

Lament... to Ascent – Psalms

[Psalm 130](#)

"God Our Hope" – June 28, 2020

Introduction

We cannot live without hope, so where do you go to find true hope? In God! But how do we get there? What does the path look like? Psalm 130 shows us the surprising path to hope.

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Sermon Outline

- I. Come to God; It's Worse Than You Think ([130:1-3](#))
- II. Come to God Because He Is Better Than You Can Imagine ([130:4-8](#))

Read & Discuss

- 1) Read [130:1-3](#)

Psalm 130 is for those of us who feel as if they're "in the pits". Have you ever wondered if God hears your cries as you are suffering? The Psalmist wondered this, yet cries out to the Lord in faith. v3 shows us what put him in a pit (the depths) that he could not crawl out of on his own: standing before a holy God with sin on his record. He knows he's doomed - he could not stand before God if that is the case.

In this sense Psalm 130 points us to what *our* greatest problem is. Left to ourselves, we deserve death and hell (Romans 6:23). Our hearts are prouder and more selfish than we want to know. But the path to hope means going down before we go up. It's when we see the reality of our need that we run to Jesus our great Physician. Pray this week for God to reveal the blind spots in your heart where sin dwells.

Additional Reading: [Mark 2:1-12](#), [Matthew 2:5-7](#)

- 2) Read [130:4-8](#)

The psalmist finds three encouragements as he turns from sin (repentance) and comes to God: forgiveness, steadfast love, and redemption. God's steadfast

love is his unfailing, covenant-keeping love; it is affection that is backed by a promise. God's redemption is another word for ransom, a price paid to give life and freedom for those held captive. Christ himself was our payment for our debts against a holy God.

When the psalmist in Psalm 130 says that forgiveness, redemption, and steadfast love are *with* God as constant companions, he's not just saying it is something God does, it is who God is. Is this how you think of God, even when you come to Him with your sin? What makes it hard to believe? What difference would it make if you *did* believe this to be true of God?

The result of experiencing God's forgiveness is to fear God (v4) which means to revere and worship Him. On Sunday we talked about two implications of this Psalm for us: humility and patience. How does confessing (with the psalmist) what our *greatest* problem is lead to humility and a lack of defensiveness about our own sin? How is humility an essential ingredient to Christian unity?

Though we will, like the psalmist, have seasons of waiting how does knowing our waiting is like that of the watchman give us hope *while* we wait?

Additional Reading: [Mark 10:45](#), [John 3:16](#), [James 4:6](#), [Psalm 25:3](#)

Prayer of Response

- 1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?
- 2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

*Next week's sermon text: we turn to Psalm 131 "God Our Comforter."
