

## How LONG Lord? ~ Psalm 13

Scripture Reading - Psalm 13:1-6

### Total DESPAIR ~ Psalm 13:1-2

**Psalm 13** *For the director of music. A psalm of David*

<sup>1</sup> How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? <sup>2</sup> How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and every day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me?

### IMPLICATIONS

→ There is Nothing wrong with ASKING How LONG?

<sup>1</sup> **How LONG**, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? **How LONG** will you hide your face from me?

→ There is a difference between FEELINGS and TRUTH

<sup>2</sup> **How LONG** must I wrestle with my thoughts and every day have sorrow in my heart?  
**How LONG** will my enemy triumph over me?

### Desperate LONGING ~ Psalm 13:3-4

<sup>3</sup> Look on me and answer, O LORD my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death; <sup>4</sup> my enemy will say, "I have overcome him," and my foes will rejoice when I fall.

### IMPLICATIONS

→ We Must Seek HELP in our times of DESPERATE Need

<sup>3</sup> LOOK on me and ANSWER, O LORD my God. GIVE light to my eyes...

**Hebrews 4:14-16** (NIV) ...let us HOLD firmly to the FAITH we profess. ...<sup>16</sup> Let us then approach the throne of grace with CONFIDENCE, so that we may receive MERCY and find GRACE to help us in our time of NEED.

Discouraged souls often **INTERNALIZE their struggles** rather than **CASTING their burdens** on the Lord. This only leads to self-destruction and despair. HOTC

→We NEED the PERSPECTIVE of God's WORD

<sup>3</sup> LOOK on me and ANSWER, O LORD my God. **GIVE LIGHT to my eyes ...**

**Psalm 19.8** (NIV) ...The commands of the LORD are radiant giving LIGHT to the eyes.

**Hebrews 4:12-13** (NIV) For the WORD of God is LIVING and ACTIVE. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. <sup>13</sup> Nothing in all creation is HIDDEN from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

## HOPE and TRUST ~ Psalm 13:5-6

<sup>5</sup> But I trust in Your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in Your salvation. <sup>6</sup> I will sing to the LORD, for He has been GOOD to me.

David **RESTED confidently** on the never failing LOVE and MERCY of God, even though he found NO Immediate DELIVERANCE from his enemy. BKC

## IMPLICATIONS

→We Must TURN to GOD FIRST - then TRUST and WAIT for God to Act

<sup>5</sup> But I trust in Your UNFAILING LOVE; my heart rejoices in Your SALVATION.

David's FEELINGS had been on a roller coaster, **but God was still on the throne**, and His CHARACTER and PROMISES had NOT changed. Wiersbe

## TAKE AWAY ??

→Never Give Up on the GOODNESS of God

<sup>6</sup> I will sing to the LORD, for He has been **GOOD to ME**.

God's people don't live on explanations; they live on PROMISES, and those promises **are as unchanging** as the CHARACTER of God. Wiersbe