

Sermon Scavenger Hunt

Psalm 74

Think about it...Have you ever felt far away from God? Like your prayers just bounced off the ceiling? Forgotten and insignificant? What circumstances triggered these feelings?

Sermon Scavenger Hunt Questions...Listen to the sermon to discover answers to the following questions. Submit your answers for a prize!

Psalm 74

Psa. 74:0 A maskil of Asaph.

Psa. 74:1 O God, why have you rejected us forever?

Why does your anger smolder against the sheep of your pasture?

2 Remember the nation you purchased long ago, the people of your inheritance, whom you redeemed—

Mount Zion, where you dwelt.

3 Turn your steps toward these everlasting ruins, all this destruction the enemy has brought on the sanctuary.

4 Your foes roared in the place where you met with us;

they set up their standards as signs.

5 They behaved like men wielding axes to cut through a thicket of trees.

6 They smashed all the carved paneling with their axes and hatchets.

7 They burned your sanctuary to the ground; they defiled the dwelling place of your Name.

8 They said in their hearts, "We will crush them completely!"

They burned every place where God was worshiped in the land.

9 We are given no signs from God; no prophets are left,

and none of us knows how long this will be.

10 How long will the enemy mock you, God? Will the foe revile your name forever?

11 Why do you hold back your hand, your right hand?

Take it from the folds of your garment and destroy them!

12 But God is my King from long ago; he brings salvation on the earth.

13 It was you who split open the sea by your power;

you broke the heads of the monster in the waters.

14 It was you who crushed the heads of Leviathan and gave it as food to the creatures of the desert.

15 It was you who opened up springs and streams; you dried up the ever-flowing rivers.

16 The day is yours, and yours also the night; you established the sun and moon.

17 It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth;

you made both summer and winter.

18 Remember how the enemy has mocked you, LORD,

how foolish people have reviled your name.

19 Do not hand over the life of your dove to wild beasts;

do not forget the lives of your afflicted people forever.

20 Have regard for your covenant, because haunts of violence fill the dark places of the land.

21 Do not let the oppressed retreat in disgrace; may the poor and needy praise your name.

22 Rise up, O God, and defend your cause; remember how fools mock you all day long.

23 Do not ignore the clamor of your adversaries, the uproar of your enemies, which rises continually.



1. The _____ lament psalms (such as Psalm 74) are prayers expressing the struggles, suffering or disappointment with God of a group of people.

2. When Psalm 74 was written, King Nebuchadnezzar, the most powerful king in the world during the sixth century B.C., was on the throne in Babylon. We know Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonians conquered the Jewish people and destroyed Jerusalem and the temple in 586 BC. What brutal things did the Babylonians do?
3. Remember, this is a corporate prayer of lament for a nation, the people of God. Imagine you are this Psalmist; a worship leader ministering during this season of death and destruction. How would you begin composing a prayer of lament for God's people? How does the Psalmist begin his prayer? (See Psalm 74:1).
4. Psalm 74 is a song with a chorus repeated 3 times: verses 1-3, verses 10-11 and verses 18-23. Read over these pleas. What interesting details do you notice about them?
5. When was the last time you pleaded with God in prayer? What were the circumstances?
6. What was the Psalmist grieving over in verse 4? What have the Babylonians done to this special place?
7. Read verses 12-17, and list a few amazing things has God done in the past.
8. In verses 18-23, the Psalmist pleads for God to be faithful to the covenant even though the people have broken it and brought upon themselves the judgments that destroyed their city and temple. Why do you think appealing to God's covenant is a strong plea for why God should step in and help?
9. We grieve over so many things in this fallen world. We cry out for God to do something, and God responds I have done it all. It was through Jesus dying, through the temple of his body being destroyed, when all hope looked to be lost, that Jesus was actually securing our...
S ___ L ___ AT ___ _ _ _.
10. What are you praying for right now that has turned into a lament? Maybe it's feeling lonely, being overwhelmed by school, weariness of dealing with hard circumstances in your family, fear about the future, Covid frustrations - whatever thoughts keep you awake at night or worry you throughout the day. **Call on God. Ask for God's help. Respond in trust and praise.** Write your own prayer of lament in the space below.