

Rising To Worship at Easter

Psalm Appeal – Part 5 of 10

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Psalm 130 is a “road song.” It is the 11th of 15 “Songs of Ascent.” It’s about what can happen at worship whenever you come with despair. Life is like a roller coaster, it has ups and downs. If your life has no ups and downs, it means you are dead. Because life has its share of ups and downs, what truly matters is how you get through those ups and downs. Enjoy the ups and face the downs with courageous “holy roller coaster” faith described in Psalm 130.

A Song of Ascents [note that “ascents” is plural]

Remember: the reason seesaws have two seats is so that there is always Someone to bring you back up.

¹ Out of the depths I call to You, Yahweh! ² Lord, listen to my voice; let Your ears be attentive to my cry for help.

Do you have someone who, whenever you call, they pick up? Come to church especially when you are in despair. Sit in the back if you want, but come.

³ LORD, if You marked sins, Lord, who could stand?

If the LORD were just justice, hope would be impossible. And without hope, who could cope?

⁴ But with You there is forgiveness, so that You may be revered.

God is able to turn our “Scarlet Letters” into “Red Badges of Courage.”

Because the LORD is mercy AND justice, we can be redeemed and give reverence.

Beware the false gospel that substitutes “unconditional love” for the righteousness that comes by faith in atoning work of the cross. “Christ died for our sins.” 1 Cor. 15:3

Note verse 8: “He will redeem Israel from all its sins.”

Who? Jesus of Nazareth

When? Easter, 33AD

Confirmation? He was raised from the dead.

Where? Borrowed tomb just outside the city of Jerusalem.

Why? For redemption from sin and restoration to relationship with God.

Now, here are the three helps for hope.

⁵ I wait for Yahweh; I wait and put my hope in His word.

1. Put yourself in “park” and wait. Put your hope in His *promises and precepts*.

⁶ I wait for the Lord, more than watchmen for the morning—more than watchmen for the morning.

2. Put hope in His *person*. Relational hope empowers patience.

Practice “the sacred slow.”

⁷ Israel, put your hope in the LORD. For there is faithful love with the LORD, and with Him is redemption in abundance. ⁸ And He will redeem Israel from all its sins.
HCSB

3. Put your hope in a *personal relationship with the Lord Jesus and His abundant redemption*.

My Next Step today is to...

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