

Summer Psalms 2024: Psalm 73 & 28

Sunday 14th July 2024

Welcome to Psalm 73

- If you could swap lives with anyone (alive or dead) who would you choose and why?

Word

Read Psalm 73.

1. What do you think is the structure of this Psalm?
2. How do the wicked appear in verses 4-12? What things does the Psalmist say that is behind this appearance?
3. What is the Psalmist's complaint in verses 13-14? What does this say about the Psalmist? Do you or anyone you know ever feel this way and how do you/they respond?
4. What is the Psalmist's response to feeling this way in verses 15-20?
5. What do you think has been the Psalmist problem stated in verses 21-22?
6. What is the result of verses 23-28?

Challenging us:

7. What is the main issue or feeling that the Psalmist is dealing with in this Psalm (verse 3)? How would you define it? What leads us to feel this way today?
8. How do the people in verses 4 and 5 compare (how are they different or similar) with those mentioned in Psalm 2:1-3?
9. In verses 23-28 what does the Psalmist most treasure? Is this true for you? If so, why? If not why not?
10. What things do you wish you had or who do you wish you were more like? How can we be content in God?

11. What compels the Psalmist to tell the deeds of God (verse 28)? Do you find it difficult to talk of the deeds of God? To whom should we speak of God deeds?

Worship & Witness

- Continue to pray for those people who are on your frontline
- Pray that God will help you to be content with whatever comes your way
- Thank God that he is always with us

A Prayer to read:

Lord, thank you that you come close so that we can be near you, be known by you and that we might know you. Help us to see you as our greatest treasure, not to desire what we see others have. Forgive us for our envy and help us to be people who are thankful and content in you.

Amen.

Welcome to Psalm 28

- Are you a 'glass half full' or a 'glass half empty' kind of person? Does it depend on the situation?

Word

Read Psalm 28

1. What do you think is the structure of this Psalm?
2. What does the Psalmist teach us about God in verses 1 and 2?
3. What does it mean that God is the Psalmist's Rock? From what you know of God on what basis can the Psalmist use the metaphor of a rock?
4. What similarities do you see between Psalm 28:3-5 and Psalm 1 and Psalm 2?
5. How are the wicked described (verses 3-5)? Are there things here for which we need to repent?
6. In what way do verses 6-9 reflect verses 1 and 2?

Challenging us:

7. What do you think changes the Psalmist from calling out to the Lord and then praising the Lord at the end?
8. What does the Psalmist liken the silence of God to (verse 1)? Why?
9. The Psalm describes what the Lord is to his people. Can you find some of these? Conversely, what are his people to him? What do you think this means?
10. For what can you praise God? Do you find this difficult? If so, why?
11. Is the 'Lord' your first place to cry for mercy? If not, why not?

Worship and Witness

- Continue to pray for those people who are on your frontline
- Thank God that he is our Rock – stable and secure
- Pray for those people you know who need that Rock just now

Prayer to read out:

Lord, we thank you that you hear us when we pray, when we call. By your Spirit urge us to seek you first, to accept that you are just and will do the right thing. We praise you because we can call out to you due to what Jesus did for us in reconciling us to you. Amen.