

“Thirsty Souls, and Hungry Saints”

Text: Psalm 63

Intro: It is so easy to fall into a rut. I’m sure you have heard the definition of a rut. A grave with both ends kicked out. I am afraid that this is the case for most people in their spiritual walk. Going through the motions and not excited. It seems like we are constantly having church activities in order to pump up and recharge. What is desperately needed is people who want to cultivate a consistent and meaningful walk with the Lord.

Questions: Did you spend anytime at all this week in a one on one time with God? In His Word? If you had to write down what God said to you this week what would you write down?

Did you lay up any treasure in heaven this week? Are you on a roller coaster in your walk with God? Up and down. Cold and Hot.

Swindoll: Much of our religious activity today is nothing more than a cheap anesthetic to deaden the pain of an empty life!

A.W. Tozer: The simplicity which is in Christ is rarely found among us. In its stead are programs, methods, organizations and a world of nervous activities which occupy time and attention but can never satisfy the longing of the heart.

God does not want you to have an empty life. In his presence is the fullness of joy. Don’t you want to leave the rat-race of religion, and have something real and genuine? Something that you can take with you every single day.

Do we have any thirsty souls and hungry saints here today? Let’s take a look at one of the great Psalms that will help us to find that satisfaction that we long for.

1) The Location of David

- a. You will not find this in a verse, but in the superscription under the chapter number.
- b. This is a Psalm of David in the wilderness.
- c. Not in a temple, a palace or a sanctuary but in the wilderness.
- d. The Jericho road. Dangerous, and barren.
- e. David would describe it for us in verse 1. Dry and barren. No water.
- f. He has been run off the throne by his own son and nephew. He has found that a beloved counselor and friend was a traitor.
- g. He has had to leave the great city of God Jerusalem behind, and he was now far from the sanctuary.
- h. **2Sa 15:23** And all the country wept with a loud voice, and all the people passed over: the king also himself passed over the brook Kidron, and all the people passed over, toward the way of the wilderness.

2) The Longing of David. (v. 1-2)

- a. Talk about the ark and how Zadok and Abiathar, members of the priestly line and trusted and true friends of David had picked up that Ark and were hot on the heels of David.
- b. **2Sa 15:23** And all the country wept with a loud voice, and all the people passed over: the king also himself passed over the brook Kidron, and all the people passed over, toward the way of the wilderness.
- c. They were saying “David, all is well we have the Ark”. But David knew that no sacred object would get it done.
- d. David longed for the presence of God. He needed God, not the Ark.
- e. **Phillips:** He was so sure of God’s presence and protection that he could afford to dispense with the ark. He had the substance, so why retain the shadow.
- f. Question: If you were driven into exile, what would you miss most? What would top the list for you?

3) The Logic of David (v. 4-7)

- a. David’s logic said whether on the mountain or down in the valley I will praise Him.
- b. He would praise Him with outstretched arms and open mouth.
- c. He would lift his hands in praise and use his hands in service.
- d. Note again this is not in the time of plenty and peace. This is not in the palace. This is in the wilderness.
- e. David is not feeling sorry for himself. He is making a declaration that the only thing that could satisfy is the Lord.
- f. **Illustrate:** A business man had been very generous to the work of the Lord in days when his business had prospered. He gave thousands of dollars to those who were serving the Lord in need. Then the great depression hit. Somebody asked him: “Don’t you wish now you had some of the money you gave away?” “Oh no! “ he said, with eyes toward heaven, “that’s all that I really have now.”
- g. David is teaching us that the way to satisfaction is mornings with God, nights that we are awake thinking of Him, praising him, serving Him, in sickness and in health. In adversity and prosperity.
- h. David in his adversity found his satisfaction and his song in God.
- i. Look at **verse 8**. “followeth hard”. This word is also found in the story of Ruth. Three widows crying and hugging. About to go separate ways. Naomi had enough of Moab. Enough of being cut off from God’s land and people. Orpah loved her world and she was going back to Moab. But the bible says that Ruth “Clave to Naomi”.
- j. David is saying I’m hanging on to you no matter what God. You have me by the hand.

4) The Look of David. (v. 9-11)

- a. David was looking for victory.

- b. David had a rebellious child, and it must have hurt him so bad. But he was staking his claim.
- c. **Isa 59:19** So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.
- d. **Rom 8:31** What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?
- e. **2Co 10:4** (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)
- f. The battle is spiritual and we wrestle not against flesh and blood.
- g. **Illustrate:** When you get mud on you its best to just leave it be. The more you wipe it the more it spreads. Give it time and let it dry and it will brush right off.
- h. David in his adversity found his satisfaction and his song in God.