

Psalms 006 Commentary

To the chief Musician on Neginoth upon Sheminith, A Psalm of David.

Ps 6:1 "O LORD, rebuke me not in thine anger, neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure."

We do not know the occasion when King David penned this Psalm. However, the context tells us that David was in a great state of despair.

David asks God to not rebuke him in his anger: for such rebuke would end in his eternal destruction. David asks God to not chasten him in his hot displeasure, fearful that that same eternal destruction would come upon him.

2 "Have mercy upon me, O LORD; for I am weak: O LORD, heal me; for my bones are vexed."

David asks of God mercy. David knows that the mercy of God will keep him from eternal destruction. David confesses that he is weak, saying I am merely flesh and bones and have an inherited sin nature that is so prone to turn from you.

David prays to God for healing from his despair and for forgiveness of his sins which have brought the wrath of God upon him. David tells God that my despair is so great that it is even in my bones.

3 "My soul is also sore vexed: but thou, O LORD, how long?"

David confesses to God that my very soul, which you have saved, is sore vexed. My soul despairs of thy return and the comfort and peace that your presence brings. David asks God; how long shall I have to suffer without thy reassuring presence in my life. I am sure this is a feeling that most children of God can witness with.

4 "Return, O LORD, deliver my soul: oh save me for thy mercies' sake."

David asks God to return unto him in the fulness of his presence that his soul might be delivered. He is asking the same thing he prayed in: ***Ps 51:12 "Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit."***

David asks God for salvation from his despair and troubles, even to the salvation of his soul. David knows this is possible because he is well aware of the great mercy of God, which he has often experienced.

The same is true in the lives of God's people. When Satan has us choked with despair, we cry to God for deliverance and the return of the joy of God's salvation in our lives.

5 "For in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?"

David tells God that if I die, I can no longer give thanks to you and lift up your holy and righteous name. David reminds God, and he reminds us, that the dead do not praise God.

6 "I am weary with my groaning; all the night make I my bed to swim; I water my couch with my tears."

David tells God that he is weary with groaning. He declares that all through the night I wet my bed with tears, and when I rise and sit upon my couch, I wet it with tears also. David is trying to convey to God that he is at the end of his rope.

7 "Mine eye is consumed because of grief; it waxeth old because of all mine enemies."

David says that my eye is consumed because of my grief, that I have caused your wrath and judicial judgment to be stirred up against me. He says that my eyes have shrunk back in my face as one that is old. This is caused by this continual mourning of my soul, which despairs of the lack of thy presence, and because of the multitude of my enemies.

8 ¶ "Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity; for the LORD hath heard the voice of my weeping."

David asks of God to drive his enemies away from him, so that he does not have to look upon their faces, while he is in this depraved state of heart and mind. Because David knows of the sure mercies of God, he tells his enemies to depart, because he feels that God has heard his prayers.

9 "The LORD hath heard my supplication; the LORD will receive my prayer."

David says that the Lord has heard my prayers and received them. David speaks this in his confidence of the sure mercies of God. No doubt, David has felt the presence of God entering into his heart, soul, and mind, therefore he can declare these words to his enemies.

10 "Let all mine enemies be ashamed and sore vexed: let them return and be ashamed suddenly."

David says all my enemies shall be ashamed and they shall be sore vexed. Why? Because as God has given deliverance to David, he in turn has vexed David's enemies to cause them to turn away from him. God has caused David's enemies to return to their father the devil and report that David is still secure in the mercies of God. They make their report in shame to the devil.

Now, let's make the application of this Psalm to our own selves, by putting ourselves in David's shoes. Some may say that I am not a sinner, and I have no need to make such intercessory prayers to God. To which I reply: if you have never felt this need for intercessory prayers as expressed by David in this chapter, then I would doubt that you are a child of God.

Jesus tells us plainly that the world hated me, and it will hate you also. Jesus tells us that in this world we shall have tribulations, seen in ***Joh 16:33 "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."***

We also see the eternal perspective in this Psalm. Jesus Christ has prayed for all of those that God has chosen to save to eternity in Jesus Christ, and we know that God always hears the prayers of Jesus. Wherefore, we know that in the end, we will be delivered from our enemies eternally and shall no longer despair of feeling like Jesus has forsaken us. Hallelujah! Praise, ye the Lord!