“Christ in the Psalms: My Need, His Supply”

Psalm 40:11-17

(notes based on the sermon by Pastor Steve Massey, Hayden Bible Church, 5/8/22)

(**GOD BLESS ALL THE MOMS!!!- Read Proverbs 31:10-31**)

Children are, by nature, needy. But they all come to a point where they say, “I don’t need your help anymore.” Every one of God’s children knows what it is to be needy; every one of God’s children knows what it is to pretend we don’t need help anymore. Ps. 40:17 speaks of our need and also our plea for help. When we cry this, God says, “I’m already on it! I’m already thinking of you.”

In Ps. 40, David tells of being hopelessly stuck. Yet David served God as he awaited deliverance. AND GOD DELIVERS US! Read Heb. 10:5-7. Jesus bore our sins in His perfect, sinless body. His righteousness is credited to those who repent, believe, and follow Him. He makes it possible for you to draw near to God on friendly terms. Jesus is preparing a place for you right now. If you have not done so, RUN TO CHRIST!

If you have already run to Him, consider this: Why do God’s children try to live independently from Him? Ps. 40:11 speaks of a desperate need and God’s loyal love for His chosen people. It’s rooted in His nature, not your worthiness. It is not a shameful thing to be needy. The normal human experience is to move from one miry pit to another! We need Him!

Read Ps. 40:12 again. That sure sounds like today, doesn’t it? (Read also Isa. 5:20-21) There are plenty of evils without, but what about the evils that are within? What do you do when the enemy accuses you and he brings up the horrible things you’ve done in the past? Ps. 40:12 talks of a desperation born of neediness, not self-sufficiency. Some people say, “Other people are needy, not me.” WRONG! Neediness is normal. To be needy is neither a weakness nor a deficiency… it’s part of being human. All of God’s children are needy; WE WERE CREATED TO LIVE IN ABSOLUTE DEPENDENCE ON HIM.

To live independent of God is to defy God’s design for humanity. Even Jesus, in His humanity, needed what only the Father could give. In the gospels (such as Mark 1:35), it is recorded that Jesus often got up early to commune with His Father. That’s our model: get up, get away, get alone, and get with God. If Jesus needed communion with the Father, we absolutely need communion with the Father. David knew his reign over Israel was utterly dependent on God. Jesus knew his ministry on earth was utterly dependent on His Father.

2 Corinth. 8:9 says that Jesus became poor and needy, so that He would depend on His Father. In doing so, He marked the path for us. Christ is rich in power and wisdom and strength, and He desires to share those riches with you.

How will the Lord be magnified in a life like yours? Do you think you might need some help?! What are we meant to do with God’s enablement? EVERYTHING! (Read Phil. 4:13, 19). (Q1) God’s people often need to be reminded of their absolute dependence on Him. God promises His full attention and blessing on those who admit their neediness and dependence on Him. Rev. 3:17 speaks of church people who didn’t grasp their neediness. Compare that with Matt. 5:3 from the Beatitudes. (Q2) It is incredible to know that God is thinking of me all the time. He knows my inability even before I realize my inability! O God, **YOU** are my help and my deliverer. Amen. (Q3) (Q4) (Q5) (Q6)

**QUESTIONS**:

1. My God… your need; My God… your need; My God… your need. How does God use other believers to meet your needs? How does He use His Word to meet your needs?
2. What does it mean to be “poor in spirit”? What does “theirs is the Kingdom of God” mean?
3. Heb. 10:24-25 speaks of community. What are the benefits of meeting regularly together?
4. Can the aches and pains of old age be a blessing?! How can the neediness of old age draw you closer to God? Does it always? If not, why not?
5. In New Morning Mercies, Paul David Tripp says that there are two lies that tempt each of us: the lie of autonomy and the lie of self-sufficiency. He goes on to say, “We were created for dependency, first on God and then on one another in loving community.” (Feb. 15). Later he says that your “weaknesses are tools of His zealous and amazing grace.” (Apr. 9) Discuss.
6. In what ways did Jesus experience poverty and need in His humanity? What relevance does that have for you?

“When I Survey the Wonderous Cross” (Watts)

1. When I survey the wondrous cross  
   On which the Prince of glory died,  
   My richest gain I count but loss,  
   And pour contempt on all my pride.
2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
   Save in the death of Christ my God!  
   All the vain things that charm me most,  
   I sacrifice them to His blood.
3. See from His head, His hands, His feet,  
   Sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
   Did e’er such love and sorrow meet,  
   Or thorns compose so rich a crown?
4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
   That were a present far too small;  
   Love so amazing, so divine,  
   Demands my soul, my life, my all.