

Behold Our God! Reflections in Psalms

[Psalm 102](#)

“God is Eternal”– December 31, 2023



Introduction

When the storms of life come, anxieties can be high. We wonder what will happen. We wonder if all will come crumbling down. Yet in a solid structure, there is security.

Are you going through a storm right now? Have you been through a storm recently? These storms and trials are meant to strengthen us and deepen our trust in God. ([James 1:2-4](#)) We, in our human nature, would like to skip the suffering, but when we look in the pages of scripture, we can find comfort in our suffering. In our deepest pain and anguish, God's desire is that we call on Him.

Sermon Outline

1. Cry out to the Lord for help in detail. Vs. 1-11
2. Trust in God's promises. Vs. 12-22
3. Embrace the hope that is anchored in Christ Jesus. Vs. 23-28

Read & Discuss

1. Read vs. 1 – 11

This is a psalm of lament. A lament is not a complaint. In the wilderness, Israel complained - they voiced out their discontent and questioned God's character. A lament expresses deep sorrow while drawing close to and relying on who God is.

The psalmist expresses deep pain and sorrow to God. He felt alone. His enemies taunt and curse him. He even felt like God had left him, and He thought he would die. In your times of trial, have you felt as the psalmist did? We can be confident that we are never alone. We can cry out to God, and His grace will flood our hearts. We don't have to keep things bottled up. We can cry out to God with the details of our distress. Jesus said, "Come to me all who labor." ([Matthew 11:28](#)) We can approach God with confidence. ([Hebrews 4:16](#))

A lament brings us before the throne. We can see His glory. We can pour out our heart and then move into praise. He knows our pain. We can cry out to Him.

2. Read vs. 12 – 22

The psalmist is clear about his pain, but he is also clear about his knowledge of God. He begins to praise God for Who He is. He is trusting in God's promise of faithfulness to His people. God is eternal and rules the nations. His mercies never fail. He cried out to God to be faithful to His promise. How has God been faithful to you in the last year?

The psalmist cried out to God to free the captives. Jesus would be the fulfillment of the ultimate freeing of those held captive to sin. ([Is 61:1](#); [Luke 4:18](#); [Romans 6:6-7](#)) God is always with us, and He rejoices over us. ([Hebrews 13:5](#); [Zephaniah 3:17](#)) We can be confident that He hears our prayers.

3. Read vs. 23 - 28

The psalmist remembered Who God is. He is eternal - the One who created time and space. He will one day come again and create a new Heaven and a new earth.

Jesus was there at creation. He upholds the universe. ([Hebrews 1](#)) He is God made flesh; He is eternal. When things go wrong, He keeps us solid and strong. He experienced all things and knows our

struggle. Things change and fade, but Jesus is the same and never changes.

One day, all things will be made new. Are you living for THAT day? So often, we live for today. We can trust in an unchanging God. He will get us all the way home. Come to Jesus. He will forgive and bring you into His family. Is there anything hindering you from trusting Him today?

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 fbcum.org

Next week's sermon text: we turn to [Revelation 1:1-8](#) "The Revelation of Jesus Christ"