The Rock Of Our Refuge

Bruce Reeves · Psalm 73:1–17

INTRODUCTION

- If it was that powerful to a man who has not yet, to my knowledge, embraced faith in Jesus Christ, how powerful should the Psalms be to those of us who believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
- One of the great purposes of the Psalms is that they swallowed doubt and despair in an avalanche of praise.
- There are psalms of orientation. There are psalms of disorientation. And then there are psalms he calls new orientation.

1 Psalms of Orientation

Psalm 1:1–5; Psalm 104:1

- These are psalms that affirm a general understanding, maybe the initial understanding you had when you were in Bible class at a very young age.
- Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scoffers.
- It is a necessary step in faith to build the proper foundation.
- If people stay in that state forever and never work through their questions, they will fall.
- We start in this category, but your faith has to deal with the questions.
- You have to begin in this place. But you have to also move on.

2 Psalms of Disorientation

Psalm 13:1–5; Psalm 22:1–8; Psalm 73:1–17

- These Psalms reflect the brokenness of life when it doesn't look orderly.
- How long, O Lord, will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? He still believes in God.
- My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
- That's how I was thinking until I came into the sanctuary of God. Then I understood their end.
- It is not a sin, brethren, to cry out to God in righteous frustration if we want a deeper understanding.
- God has no intention of leaving us in this place, but he does recognize that we live in a sin sick world, but he will be the rock of our refuge.

3 Psalms of New Orientation

Psalm 103

- The new orientation psalms reflect the surprise of new possibilities that are experienced as a gift of God, and these powerful psalms are descriptive of a faith that has endured.

- You've experienced a faith that has grown and you have dealt with challenges by the sinful world, and now you've grown to very well informed faith.

4 Worship to God Should Be Instructive

Philippians 4:4–5

- One of the first things I want to say to you is that worship to God should be instructive.
- You will never engage in high praise of a holy God if you don't dig deep into his word. You can't go high if you don't go deep.
- Don't think for a moment you're going to dumb down reading God's word, and somehow your praise is going to be high.
- I praise in the high points and the low points. But joy is a discipline.
- Rejoice in the Lord when? Always. Always. And again I say, rejoice.
- They seem to always come back around to seeing how great God is.

MY NOTES