



A WORD TO THE WISE *Psalm 39*

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We are studying the psalms of lament, which has become personal & autobiographical than most. In 39, David asks God to remove his “scourge” from him so he will not die. Like the writer of Ecclesiastes, the psalmist reflects on a “here-today-gone-tomorrow perspective.

READ, Psalm 38:1-13

To the choirmaster: to Jeduthun. A Psalm of David.

I said, “I will guard my ways, that I may not sin with my tongue; I will guard my mouth with a muzzle, so long as the wicked are in my presence.” **2** I was mute and silent; I held my peace to no avail, and my distress grew worse. **3** My heart became hot within me. As I mused, the fire burned; then I spoke with my tongue: **4** “O Lord, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting I am! **5** Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as nothing before you. Surely all mankind stands as a mere breath! *Selah* **6** Surely a man goes about as a shadow! Surely for nothing they are in turmoil; man heaps up wealth and does not know who will gather! **7** “And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in you. **8** Deliver me from all my transgressions. Do not make me the scorn of the fool! **9** I am mute; I do not open my mouth, for it is you who have done it. **10** Remove your stroke from me; I am spent by the hostility of your hand. **11** When you discipline a man with rebukes for sin, you consume like a moth what is dear to him; surely all mankind is a mere breath! *Selah* **12** “Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear to my cry; hold not your peace at my tears! For I am a sojourner with you, a guest, like all my fathers. **13** Look away from me, that I may smile again, before I depart and am no more!”

*“But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. **15** For we are strangers before you and sojourners, as all our fathers were. Our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no abiding.” **1 Chronicles 29:14-15***

1. Be SELF-AWARE of What You SAY and DO. (v 1-3)

- Directly CRITICIZING God for not bringing retribution on the wicked.
- Indirectly COMPLAINING in the hearing of the wicked.

2. Be CONCERNED With Your ETERNAL Life More Than Your TEMPORAL Burden. (v. 4-6)

"yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes" James 4:14

*"For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, **18** as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal"*

2 Corinthians 4:17-18

- David seems to be more interested with his LIFESPAN rather than his SIN.

3. The LORD is The Only HOPE In Our SUFFERING and From Our SIN is the LORD. (v. 7-11)

- Fair AFFLICTION is the proper DISCIPLINE by a Righteous GOD.

"My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline or be weary of his reproof"

Proverbs 3:11

- God's discipline should lead us to CONFESS & REPENT from sin, which is our RESPONSE to God's saving GRACE.

Salvation through Jesus Christ

*The single most important decision a person could ever make in their lifetime is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says, "all have sinned and fall short of God's glory" and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death". Yet through God's love, only "Christ gives us eternal life by grace through faith"... it is a gift of God. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead YOU WILL BE SAVED. **The Bible says to REPENT of your sins. BELIEVE in Jesus receiving His forgiveness.** Then, identify with Christ and start living a new life in obedience to God by being BAPTIZED.*