recording it, in scripture, if you, if you and I, had to attain, to something, you know, that's what people, seem to think, is good in religion, attaining, to something, they go to colleges, and they learn this, and they learn that, and they get degrees in, I was going to say religion, but perhaps that's the wrong word, theology, that's the word, they get degrees in theology, they probably know more about, Greek and Hebrew, than ever I will do, do they know anything, about sin and salvation, do they know, how it is, that you, and I, if we are sinners, in our own sight, as well as in God's sight, do we, do they know about, how they are, are brought on their knees, to beg for mercy, do they know, dear friends, in all their, well taught religion, or theology, that there's a saviour, at least they know, all about Jesus Christ, but do they know anything, about a lost, lost, say a sinner, a sinner, that is dependent, on his love and mercy, who has got nothing, true religion, cost something, dear friends, true religion, true grace talks, religion, cost something, it costs often, heart, conditions, that good man, who wrote,

Rock of Ages, well he was taught, shall we say, the truth, concerning himself, so blessed him, isn't it, Rock of Ages, how, poor he was, in that last, verse, when he spoke, about the need, of grace, black eyed, at a fountain fly, wash me, saviour, or I die, how many black sinners, do you find, in religion, sin dear friends, today, is something, which is, well, likely thought of, and certainly, hardly heard of, but real, children of God, divinely taught, are brought to this, this desperate state, and this empty state, and this poverty state, and the cries, that their prayers, come up to God, in that state, and condition, they can't mend, themselves, oh, there's people, who will show you, the way of salvation, as though you could, mend your ways, as it were, that there are people, who try to preach, there is a way, of salvation, and all you've got, to do is this, dear friends, if you, had to lift a finger, for your own salvation, you wouldn't have, the strength, to do so, but it doesn't stop, the cry of the destitute, the cry of the destitute, is mercy,



God has had mercy, taught them, deep things, concerning themselves, God has had mercy, and has revealed, to them their, absolute, desperate state, by sin, and the need, of salvation, but he doesn't, despise their prayers, as such, they don't despise, their prayers, because they're, real prayers, because they are, so what they live on, I think sometimes, the scriptures are, divine teachers, really, I think of that, case in the, book of Ruth, we read about, Ruth and Naomi, leaving, Moab, and traveling to, back home to, Naomi's, city, Bethlehem, but then we read, in the next chapter, of the occupation, of Ruth, a gleaner, a gleaner, you're pretty poor, dear friends, if you're a gleaner, in those days, but, you see, the spiritual things, in there, interpretations, belong unto God, a hap was, the scripture says this, doesn't it, a hap was, to light, on the field, that belongeth to Boaz, it just happened, that's what it says, in the margin, there she gleaned, gleaned, oh but didn't she glean, profitably, handfuls of purpose, how did you come to chapel, are you a gleaner, or are you rich, and in need of nothing, like the Adesan, religion has, are you gleaners, dear friends, the law of Moses, declared, that there was benefits, for the gleaner, they were not allowed, to touch the corners, of the field, these were left, for gleaners, but in the case, of Ruth, in the field, of Boaz, handfuls of purpose, how did you come, to chapel,

I said just now, has there been, handfuls of purpose, purposely, left for you, but you see, there's something else, gleaners, have a place, at the Lord's table, I mean, the Lord's table, in respect, to the way, of blessing, Boaz told her, that at mealtime, she should bring, she should come, to that table, and he handed her, parched corn, she didn't glean, for them, she wasn't in the field, gleaning for that, he handed her, parched corn, you come to chapel, in it, I hope and trust, in the right spirit, and in the desperate, poverty state, and you glean, from the gospel, but has there been, times, when the Lord, hands you, parched corn, as it were, now, I try not to, emotionally, describe this, but, if a person, hands you something, they're not very far, from you are they, they're at a hand, arm's length, from you, that is what it is, when a, a poor gleaner, is found, in the gospel field, they come,

[ 45 : 43 ] I was going to say, in arm's length, of Jesus, he hands them, parched corn, but there's something, else too, and this I trust, and hope, you know something, about, at the end, of the gleaning, you take the scriptures, at the end of the day, of gleaning, what happens, she beat out, what she gleaned, didn't take, the rubbish home, she took, the food home, and I would suggest, this, this is scriptural, this is not invention, gleaners lived, on what they, had gleaned, how is it with you, me dear friends, as we are found, in God's health, on the Lord today, you glean something, do you take it home, and live off it, because that's really, what a gleaner does, they got no other, sustenance, they got no other, provision for their soul, they live, on what they glean, not the rubbish, that's all left behind, what is the chaff, to the wheat, that's the word, you'll find, in the Old Testament, what is the chaff, to the wheat, they won't live on, char, can't live on, char, doesn't sustain them, but the wheat will, it will be, a reminder, that they've got it, by hard labour, not easy, to glean, their condition, brings it on, they've got to glean, otherwise, they'll starve, you come to chapel, dear friends, if you glean, it's because your soul, depends on what you glean, the Lord bless his word, and bless, bless the provision, of his word, to, the Lord bless, what is the Court, of your view, the Lord bless his word, and bless his word, only Luke, is that the Court, that you would say, whatever he says, that you've got to ■■■■■■■■■■, of course, in your chest,