

Rest in God Alone

I. Slide#1 Announce:

- A. Slide#2 Fund Raiser/Luciani's in Spain a week from tomorrow.
- B. Slide#3a 3 on 3 b-ball tourney. \$65 a team. proceeds CMCS athletic Dept.
- C. Slide#3b Kristy & Bill Harrison, both blind & have a seeing eye dog. They live in the Colony & are looking for a weekly ride to church. We have 1 family that can help but are looking for a few more to cover this. If you would like to be available *call church office*.
- D. Next Wed(29th) Roasted chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans is available for purchase. *reg service*
 - 1. Wed night Aug 5th - nite of diff musicians/worship/fellowship. Meet over at Rivoli Coffee shop. Tonino Italian restaurant. Subway. Juice it up. Richy setting up diff musicians on patio. Anytime 6-9pm. Aug 5th
- E. Prayer: God you are near. Accessible. Unchanging. Eternal. Invulnerable. Bulletproof.

II. Slide#4a Intro: Rest in God Alone

- A. Slide#4b Here David gives us 3 assurances in these 3 metered stanzas that help us to wait, or find rest in God. God is our Salvation. God is our Expectation. God is our Vindication.
- B. We all face difficulties with *people, or things, or circumstances, wait on the Lord*.
 - 1. Which, as a side note, Book of Philippians is about, 4 things that will steal your joy: Circumstances (ch.1) People (ch.2) Possessions (ch.3) Worry (ch.4).
- C. This is an affirmation of faith...faith in God not man, not money, not position.
 - 1. God Elohim, is used 7 x's. El in its plural form, Elohim, maybe speaking to Father, Son, Holy Spirit in their united action of power. [1,5,7,7,8,11,11]
- D. Title: Jeduthun - praising, a Levite of the family of Merari, and 1 of the 3 masters of music appointed by David. 1 Chr.16:41
- E. Vs.1,2 & 5,6 are almost identical & state *the theme* of the Psalm.

III. Slide#5 GOD IS OUR SALVATION (1-4)

- A. Salvation not from sin but from danger. Or, *from Him comes my delivery*.

1. What do you need to be **delivered** from today? someone, a fear/phobia, a situation, bills, a disease, a tragedy in your past, an old sin you can't seem to shake, an old sin you've confessed a million times...but still haunts you, a bondage, anxiety, What do you need to be **delivered** from today?
- B. Slide#6 Literal translations: *only toward God my soul waits in silence; only for God waits my soul all hushed.* [Alexander Maclaren, “That one word **only** is the record of conflict & the trophy of (the psalmist's) victory.”]
1. The **noises** of contending desires, whispers earthly hopes, are **hushed**, and the soul listens, finds rest^(NIV). I'm not going to run around & lose control of myself. I'm going to **wait on the Lord**.
 2. The words have all been said **or** perhaps no words will come...& the issue rests with **Him** alone.
 - a) Slide#7a This is summed up well in Ps.123:2 *Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, As the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, So our eyes look to the Lord our God, Until He has mercy on us.*
 3. This is the test of true **waiting**. Wait before God till the voices, suggestions, and energies of nature become silent.
 4. This is why God keeps you **waiting**. All the ideas of self and nature must be silenced. One voice after another cease to boast. One light after another be put out, **until** the soul is shut up to God alone.
- C. Slide#7b (2) I shall not be moved greatly - greatly is last. When this is **repeated** in the refrain in vs.6 it is **unqualified**. He wont even be a little bit moved.
- D. (3,4) [NIV] *How long will you assault me? Would all of you throw me down - this leaning wall, this tottering fence?*
1. David accuses his enemies of continuing to hit him while he's tottering.
 - a) **Evil** is attracted to **weakness** & loves to give that last push to whatever is **leaning or tottering**. It is also attracted to **strength**, the target of its envy to topple it from its **high position**.

IV. Slide#8 **GOD IS OUR EXPECTATION (5-8)**

- A. Slide#9a Someone said, “*Blessed is the man who expects nothing; he shall never be disappointed.*” What a gloomy beatitude. [expectation = hope]
1. “Prayer is not conquering God’s *reluctance*, but laying hold of His *willingness*.”
- B. Slide#9b Same refrain here, but with a few subtle nuances:
1. David urges on *himself* the *silence* which he simply stated before.
 2. Next, he substitutes *hope/expectation* for *salvation/deliverance*.
 3. (unqualified, *greatly* is omitted) *I shall not be moved/shaken* [stagger/quake/shake].
 - a) Slide#10 I use an *inflatable exercise balance disk* at the gym. *It is unstable, thus making even the smallest muscles react/work to maintain balance*. Everything quivers at first.
 - (1) But David isn’t going to stagger, quake or shake *why?* because of his *foundation*, he is standing on God as *his rock, his salvation, his defense*.
- C. Slide#11 (7) Now he decides *not* to brood on the traitors & their plots. *He fills his thoughts w/God*.
1. *Poem*: One ship drives **east** & another drives **west**, With the selfsame winds that blow. Tis the set of the sails, *And not the gales*, Which tells us the way to **go**. [Ella Wheeler Wilcox]
 2. Out of *deep deep struggles* the psalmist has reached his present confidence.
 3. He now *waits* upon God *quietly*, *for* God **alone** is his true security.
- D. *Where do we normally look for our expectation? to ourselves, to our wallets, to our friends? Where do we look when our future is dark & bleak? David looked to God.*
1. *The rock of my strength, And my refuge, is in God - God is a refuge to us in our times of temptation, in our days of adversity, in our nights of affliction, & in our somber times of death.*
- E. (8) Now David calls **us**, *all God followers*, to *trust* God under **all** circumstances, *at all times*. Both in *prosperity & adversity. For better or worse, for richer for poorer, in joy & in sorrow, in sickness & in health.*
- F. **Pour out your heart** before Him - this is the opposite *pole* of *silent* prayer.
1. *If silently waiting is the north pole, than pouring out your heart is the south pole*

2. So together we have...the **disciplined expectancy** (waiting) on one hand & the **spontaneous unburdening** (pouring out) on the other.

V. Slide#12 GOD IS OUR VINDICATION (9-12)

- A. (9) We put no confidence in **man**, **not in common people nor powerful people**.
We put no confidence in **robbing others nor in personal riches**.
1. We have **nothing to fear** from man & **nothing to hope** from him. **So, do not set your heart on them/him**. (9b) [note: **alone** in vs.5]
- B. (12) We do not have to vindicate ourselves, for our vindication comes from God, who will render to each one according to our deeds.
- C. **Mercy/hesed** - is linked to covenant keeping, steadfast love, true love.