

## The Cry Of A Wounded Soul

### Psalms 55

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#### The Appeal From David's Heart

*Psalms 55:1-2 "Give ear to my prayer, O God; and hide not thyself from my supplication. Attend unto me, and answer me: I am restless (mourn KJV) in my complaint, and moan."*

#### David's first response was to pray.

- cf. Romans 10:1-2; cf. James 5:13
- ▶ God has not abandoned us. Romans 8:26; 1 Peter 3:12; Hebrews 13:5-6
- ▶ He is powerful. Ephesians 3:20

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### Psalms 55

#### The Appeal From David's Heart

*Psalms 55:3 "Because of the voice of the enemy, because of the oppression of the wicked; for they cast iniquity upon me, and in anger they persecute (hate KJV) me."*

#### Words hurt!

- ▶ *Proverbs 12:18 "There is that speaketh rashly like the piercings of a sword." (ASV)*
- ▶ *"There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, but the tongue of the wise promotes health" (Proverbs 12:18, NKJV).*
- ▶ *"Death and life are in the power of the tongue" (Proverbs 18:21).*

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### Psalms 55

#### The Anguish of David's Soul

*Psalms 55:4-5 "My heart is sore pained within me: and the terrors of death are fallen upon me. Fearfulness and trembling are come upon me, and horror hath overwhelmed me."*

#### David's own son lead the rebellion.

- ▶ What had he done to make Absalom turn out this way?
- ▶ How had he failed his son?
- ▶ How could he have done things differently?

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### Psalms 55

#### The Anguish of David's Soul

*Psalms 55:6-8 "And I said, Oh that I had wings like a dove! Then would I fly away, and be at rest. Lo, then would I wander far off, I would lodge in the wilderness. (Selah) I would haste me to a shelter from the stormy wind and tempest."*

#### David wanted to escape.

- ▶ Run from our troubles.
  - The "big escape." (permanent solution to a temporary problem.)
  - God's way of escape. 1 Corinthians 10:13; Ephesians 6:13

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### Psalms 55

#### The Atrocities That David Experienced

#### Wickedness in the city.

*Psalms 55:9-11 "Destroy, O Lord, (and) divide their tongue; for I have seen violence and strife in the city. Day and night they go about it upon the walls thereof: iniquity also and mischief are in the midst of it. Wickedness is in the midst thereof: oppression and guile depart not from its streets."*

#### Difficulty of helplessly watching the consequences of sin. cf. Ecclesiastes 1:15

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### The Atrocities That David Experienced

#### Betrayal of a friend.

*Psalms 55:12-14* "For it was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I would have hid myself from him: But it was thou, a man mine equal, **My companion, and my familiar friend. We took sweet counsel together; we walked in the house of God with the throng.**"

#### No one is as real an enemy as a false friend.

cf. Psalms 41:9; John 13:18; Matthew 26:50; Matthew 10:34

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## The Cry of a Wounded Soul Psalms 55

### The Action That David Took

*Psalms 55:15* "Let death come suddenly upon them, let them go down alive into Sheol; for wickedness is in their dwelling, in the midst of them."

David cried for justice.

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### The Action That David Took

*Psalms 55:16-17* "As for me, I will call upon God; and Jehovah will save me. Evening, and morning, and at noonday, will I complain, and moan; and he will hear my voice."

David did not seek vengeance.

cf. Romans 12:17-19

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### The Action That David Took

*Psalms 55:18-19* "He hath redeemed (delivered KJV) my soul in peace from the battle that was against me; for they were many (that strove) with me. God will hear, and answer them, even he that abideth of old, (Selah) (the men) who have no changes, and who fear not God."

Past tense

God sees the evil that is done by those who torment His children.

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### The Action That David Took

*Psalms 55:20-21* "He hath put forth his hands against such as were at peace with him: He hath profaned (broken KJV) his covenant. His mouth was smooth as butter, but his heart was war: His words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords."

David describes the character of his friend who betrayed him.

▶ Deceitful. cf. Proverbs 26:24-26

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## The Cry of a Wounded Soul Psalms 55

### The Admonition That David Gave

*Psalms 55:22* "Cast thy burden upon Jehovah, and he will sustain thee: He will never suffer the righteous to be moved."

David would cast his burden upon the Lord.

- ▶ Emphasized throughout this Psalm. Verses 1-2, 16-17, 19
- ▶ cf. 1 Peter 5:6-7

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### **The Admonition That David Gave**

*Psalms 55:23 "But thou, O God, wilt bring them down into the pit of destruction: Bloodthirsty and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; but I will trust in thee."*

David trusted God to punish sin. cf. verse 15

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### **Conclusion:**

See into the heart of "a man after God's own heart."

See into the heart of the Lord. 1 Peter 2:21-23

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