Psalm 69



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MUSIC: African-American Spiritual and Ken Bible

TOPICS: Jesus' Suffering & Death; Lent-Easter; Patient Endurance; Psalm Hymns;

Suffering for Christ; Tunes, Spirituals

LEAD-IN: Save me, God,

For the waters have threatened my life.

I have sunk in deep mud, and there is no foothold; I have come into deep waters, and a flood overflows me.

I am weary with my crying; my throat is parched;

My eyes fail while I wait for my God.

Those who hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of my head;

Those who would destroy me are powerful, those who oppose me with lies.... They also gave me a bitter herb in my food,

And for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

(Psalm 69:1-4a, 21, NASB)

LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

Reflection on Psalm 69

Overwhelming suffering, crushing sorrow, deep distress, shame, humiliation, weeping, deprivation, injustice, false accusations, misunderstanding, searing pain, rejection, utter loneliness –

all these are elements of our human experience in this fallen world.
As the ultimate human being,
Jesus experienced all of these to the ultimate degree.

As we deny ourselves,
take up our crosses, and
follow Him,
we share in His sufferings,
for we live His life of
self-giving love
in this wicked and hateful world.

But as we share in His sufferings, we share in His glory. As we share in His surrender, we share in His victory. As we share His faith in the Father we breathe His constant, comforting all-powerful presence.
As we share in His self-sacrifice, We share in Him.

Whatever things were gain to me, these things I have counted as loss because of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them mere rubbish, so that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; if somehow I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. (Philippians 3:7-11, NASB)

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