

PSALM 4 -- DAVID THE SHEPHERD-KING

Sunday, April 14, 2024 -- Psalm series — Pastor Andrew Coleman

PSALM 4

English Standard Version (ESV)

- 1 *Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!
You have given me relief when I was in distress.
Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!*
- 2 *O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?
How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?*
- 3 *But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself;
the LORD hears when I call to him .*
- 4 *Be angry, and do not sin;
ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent.*
- 5 *Offer right sacrifices,
and put your trust in the LORD.*
- 6 *There are many who say, "Who will show us some good?
Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!"*
- 7 *You have put more joy in my heart
than they have when their grain and wine abound.*
- 8 *In peace I will both lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.*

KEY ORIENTATION on PSALM 4:

1) Psalm 1 -- The Righteous vs the Wicked

2) Psalm 2 -- God Reigns as the Nations Rage

3) Psalm 3 -- Faith in God's Salvation amidst the Troubles of Life

(King David flees from Absalom -- his own son's coup attempt.)

4) Psalm 4 -- Another psalm of FAITH and HOPE in God.

This psalm seems to be connected to the psalm before it (Psalm 3). see 3:5 & 4:8

The historical setting is King David and Israel.

The spiritual setting is Christ and all of God's true people.

David and his leadership is a FORESHADOWING of Jesus and His ministry.

This psalm provides PASTORAL LEADERSHIP to God's people.

- Confronts and rebukes falsehoods, false worship, vanity, lack of faith.
- Exhorts (strongly encourages) faith and trust in God amidst national difficulty.
- There is the call of faithfulness TO God and faith IN God.

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KEY OBSERVATIONS in PSALM 4:

vs 1 -- Notice David's urgent cry to God.

It is desperate. It is submissive. It is hopeful.
O God of my righteousness -- only God justifies and sanctifies us.
Any good in us comes from Him!

vs 2 -- Notice David's responsibility to his people and their responsibility to him.
Notice David's rebuke for his people's foolishness and falsehoods.

vs 3 -- Notice David's reminder that the Lord prizes His true people.

The LORD has set apart --> where we get the word 'holy'
They are not like the rest. They have a purpose and a reward.

vs 4 -- Notice David's call to being principled, sober and deeply thoughtful.

The world has selfish anger. God's people should have godly anger.
The world doesn't stop to think. God's people must be full of thought.

vs 5 -- Notice David's correction of wrong religiosity.

Many people offer God what he does not want.
God wants your brokenness to sin and faith in Him.

PSALM 51:17

*The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.*

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vs 6 -- Notice David's rejection of worry or looking to others besides God for good.

Jesus dealt with this exact thing in Matthew 6:25-33

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added to you.

vs 7 -- Notice David's rejoices in the JOY given by God rather than the things of the world.

vs 8 -- Notice David's faith that allows him to 'sleep like a baby'.

His trust was in the Lord. God's salvation and right relationship with Him brings a peace, safety and REST that the world cannot give.

SOME KEY APPLICATIONS from PSALM 4:

- 1) PRAY and PRAISE! All the Psalms remind us of the importance of prayer.
- 2) STOP DABBLING in the lies and foolishness of the world.
- 3) BE SOBER MINDED -- Give the Lord what He wants; your faith in Him.
- 4) ENJOY the JOY, PEACE, REST and PROVISION that can *only* come from God.

HEBREWS 2:1-3

1 Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. 2 For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, 3 how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation?

LOOK OVER YOUR SHOULDER

by Heather Schopf

*Towering mountains just ahead;
Paths uncharted, these you must tread.
Strength today to keep up the climb
Just may be found by looking behind.*

Chorus:

*The path becomes brighter,
The burden seems lighter
When you look over your shoulder,
When you pause to remember the past.
There are gifts for which to be grateful
And a Father Who's always been faithful.
So look over your shoulder
And remember His goodness to you.*

*Daily pressures pressing in,
Perseverance wearing thin.
Life is harder when you forget
That your Father has never failed you yet.*

Bridge:

*Great is His faithfulness!
Surely goodness and mercy have followed us!
Look over your shoulder
And remember His goodness to you!*

Second Chorus:

*Your faith becomes stronger,
With more praises to offer
When you look over your shoulder,
When you pause to remember the past.
Every gift, so good, so amazing
Was sent from the Father unchanging.
So look over your shoulder
And remember His goodness to you.*