

ENGAGING WITH GOD IN THE SEASONS OF LIFE

Psalm 88

“Taste and see that the Lord is good” Ps.34:8

We can come and experience that as we come:-

- a. With exuberant praise – Ps.100
- b. Feeling resentful and envious – Ps.73
- c. Feeling God is far away – Ps.42,43
- d. In the darkest depths – Ps.88

Why is Ps.88 in the Bible?

- a. It shows us reality
- b. We can worship God even with our despair
- c. It displays victorious faith. It is a “success” story. Satan is defeated.

1. The darkness experienced

- a. Near to death – v.3-5
- b. Abandoned by friends – v.8,18
- c. God seems unconcerned and against them –v.7,14-17
- d. All of life is full of trouble and darkness
 - looking back – v.15
 - looking up – v.16,17
 - looking around – v.18a
 - looking forward – v.18b

2. The response of faith

a. He cries out to God – v.1

- it is a cry of desperation – v.1,9
- it is a determined cry – v.1,9,13 cf.Lk.18:1-8

b. He comes honestly to God

- with his anguish – v.3,9
- confronting God – v.10-12
- asking God for answers – v.14

3. The foundation of hope

- a. Our God – v.1 Ps.139:11,12; Is.50:10
- b. The Bible
 - shows us God
 - shows us God's people engaging with him
- c. The Cross – Mk.14:34,44,50,66-72; 15:33,34
- d. The resurrection

Use this psalm in crying out to God & praying for others