

Meditation on Psalms 61-90

By Bev Kilts



Following the life of David through the psalms which he wrote, we find in Psalm 61 another difficult time for him. Theologian Charles Spurgeon calls this Psalm “a pearl... little, but precious”. David is probably in exile and possibly this was written during the time of his son Absalom’s rebellion. (Read 2 Samuel 15-19) **By now he knows where his strength comes from; he is well acquainted with his All-Powerful God.** He calls Him in verse 2 “...the

Rock that is higher than I” and later in Psalm 22:2, “...He only is my Rock and my salvation.” Back to Psalm 21 in verse 3 David speaks of God as “...a strong tower”. And then in verse 4 David writes of trusting in the shelter of His wings. Proverbs 18:10 puts it this way, “The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.”

Sound familiar? We sing of that strong tower often in our worship.

In reading these psalms I often found various choruses and hymns running through my mind. Music was very important in temple worship and today it is difficult to imagine worship without music. So sing out, hear the words and celebrate the greatness and goodness of our God.

Once more David looks back on the works of his Lord in the past and ends Psalm 61 with praise. And note, the focus has moved from himself and a cry of despair to a focus on praising God. How often does that happen throughout this Book? That’s the faith growth we pray for. In Psalm 62:6 David writes, “...I shall not be moved.” His faith had grown with each trial – he knows that Rock and he is familiar with those wings.

We end this section with Psalm 90 which is attributed to Moses. Read it carefully and think of the man who wrote it. He starts by writing that God has been the dwelling place of man (home, where one lives) throughout all generations (past, present and future – God exists as our home). Moses lived in the time of the Pharaohs. He was clearly familiar with the fragility of life and high power and, yet, he recognizes that his God was/is unchanging, eternal. Then Moses points to God as creator. Read verse 2, “...before the mountains were created, before you made the earth...from everlasting to everlasting, you are God.” And now Moses leaps forward in his writing into eternity – to the time of our Lord’s return – to time eternal.

Has your heart found that place of rest in Him who is our true home? When you are hurting do you look to that strong tower? Do you pray for that faith growth that lifts you out of that dark place and reminds you of the glories of God? Let the Psalms be your guide.

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