

Welcome to: - Bible House of Grace.



God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.

Psalm 43.

(2015)

The Bible not only reveals God's eternal plans purposes and promises

But also shows how you can know God for yourself.

Teach it, don't demand it.

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man. As to such I neither claim special knowledge or perfect understanding.

If you think items presented on this site to be in error, please let me know and I will gladly reconsider the content.

Psalm 43.

Topics.

- Why are you cast down, O My Soul? Hope in God; I shall again praise him.
- Why are you cast down, O My Soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?

INTRODUCTION: Psalms are songs and prayers offered to God by the nation Israel, they cover the range of human emotion, expressing praise, faith, victory, sorrow, despair, depression, frustration and the troubled heart of a mourner. They contrast the righteous with the wicked, and include the wisdom and the treasure of God's word. Psalms were written at the beginning of the 15th century BC and probably collected in their final form in the 3rd century.

FOR INFORMATION: concerning people, places and the meaning of words see the title: "Map Locations and People of the Bible," and the title: "Bible Dictionary" on Website Menu.

Book Two (Psalm 42-72)

Why are you Cast Down, O My Soul? Hope in God; I shall Again Praise Him.

Psalm 43:1-2 ----- ¹Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people, from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me! ²For you are the God in whom I take refuge; why have you rejected me? (Cast me off in KJV) Why do I go about mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?

We are not told who wrote this Psalm, but the lessons we learn from it apply to all the faithful of the LORD. The writer is under the oppression of ungodly, deceitful and unjust enemies. He asks God to vindicate and exonerate him and support and defend him.

Why do you cast me off? (Cast me off in KJV) (v2) this is not the language of unbelief, but the language of honesty and what appears to be God abandoning the writer, but it is not so in reality, we know this because it is spoken in the context of the writer stating God is his refuge meaning God is his comfort and strength (spiritual and natural) in times of troubles. God was his life and the refuge of his heart and salvation his cry, "Why do you cast me off?" refers to blessings, it means "Why are you not favouring and blessing me."

The writer is fully aware that God has the power to deliver him from His trouble, but for some reason chooses not to at this time. It is in this sense he feels God has cast him off, not in the sense of casting him off from his salvation, and His love and mercy, but in the sense that instead of favouring him with blessing and destroying his enemies He is allowing him to be oppressed by them. No faithful brother or sister in Christ should ever think that God and the Lord Jesus Christ has forgotten them, if they have made his love, mercy and truth, their refuge. Jesus said to his faithful disciples: -

- Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father (not one of them is forgotten before God, in Luke). ³⁰But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³²So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven. (Matt. 29:32) (Luke 12:6-8)
- Not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your lives. (Luke 21:18-19)

God Himself said He will carry our hand through the valley of the shadow of death (Psalm 23:4) and it is also written: -

- The LORD will not cast off his people neither will he forsake his inheritance. (Psalm 94:14).
- Jesus said: "I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand." (John 10:28).

The writer of this Psalm feeling of being rejected by the LORD was only in appearance and not in reality and only because he was not being blessed and delivered from his enemy and not because God didn't love him or had withdrawn his salvation. This truth is easily seen in the fact he is still connected to God in prayer throughout this Psalm. He concluded he was cast off and rejected of God, because he was suffering afflictions and God did not immediately arise to his help and deliverance. God does not reject or cast off of his people from His love, His mercy and His grace, and they are always in the hands of his Son the Lord Jesus Christ and always in his sight and his family and he promises they shall never perish eternally.

Throughout the global Kingdom of God there are faithful men and women who do go through various hardships, sorrows and troubles and it does feel as though God has abandon them, but this is only a feeling of the emotions because of the troubling circumstance and not an actual truth.

Though the writer felt this way, he remained faithful to God and truthfully and frankly pleaded his case before the LORD and honestly (some might say bluntly) expressed how he was feeling on the inside. We should never allow doubts and fears to cause us to think God has withdrawn his love mercy and grace and our salvation because we are facing some crisis or great sorrow in our life, it is in these very times we need do as this writer did and run to the Lord for refuge comfort and peace.

Why are you Cast Down, O My Soul, and why are You in Turmoil Within Me?

Psalm 43:3-5 -----³Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling! ⁴Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy, and I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God. ⁵Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

Contained within these verses is great wisdom, there are times when the faithful in Christ do not know the right way to deal with a troubling circumstance (i.e., blending families of divorce and remarriage, unruly children or teenagers, friends speaking lies about them and the list goes on) the writer is in the middle of one of these circumstances (ungodly enemies oppressing him) so he prays, "God send out your light and your truth; let them lead me."

These words not only show great wisdom and his love for God and His wisdom, but also give further proof to the truth that though God is for a moment withholding His blessing and favour it does mean God has not withdrawn His love and Spirit from him.

Now here is even greater insight into the writers deep love and passion for God, his whole desire to be led and guided by God to triumph over his enemies is not for his glory, but for Gods and so he can once again rejoice and praise God at the altar of the Temple and thank Him for his salvation.

Conclusion: this Psalm teaches us that just because a person is depressed or feels that God has abandoned them does not mean that the LORD has, it simply means they are in a crisis that is almost too much for them to cope with or they are in despair or feeling depressed.

The writer of these verses felt all of these yet he knows that he will again praise the LORD showing that his faith was greater than his feelings, his emotions and his circumstances as bad as they were. This Psalm shines a brilliant light upon the truth that just because the faithful love the LORD and defends His causes does not mean they will always be on the mountain tops of laughter and joy and always feel connected to God.

Peter wrote the following words to the faithful who were suffering: -

- For a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:6-7).

End.