

Reflection Questions: How thirsty am I for God? How is this longing expressed in my life? What song do I sing when the darkness comes? What questions do I ask myself when I feel spiritually dry? How do I overcome my nights of darkness and despair? Where do I put my hope? If I was unable to corporately worship God, would it bother me? Am I committed to worship regularly with my church family?

How can we pray for one another and our church this week?

Quotes to Ponder

The most miserable Christians are those who know Christ but are not living in Him.

Donald Williams

Look around and be distressed. Look within and be depressed.

Look to Jesus, be at rest.

Corrie ten Boom

Adverse conditions create an optimum context for reflection.

Tremper Longman III

Note well that the main hope and chief desire of the psalmist rest in the smile of God. His face is what he seeks and hopes to see, and this will recover his low spirits.

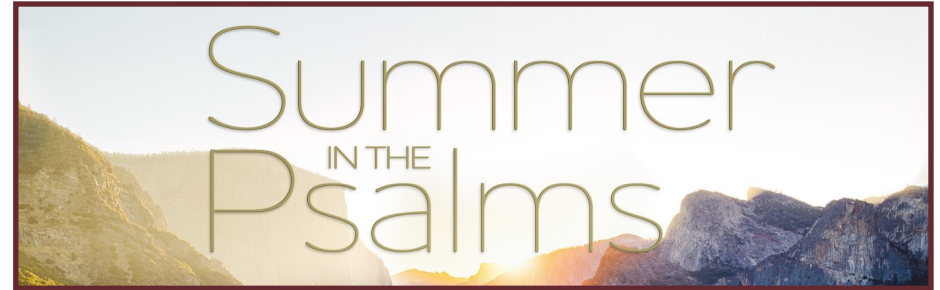
Charles Spurgeon

Instead of muttering in this depressed, unhappy way ... remind yourself of God, who God is, and what God is and what God has done, and what God has pledged Himself to do.

D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

*It is not our trust that keeps us,
but the God in whom we trust who keeps us.*

Oswald Chambers



Psalm 42 and 43 — Hope in God

*Sermon
Notes*

July 30, 2023

1. Lament #1 (42:1-4)
2. Refrain #1 (42:5)
3. Lament #2 (42:6-10)
4. Refrain #2 (42:11)
5. Lament #3 (43:1-4)
6. Refrain #3 (43:5)

1. What in the text/sermon impacted you most? Encouraged you? Convicted you? Challenged you? Confused you? Comforted you?

2. What do *Psalms 42-43* teach us about God?

About ourselves?

3. What is the main theme or message of *Psalms 42-43*?

4. Who are *the sons of Korah* (*1 Chronicles 6:22-48; 9:17-32; 2 Chronicles 20:19; cf. Numbers 26:11*)?

5. What does the psalmist say he will do when he feels God is far from him (*Psalms 42:5, 11; 43:5*)?

What does this mean?

What is *the help of His presence* (*Psalms 42:5*)?

Why are there slight differences between the three refrains?

6. What reasons does the psalmist give for his discouragement?

Psalms 42:2, 6; 43:4

Psalms 42:7 —

Psalms 42:3, 10 —

Psalms 43:1-2 —

Psalms 42:4 —

7. Notice the questions the psalmist asks (*Psalms 42:2, 5, 9, 11; 43:2, 5*).

What does this tell us about his attitude and emotions?

Had God *forgotten* him? Explain.

Had God *rejected* him? Explain

8. What does the psalmist *remember* (*Psalms 42:4, 6*). Why?

9. What do the following verses teach about tough times, dark nights, and trials that come to our lives?

Psalms 66:10-12 —

Hebrews 12:1-13 —

Romans 5:3-5 —

James 1:2-4 —

10. Is there a difference between God *allowing* trials and God *sending* trials? Use Scripture.

11. *Thirst* and *water* are a common illustration in Scripture. What do the following verses say?

Psalms 36:8-9 —

John 4:10-14 —

Psalms 63:1 —

John 7:37-39 —

Matthew 5:6 —

12. What comes to mind when you think of Jesus praying *Psalms 42-43*? Why?

13. What can we learn from *Psalms 42-43* about letting our thoughts and feelings lead us into despair?