

WHAT SONG IS IN YOUR HEART?

Psalm 129

The ABCs Of Persecution

Today we continue in our Sermon Series “What Song Is In Your Heart” looking at **Psalm 120-135**.

Join me this morning in **Psalm 129** with a sermon we have entitled “The ABCs Of Persecution.”

God’s people are no strangers to persecution whether it be Israel or His Church:

- **II Timothy 3:12: *Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted*** – (wronged, mistreated, victimized, offended).

Notice it says, “all *will be persecuted*.”

So, the question is how do we respond in a Christlike manner.

A – Anticipate It – verses 1-2

- Usually we respond, when we are wronged, “why me Lord?”
- **I Peter 4:12 - *Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you.***
- The word “yet” in **verse #2** is the key....
- Egypt tried to drown the Jews in the Red Sea, yet it was our God that drowned their crack troops.
- The Assyrians tried to starve the Jews into surrender, yet our God wiped out the Assyrians Army.
- Nebuchadnezzar tried to burn them up, yet our God delivered them.
- Belshazzar blasphemed the God of Israel and defied His holy vessels from the Temple, yet that very night our God arranged for the Medes and the Persians to kill him.
- The Persian soothsayers tried to throw Daniel into the lion’s den, yet our God killed the soothsayers instead.
- Hitler killed over 6 million Jews in his gas chambers, yet he was soundly defeated.
- **Matthew 16:18**

- II Corinthians 4:7-12

B- Benefit From It – verses 3-4

- What image comes to your mind here?
 - Isaiah 50:6 / Isaiah 53:5
 - How can a glorious harvest come from persecution?
 - It all depends on the seeds that you sow.
 - If you plant seeds of resentment or hatred, then all that will be harvested is bitterness.
 - If you plant seeds of faith, hope, and, love, then the harvest will bless us and bring glory to our God.
 - *“God permits people to treat us like dirt, we must accept it, but we have the privilege of transforming it by the grace of God into character that honors the Lord. – Warren Wiersbe*

C - Commit It To The Lord – verses 5-8

- The harvest image moves from the fields to the housetops.
- Roofs during this time would be flat and made of a mixture mud, mortar, wood, and thatching.
- Seeds would be blown there, and they would begin to take hold.
 - *Let them be like grass upon the housetops, which withers before it grows up; With which the reaper does not fill his hand.*
- Why would anybody hate the Jews- satan hates God’s children.
- John 15:18-19
- Romans 12:17-21
- *“but leave room for the wrath of God”*