

# Psalm

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Preacher: Crowter, David (1931-2000)

- [ 0 : 00 ] As the Lord is pleased to help me, I venture to speak to you in his name from the words found in the 130th Psalm and the 5th verse.
- Psalm 130 and verse 5. I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hold.
- There is a strong connection between waiting and hoping. For we shall never really hope, we shall never really wait unless we have some hope of that for which we wait.
- If you were waiting for a friend at the railway station, you would not continue to wait after the last train had come in, and there was simply no hope at all of anyone else arriving.
- So that waiting is the effect of hoping. It is because we have some hope that we are prepared to wait.
- [ 1 : 23 ] And if that hope is strong, then that waiting will continue. And when that hope fades away, then there is a danger that the waiting will cease.
- And so we need that hope to animate and revive and invigorate the spirit of waiting.
- For the one will very much continue as the other does. And waiting is really the proof that we do have a hope.
- If there is that continuing to wait, it is because there must be in us that hope of obtaining, that for which we are waiting and looking and watching.
- And I do so hope that we shall realize and know the experience of the psalmist here.
- [ 2 : 28 ] For this is so evidently the pathway to the Lord's blessing and appearing. In this particular and fundamental matter of the Lord's mercy and pardon, it is so, but also in so many other matters.
- This is so suitable in a variety of circumstances and exercises. I wait for the Lord. My soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope.
- What a mercy it is that we really found in the experience and exercise of the dear saints of God, as recorded thus.
- And here then we have, besides, the waiting for the Lord, the hoping in his word. Beside it, and very much related to it, is this hoping.
- We must first consider the grace of hope. For that is what it is. It is one of God's most precious gifts.
- [ 3 : 47 ] It is here, this hope, is that spiritual principle. So connected with faith and love.
- Faith, hope, and love are really the three principal active graces of the children of God. And they also are so connected together.
- Now hope, first of all, means an expectation. According to that word we read in the psalm this morning, My soul waits thou only upon God, For my expectation is from him.
- The psalmist was waiting because he was hoping. He had that expectation Of the Lord coming and appearing to him And granting him that for which he was so waiting.

The apostle Paul expressed it in his own exercise from the prison at Rome. And said this, According to my earnest expectation and hope, That in nothing I shall be ashamed, But that with all boldness, As always, Even now, The Christ shall be magnified in my body, Whether by life or by death, For to me to live is Christ, And to die is gain.

- [ 5 : 28 ] That was his particular hope. The prospect before him, Because of the Lord's goodness to him, And because of God's faithful word, That if he lived, It would be a life full of Christ, And to die would be to be forever with the Lord, Which was even better.

What a hope and what an expectation he had in that. This then is an aspect of hope.

The hymn says, Concerning that rest remaining, That faith believes it, Hope expects it, But it overwhelms them all.

Now what faith really believes, As far as the promise of God is concerned, Then hope will expect. It will look to possess What God has promised.

Not on account of any supposed worthiness, In us to receive it, But simply because, God has promised it.

- [ 6 : 49 ] The psalmist said, In his word, Do I hope. Well, The grace of faith also, Means not only expectation, But there are other, Further aspects to it.

It means also, An anticipation, Of that which is expected. Now we all know something of this, Concerning matters in life, Which we hope to realize.

If there are those things, Which we look forward to receiving, Then there is that, Anticipation of them. There is that, Bringing them forward, In our thought, And our enjoyment, Into the present.

There is some, Some degree of present enjoyment, In the, Anticipation, Of that which is yet in the future.

Paul could say, We rejoice, In hope of the glory of God. He had such a hope, In God's, In reaching that glory, Beholding the glory of God, In Jesus Christ, That he rejoiced in it already.

- [ 8 : 12 ] He anticipated, That which was still, In the future. And that is, A part of this hope. And clearly I feel, In this psalm, There is that.

The psalmist says, My soul waiteth for the Lord, More than they that watch, For the morning. For those that watch, For the morning, Do expect it to come.

In the ordinary course, Of the continuation, Of these natural cycles. And there is already, That anticipation, That enjoyment, Of that which is yet in the future.

It is such a strength, And encouragement, To, Our sin, Our needs, To, Bring forward, Into the present, In, Thought and feeling, Those things, Which are yet to come.

And there is this aspect, Then, Of hope. It is forward looking, And it is, In a sense, Forward bringing, For those things, That are yet to come.

- [ 9 : 30 ] The apostle Paul, Again concerning, Those future things, He said, I hath not seen, Neither ear heard, Neither ventured, Into the heart of man, Those things, Which God hath prepared, Before us.

But God hath revealed, Them unto us, By his spirit, And in that revelation, There was, That enjoyment. And so, With regard to this, Great matter of forgiveness, In the hope itself, There is a measure, Of comfort and joy.

I do believe, That in the experience, Of the Lord's people, In these things, There is, This, Often before, The full blessing comes, There is the enjoyment, Of that hope, Which is raised up, Within them, Which already causes them, To anticipate, What the Lord, Has promised to give, And then also, In this hope, There is a confidence, A gracious confidence, A measure, Of that assurance, The full assurance, Of hope, Of which we read, In the fear of the Lord, There is strong confidence, There is strong confidence, The teaching, Of the Holy Spirit, Of God, Brings us, To have no confidence, In the flesh, There is no reason, At all, For any confidence,

In that direction, But there is every reason, To have confidence, In this God, Who has so spoken, In his word, The psalmist, Goes on to say, Let Israel, Hope, In the Lord, Let the people of God, Have, This confidence, In him, For he is so worthy, Of all, Trust, And confidence, We read of that, In the psalm, This morning, In the 27th psalm, The psalmist, There was in, A strong, Measure of faith, And he could say, In this, Will I be confident, One thing have I desired, Of the Lord, That will I seek after, That I may dwell, In the house of the Lord, All the days of my life, To behold, The beauty of the Lord, And to inquire, In his temple, He was looking forward, To this, And confident, That the Lord,

Would fulfill, His hope, We do, So need, More of this confidence, The apostle Paul, Expressed it again, In that abyssal, To the Philippians, As regards, The children of God, There, He says, Being confident, Of this very thing, That he which hath begun, A good work in you, Will fulfill it, Will Continue it, Unto the day, Of Jesus Christ, That work, Would be completed, He was, Assure of it, He had this confidence, That God would never, Forsake his own work, But would continue, That which he had begun, He also says, Concerning, That future hope, That was so strong, In him, He said, We are always,

[ 13 : 11 ] Confident, Knowing that, Whilst we are at home, In the body, We are absent, From the Lord, We are confident, I say, And willing, Rather, To be absent, From the body, And to be present, With the Lord, His hope, Of heaven and glory, Was such, That he was always, Confident, He had that persuasion, And assurance, That the Lord, Would do, What he had promised, To do, And what he had given him, That hope, Concerning it, Now dear friends, Have we such a hope, The hope of the believer, So expressed in the word, In that way, This hope we have, As an anchor of the soul, Both sure and steadfast, Which entereth into that, Within the veil, Whither the forerunner, Hath for us entered, Even Jesus made, The high priest forever,

After the order of Melchizedek, It is after that, Everlasting, Manner, An everlasting, High priest, Without beginning of days, Or end of life, Now the apostle is there, Saying, That the Lord Jesus Christ, Has made, The one offering, For sins, As high priest, And he has gone, Into the veil, Into heaven itself, And then he says, That our hope, Is like an anchor, Which has entered, Into heaven itself, Where the Lord Jesus is, It has entered, Within that veil, Our hope is, Where he is, As the intercessor, Continually, At God's right hand, And that hope, He says, Is like an anchor, Of the soul, That every ship, Needs an anchor, Those on the river here, Are kept from, Being swept away, By the tide,

By the tide, Or the, Variations, In the waves, By the anchor, That holds, A hidden anchor, Now have you that, Which is like, An anchor to your soul, See, Him says, We have an anchor, That keeps the soul, That keeps the soul, Steadfast and sure, While the billows roll, It is fastened, To the rock, That cannot move, Fastened, Sure, Firm, In the Savior's love, It cannot move, That rock, Oh, What a, Mercy it is, To have, An anchor, To your soul, Something that keeps you, Amidst the storms, And the tides, Of this present life, Well, The psalmist, Had this hope,

In the Lord, Through his word, And you might feel, Well, Yet your, Hope is only, Rather feeble, And certainly, Like other graces, It does vary, And vacillate, In its power, In the soul, We are dependent, Upon the Lord, For his spirit, To maintain, And revive in us, This precious grace, Of hope, In itself, It is a pure grace, But of course, There may often be, Many of our doubts, Mixed with this hope, Which tends so much, To weaken its effect, Now how can our hope, Be strengthened, And established, And confirmed, How can it be made stronger, Well in any case of hope, The strength of that hope,

Really depends, Really depends, On the, The foundation, On which it is built, According to, The grounds, Of that hope, Will be the strength, Of it, You may have, Concerning some things, That you would like, A very, Tenuous, And faint hope, Of actually possessing, The object, Of your hope, In life, It depends, Very much, On the reasons, That you really have, For hoping, Well here, The ground of hope, Is plainly before us, The ground, Of the believer's hope, Is the word, Of God, In his word, Do I hope, The psalmist said, And I hasten, To say, That this is the best, Ground, You could possibly have, Never was, Any other hope, Built on such,

[ 18 : 19 ] A good, Foundation, As this, It is better, Than the, Most striking, Experiences, The most, Vivid, Visions, The most, Elevated, Feelings, It really is, The best, May I say, The best, That God himself, Can give, His own, Unchangeable, And infallible, And inspired, Word, My dear friends, It is so sad, And so inexpressibly, Sinful, The fact, That we are so, Reluctant, To rest, Our souls, Upon, This foundation, And our hope, Here, Here is a word, That cannot, Possibly fail, And yet,

Alas, How slow, We are, To put all, Our trust, Here, To hope, In his word, And that alone, As being, The all-sufficient, Ground, Of our hope, But if we do, The more considerate, And realize, How precious, And faithful it is, That will be a help, To strengthen our faith, Under, The divine blessing, And confirm, Our hope, In his word, What a priceless, Foundation, This is, For hope, Know that in natural things, We would hope, According to the character, Of a person, If someone promises you, That he will do something for you, Or give you something,

Your hope of obtaining that, Will be in proportion, To your, Estimate of the character, Of that person, Who has spoken, If it is someone, Who is constantly, Unreliable in those things, That he says, Then, He will not have very much hope, Of that being fulfilled, But if it is a person, Who has, The greatest integrity, And determination, To fulfill, What he has said, One who, Is noted, For fulfilling, His promises, As far as he is able, Then your hope, Will be so much stronger, But in all natural things, There is no, Real comparison, With the one, Who is here, Spoken, To us, In his word, He is almighty, To do what he has promised,

He is unchangeable, In his purpose, And he is altogether faithful, To his word, This is a foundation, Which cannot possibly fail you, If you build, Your hope upon the word of God, You may be absolutely certain, That that hope cannot fail, It cannot possibly be ashamed, If it is really built, On the word, Of the living God, The apostle wrote to Titus, Concerning this, And wrote, He said, In hope of eternal life, Well of course, Everybody would desire, To have, A real hope, Of eternal life, But that hope, Must be according, To the foundation, On which, It is built, And Paul says,

In hope of eternal life, Which God, That cannot lie, Promised us, In Christ Jesus, Before the world began, That promise, That promise was in Christ, And to him, Before the world began, It is as old as that, And it continues, And will ever continue, That word is later revealed, In the scriptures, That hope of eternal life, Cannot possibly fail, That God who has spoken, He cannot lie, Because it would be, Contrary to his, Unchangeable nature, To do so, And so also, Concerning that wonderful promise, Made to Abraham, And the oath, By which God was pleased, To condescend to confirm it, And Abraham,

[ 23 : 26 ] Was at Jehovah-Jireh, And the Lord had appeared, To him there, And then he said, Surely, Blessing I will bless thee, And multiplying I will multiply thee, And in thy seed, Shall all the nations of the earth, Be blessed, That was through, Jesus Christ, The promised Messiah, The promised seed, And then we read, Concerning that, That God, Who has in his great goodness, Given to his people, To all believers, To all the children of Abraham, These two, Immutable things, Two things which cannot possibly change, Ever, His own promise, And his own oath, By two immutable things, In which it was impossible, For God to lie,

We might have strong consolation, Who have fled for refuge, To lay hold of the hope, Set before us, That hope which appears as an anchor of the soul, Now dear friend, Have you fled for refuge, To lay hold, Of that hope set before you, So plainly, And so constantly, In the gospel, Have you really fled there?

Well if you have, You have the, Best possible reason, For the strongest consolation, Because that hope, Is built, Upon the promise, And oath of a God, Who cannot lie, It is impossible, For him to do so, What better ground, Could we really have, As the foundation, Of our hope, Let us, Consider further, Concerning, The benefit, The benefit, Of having, Such a hope, As this, The wonderful, Support, That that will give, The psalmist, Had such a hope, As this, Surely he would have been, Overwhelmed, By his sorrow, And his distress, Had it been otherwise, But he says, In his word,

Do I hope, What a great blessing, Is a gospel hope, How much good, It really brings, Surely it is good, That a man, Should both hope, And quietly wait, For the salvation, Of God, It will support, In times of trouble, And trial, In the midst of the, Difficulties, And the trials, And the troubles, Of this life, The apostle wrote, Such a word, In that connection, We are saved, By hope, We have this, Wonderful support, Of this grace, Of hope, We are saved, By hope, For that which is seen, Is not hope, For what a man seeth, Why doth he yet hope for, But if we hope,

For that we see not, Then do we with patience, Wait for it, If we hope, Then we wait, And if we wait, We shall obtain, Well then also, We must consider, A little further, The great breadth, Of this foundation, How wide, It stretches, And how much, It contains, This word, Which is the foundation, Of the believer's hope, The testimony of God, Concerning his, Dearly beloved son, Now this word, Contains, Much instruction, Contains a great deal, Of testimony, Concerning, God himself, The truth, Concerning his own, Unchanging character, Again and again,

[ 27 : 59 ] We read those words, Concerning him, As I have reminded you, Recently, Of these things, That the Lord is, Merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, He is plentious, Abundant in his mercy, Really the mercy of the Lord, Runs all through, This wonderful revelation, Of himself, The scriptures testify, With such a loud, And clear voice, That God, Is full, Of mercy, And he is, A most merciful, And condescending, And compassionate God, Let Israel, Hope in the Lord, For with the Lord, There is mercy, And with him, Is plenteous, Redemption, He is slow to anger, But by no means,

Slow to show mercy, The fact, That often we have to wait, For him to reveal himself, Is never to be, Taken, As an indication, Of anything else, It does not mean, That he is slow, To show mercy, But that he is wise, In causing us, To wait, For there are good reasons, For this pathway, But how, Merciful he is, Well might we sing, Concerning it, Such words as those, Without, Thy sweet mercy, I could not live here, Sin soon would reduce me, To utter despair, But through thy free goodness, My spirits revive, And he that first made me, Still keeps me alive, The door of his mercy,

Is open all day, To the poor and the needy, Who knock by the way, No sinner shall ever, Be empty sent back, Who comes seeking mercy, For Jesus is saved, Does that include you?

Now here then, In the word of God, The truth concerning himself, Is plainly before us, That he is of great mercy, That he is rich in mercy, Plenteous, Abundant, In mercy, And that that mercy, Through Jesus Christ, Is so, Set before us, In its breadth, And depth, And length, In the gospel, And then also, Consider, In the word, Which is the foundation, Of our hope, The testimony, Of the people of God, As you read the scripture, How plain it is, That there are so many, Who have found mercy, Sinners, Indeed they were, Many of them, Had committed, Atrocious deeds, And, Of course, The whole is by no means,

Revealed to us, That they found, Found mercy, And Abraham said, Who of mercy, Need despair, Since I have mercy found, When we consider, Those in the world, Who may have sinned, Very greatly, Sinners like, Manasseh, And Mary Magdalene, And David in his own, Sad fall, Oh, How great, And deep, Was the mercy of God, Toward them, This is the testimony, Of one, It may be, As I have said, Of Hezekiah, Who did, Certainly come, To taste the mercy, Of God, And could say, The Lord was, Ready to save me, He has cast, Thou hast cast, All my sins, Behind thy back, Thou hast in love, To my soul,

[ 32 : 25 ] Delivered it, From the pit of corruption, The Lord Jesus himself, Spoke mercy, And pardon, To a number, Who came to him, They came to him, In their sinful state, They were no more worthy, Than any of us, But they found this mercy, There are these, Examples, In the word of God, Of those, Who did know, The wonderful mercy, Of God, In their experience, The apostle Paul said, I, Obtained mercy, I, Who was, A persecutor, Of the saints, Who hailed men, And women, To prison, And no doubt, Many of the dear saints, Of God, Were put to death, Because of the testimony, Of Saul, And Tarsus, Of Tarsus, But he said, Yet I obtained mercy,

Because I did it, Ignorantly, And unbelief, David could say, Bless the Lord, O my soul, And all that is within me, Bless his holy name, Who forgiveth all thy sins, This is a truth, This is a truth, Which is so exemplified, In the cases, Of the people of God, Recorded here, And of course, All through church history, As well, But then also, Consider in the word, As the foundation, Of our hope, The wonderful, And sure, And plain, Promises of God, There are these, Precious promises, Which are such a, Strength to the hope, Of the people of God, I have mentioned, Many of them doubtless, To you before, But, They will surely bear repeating,

The Lord says, Ho, Everyone that thirsteth, Come ye to the waters, Come, Buy wine and milk, Without money, And without price, Sinners are welcome, To the sinner's friend, The gospel says to them, Come, He himself said, Come unto me, All ye that labour, And are heavy laden, And I will give you rest, The promise in that chapter, Also runs, Let the wicked, Forsake his way, And the unrighteous man, His thoughts, And let him return unto the Lord, And he will have mercy upon him, And to our God, For he will abundantly pardon, For no doubt, In the promises of God, He says, Whosoever shall call,

On the name of the Lord, Shall be saved, And Jesus said, And Jesus said, Him that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out, And there is such an abundance, In the promises of God, Such exceeding great, And precious promises, Really, To meet every case, The Lord has in his word, Given us so many, Precious and sure promises, Of what, He will surely do, Oh, What ground there is, To hope, In his word, What sure, And, Unshakeable ground, Is here, What a foundation, For our faith, As that, Him expresses it, And we might, Well include, Our hope in that,

How firm a foundation, The saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith, In his excellent word, What more, Could he say, Than to you, He has said, You, Who unto Jesus, For refuge, Have fled.

[ 36 : 53 ] Well also, We must, Briefly refer, Also, To the, God, Of this hope. What is the hope, Of the people of God?

It is not merely, That they might find, Forgiveness, Although that is such, A precious, And priceless, Blessing, It is not merely, That they might find, Peace and rest, For their souls, Although that also, Is so wonderful, And so good, The scripture, So declares, And reveals, What is really, The substance, And the sum, Of the hope, Of those who fear God, So happened, In my reading, This morning, I came to that chapter, In Jeremiah, Where three times, This is, Put before us, Oh Lord, The hope, Of Israel, Blessed is the man, That trusteth in the Lord, Whose hope, The Lord is, The Lord himself, Is really, The hope, Of his people,

The same, Is expressed, Concerning, The Lord Jesus, In the New Testament, In the first epistle, To Timothy, Where Paul writes, To him in that way, And speaks, Of the commandment, Of God, And of our saviour, Jesus Christ, Who is our hope, He himself, Is our hope, He is the, Very centre, And substance, Of it all, For all, That we need, Is found in him, It is the same really, As we noticed, This morning, The psalmist says, I wait for the Lord, For the Lord, And in his word, Do I hope, The word is the foundation, Of that hope, About the saviour, Is the full, The satisfaction,

And supply, And centre, And substance, Of that hope, To find him, Is to find all, What is your hope?

Now, If the Lord appears to us, Then we really have, All, That we can hope for, All the expectation, Of our souls, If it is rightly, According to the word, Of God, Who centres in him, For he is the great, Subject, And theme, Of the word, It is Jesus Christ, And him crucified, Who is the hope, Of his people, That a saviour, Once, Crucified in weakness, Who now liveth, By the power of God, As was the apostles, The great hope, That was where, They looked, What was, Their anticipation, It was, As I said, Of Paul, He said, To me, To live, Is Christ, That was his hope, And life, And to die, It was to be,

[ 40 : 23 ] With Christ, Which is far better, Because it meant, A fuller, And a more immediate, Entrance into his presence, To be with Christ, To be like him, To see him as he is, Why?

This is the hope, Of the children of God, They need nothing more than that, To possess the saviour, Is to possess all, And that it is, That the bride, So rejoiced, At the least, Sign of his coming, In the song we read of that, The voice of my beloved, Lo he cometh, Leaping upon the mountains, Skipping upon the hills, It was first as though, She heard his voice, In the distance, And knew that he was, Coming to her, I wait for the Lord, My soul doth wait, And in his word, Do I hope, Oh I would say to you this, My dear friends, As the Lord may help you, Put all your trust, In the word of God, Rest all your hopes there,

In what he has revealed, Concerning his beloved son, And those sure promises, Which are all concerning, And in the Lord Jesus Christ, Here then is merciful prayer, There is so much, As we constantly find, To pray over, In these things, How we need to realize, What a sure foundation, Is here, Oh my dear friends, And especially dear younger friends, How we do need, This God given conviction, That this, Is the unchangeable word, Of God, And that if we do, Build our hopes there, We are absolutely safe, For time, And eternity, And how we do need then,

To pray that, The Lord would so, Establish his word, In our hearts, And establish our faith, And hope in it, That we may, Wait the more, Steadlessly, And patiently, For his appearing, And we may, Find that we are at times, Ready to faint, And our hope grows weak, And that really is, Because we, Have lost the sight, Of the wonderful foundation, For our hope, And here of course, Also is ground, Matter for pondering, Over, What a wonderful word, This really is, How much we do need, To meditate, Upon what the Lord, Has said, Concerning his mercy, Concerning, This pathway, To the blessings, Of God, Through Jesus Christ,

[ 44 : 48 ] His own word, Here, Is matter also, For perseverance, Here we have, In the psalmist's example, That, Attitude, Of patient, Persevering, And earnest, Waiting for the Lord's blessing, His whole soul, Was in this, He was not, Half hearted, Or vacillating, Or wavering, In his waiting, His heart was set, Upon that, For which he hoped, And surely the Lord, Was soon to appear to him, In that, And here we have, In the world, The greatest encouragement, Really to wait, As he did, So to speak, To intensify our waiting, To cry, To cry, More earnestly, And more constantly, Upon the Lord, The psalmist, My dear friends, Was on, The sure way,

Amen. We will close with hymn number 244, Gene Sheffield 235, Our Jesus is the God of hope, He works it by his power, He holds the weak believer up, In the distressing hour, The darkest cloud, Hope, Pierces through, And waits upon the Lord, Expects to prove, That all is true, Throughout the sacred word, Hymn number 244, The darkest cloud,

The darkest cloud, The darkest cloud, And always to prove, The darkest cloud, And always to prove, The darkest cloud, And always to prove, Until they are on earth, The darkest cloud, And always to prove, The darkest cloud, And always to prove, The darkest cloud, And always to prove, The darkest cloud, The darkest cloud, The darkest cloud, The darkest cloud, The darkest cloud,

O do bless each needy soul we pray thee according to that need and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ the love of God the fellowship and communion of the Holy Spirit the comforter abide with us all Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen