

Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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How “Hurt” Should Talk To God

(Jerry Fite)

Prayer is not merely addressing God, but it is talking to Him regarding our personal needs. Such prayers are “*supplications*” (1 Timothy 2:1). Sometimes the need is help for our troubling soul. Bodily infirmities and spiritual persecutions can trouble any soul. We know we can come to the Lord’s “*throne of grace*” to “*receive mercy in time of need*” (Hebrews 4:16), but how should we talk to God when there?

EXPRESS YOUR QUESTIONS.

Are you wondering where God is because your troubles remain? Go ahead and ask Him, “*Why standest thou afar off, O Jehovah? Why hidest thou thyself in times of trouble?*” (Psalm 10:1). Suffering tends to get old quickly, and we want relief soon. So, express your dilemma: “*How long, O Jehovah? Wilt thou forget me forever? How long wilt thou hide thy face from me?*” (Psalm 13:1).

Troubles can beat us down to the point that we feel so insignificant. Do you wonder if God is even aware of your troubles? Go ahead state your frustration: “*Awake, why sleepest thou, O Lord? Arise,*

cast us not off forever” (Psalm 44:23).

God can handle any “*anxiety*”. He tells us to “*cast all*” of them upon Him. Coming to God in prayer with humility and reverence, does not exclude direct and plain speech. Your questions of underlying doubt and frustration do not turn Him Off. Why? Because He “*cares for you*” (1 Peter 5:7)

COME IN FAITH AND HOPE.

In times of trouble we need to talk to ourselves, and reflect upon God’s blessings in better times, and in trust, hope for the future.

We can be so troubled, that we cannot speak, but can ask ourselves important questions as our soul searches for answers: “*Is His lovingkindness clean gone forever? Doth his promise fail for evermore? Hath God forgotten to be gracious? Hath His anger shut up his tender mercies?*” (Psalm 77:7-9) Certainly not! We may feel that way, but that is our “*infirmity*”. We need to trust in God’s promise that He will neither “*fail*” us nor “*forsake*” us (Hebrews 13:5). In our time of

hurting, we need to “*remember*” and “*meditate*” upon our God who has done “*wonders*” in the past as we look to His already proven “*strength*” (Psalms 77:10-12, 14).

While you are asking questions of God, ask yourself, “*Why art thou cast down, o my soul? And why art thou disquieted within me? Then hope! “Hope thou in God, for I shall yet praise Him for the help of his countenance...I shall yet praise Him who is the help of my countenance, and my God”* (Psalms 42:5, 11). Hope for the future when you can praise God for delivering you from a troubled soul. Hope for the time when God’s countenance of mercy shall brighten your own countenance.

WAIT ON THE LORD

Even though you hurt, you should never spread doubts about God’s faithfulness to others (Psalm 73:13-15). Wait in silence. David says, “*My soul waiteth in silence for God only: From Him cometh my salvation*” (Psalm 62:1). You wait. God will deliver.