

Psalms of the Degrees (Psalms 120-134)
Celebrating Triumph Over Trouble Through Trust in God

Psalm 130 - Trusting in God's Forgiveness of Sin

- 1 *Out of the depths I have cried to You, O Lord.*
- 2 *Lord, hear my voice!*
 Let Your ears be attentive
 To the voice of my supplications.
- 3 *If You, Lord, should mark iniquities,*
 O Lord, who could stand?
- 4 *But there is forgiveness with You,*
 That You may be feared.

- 5 *I wait for the Lord, my soul does wait,*
 And in His word do I hope.
- 6 *My soul waits for the Lord*
 More than the watchmen for the morning;
 Indeed, more than the watchmen for the morning.
- 7 *O Israel, hope in the Lord;*
 For with the Lord there is lovingkindness,
 And with Him is abundant redemption.
- 8 *And He will redeem Israel*
 From all his iniquities.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: Psalm 130 summarizes the confidence Hezekiah placed in God's forgiveness and redemption which he wrote about right after God saved him from his terminal disease, recorded in Isaiah 38: 9-20. The cry for help in Psalm 130: 1-2 corresponds to Hezekiah's cry for help in Isaiah 38: 14b, "*My eyes grew weak as I looked to the heavens. I am troubled; O Lord, come to my aid!*" The confidence in God's forgiveness expressed in Psalm 130: 3-4, corresponds to Hezekiah's statement in Isaiah 38: 17, "*In your love you kept me from the pit of destruction; you have put all my sins behind your back.*" The acknowledgment in Psalm 130: 4 that the experience of God's forgiveness produces a walk of reverential fear with God corresponds to Isaiah 38: 15, "*He has spoken to me, and He Himself has done this. I will walk humbly all my years because of the anguish of my soul.*"

The analogy in Psalm 130: 5-6 of waiting in hope for God's Word as the watchmen wait for the light of dawn after a long night of darkness, corresponds to Isaiah 38: 13, "*I waited patiently until dawn...*"

In Psalm 130: 7-8 the writer moves from His personal redemption to the redemption of the nation, as does Hezekiah in Isaiah 38: 19-20, "*The living, the living—they praise you, as I am doing today; fathers tell their children about Your faithfulness. The Lord will save me, and we will sing my songs with stringed instruments all the days of our lives in the temple of the Lord.*"

LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FOR TODAY

1. Trusting in God's forgiveness of sin resolves my struggle expressed in the statement, "I know God forgives me, but I can't FORGIVE MYSELF" (Romans 8: 31-34).

2. Trusting in God's forgiveness of sin provides the CONFIDENT HOPE God will enable me to conquer the trials & adversities of life (Romans 8: 35-37).

3. Trusting in God's forgiveness of sin frees me from interpreting hardship as GOD'S PUNISHMENT for sin (Romans 8: 38-39).

4. Trusting in God's forgiveness of sin gives the assurance God has saved me from the PENALTY of sin (called justification), is saving me from the POWER of sin (called sanctification), & one day will save me from the very PRESENCE of sin (called glorification).

...and with Him is ABUNDANT REDEMPTION. And He will redeem Israel from ALL his iniquities.

Psalm 130: 7b-8

5. Trusting in God's forgiveness of sin always results in a CLEAR CONSCIENCE to serve God (Hebrews 9: 14).

- Reflect with SORROW over your sin (2 Corinthians 7: 10).
- Rest in the forgiveness of the RISEN LORD (1 Corinthians 15: 17).
- RESTORE what is restorable (Luke 19: 1-10).
- Remember God FORGETS (Hebrews 10: 17-19).
- Receive hardship as God's DISCIPLINE, not DAMNATION (Hebrews 12: 5-11).
- Reveal the SCARS from your sin as a testimony of God's forgiveness & healing (Psalm 51: 12-13).