

A Psalm For A Dark Night

Series: When Your World Falls Apart

Psalms 71

Bro. Ken Culver

I. The Reality of Trials In The Believer's Life

It is not the absence of suffering, but the response to suffering, that makes Christians unique. Believers are not exempt from trials in life, but we can be exempt from failure in those trials.

A. Trials Because of Ungodly Foes

*Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked,
Out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man. Psalms 71:4*

B. Trials Because of An Uncertain Future

*Do not cast me off in the time of old age;
Do not forsake me when my strength fails. Psalms 71:9*

C. Trials Because of Unfaithful Friends

10
*For my enemies speak against me;
And those who lie in wait for my life take counsel together,*

11
*Saying, "God has forsaken him;
Pursue and take him, for there is none to deliver him."*

12
*O God, do not be far from me;
O my God, make haste to help me!*

13
*Let them be confounded and consumed
Who are adversaries of my life;
Let them be covered with reproach and dishonor
Who seek my hurt. Psalms 71:10-13*

D. Trials Because of An Unequaled Father

19
*Also Your righteousness, O God, is very high,
You who have done great things;*

O God, who is like You?

20

*You, who have shown me great and severe troubles,
Shall revive me again,
And bring me up again from the depths of the earth. Psalms 71:19-20*

II. The Result of Trials In The Believer's Life

A. The Feeling of Vulnerability

*I have become as a wonder to many,
But You are my strong refuge. Psalms 71:7*

B. The Feeling of Insecurity

*Deliver me in Your righteousness, and cause me to escape;
Incline Your ear to me, and save me. Psalms 71:2*

*Do not cast me off in the time of old age;
Do not forsake me when my strength fails. Psalms 71:9*

C. The Feeling of Dependency

*O God, do not be far from me;
O my God, make haste to help me! Psalms 71:12*

D. The Feeling of Emergency

*O God, do not be far from me;
O my God, make haste to help me! Psalms 71:12*

III. The Response To Trials In The Believer's Life

A. Remember The Character of God

1

*In You, O Lord, I put my trust;
Let me never be put to shame.*

2

*Deliver me in Your righteousness, and cause me to escape;
Incline Your ear to me, and save me.*

3

*Be my strong refuge,
To which I may resort continually;
You have given the commandment to save me,
For You are my rock and my fortress. Psalms 71:1-3*

1. His Glory

*Let my mouth be filled with Your praise
And with Your glory all the day. Psalms 71:8*

2. His Power And Strength

*Now also when I am old and grayheaded,
O God, do not forsake me,
Until I declare Your strength to this generation,
Your power to everyone who is to come. Psalms 71:18*

3. His Faithfulness

*Also with the lute I will praise You—
And Your faithfulness, O my God!
To You I will sing with the harp,
O Holy One of Israel. Psalms 71:22*

4. His Righteousness

1
*In You, O Lord, I put my trust;
Let me never be put to shame. Psalms 71:1*

15
*My mouth shall tell of Your righteousness
And Your salvation all the day,
For I do not know their limits. Psalms 71:15*

16
*I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD;
I will make mention of Your righteousness, of Yours only. Psalms 71:16*

19
*Also Your righteousness, O God, is very high,
You who have done great things;
O God, who is like You? Psalms 71:19*

24
*My tongue also shall talk of Your righteousness all the day long;
For they are confounded,
For they are brought to shame
Who seek my hurt. Psalms 71:24*

B. Review The Compassion of God**4**

*Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked,
Out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.*

5

*For You are my hope, O Lord GOD;
You are my trust from my youth.*

6

*By You I have been upheld from birth;
You are He who took me out of my mother's womb.
My praise shall be continually of You. **Psalms 71:4-6***

17a

*O God, You have taught me from my youth; **Psalms 71:17a***

C. Rejoice In Celebration oTo God**6b**

*My praise shall be continually of You. **Psalms 71:6b***

8

*Let my mouth be filled with Your praise
And with Your glory all the day. **Psalms 71:8***

14

*But I will hope continually,
And will praise You yet more and more.*

15

*My mouth shall tell of Your righteousness
And Your salvation all the day,
For I do not know their limits. **Psalms 71:14-15***

22

*Also with the lute I will praise You—
And Your faithfulness, O my God!
To You I will sing with the harp,
O Holy One of Israel.*

23

*My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing to You,
And my soul, which You have redeemed.*

24

*My tongue also shall talk of Your righteousness all the day long;
For they are confounded,
For they are brought to shame
Who seek my hurt. **Psalms 71:22-24***

D. Renew Your Consecration To God

18

*Now also when I am old and grayheaded,
O God, do not forsake me,
Until I declare Your strength to this generation,
Your power to everyone who is to come. Psalms 71:18*

E. Reclaim Your Confidence In God And The Future

21

*You shall increase my greatness,
And comfort me on every side. Psalms 71:21*