

Sermon ~ Sunday, November 8, 2020 by Pastor D. Benoit

Text: Psalm 57: 2 (Read all of Psalm 57)

Title: "I Love The LORD; HE Heard my Cry!"

I speak from personal experience! "I Love The LORD; HE Heard my Cry!"

I hope you can personally, also!

I encourage *prayer*. But, HE heard my "cry"! The word for "cry" in the Hebrew language, is the word, "*shava*", pronounced (shaw-vah'), meaning I *called* for help; I *cried* unto to GOD for help; I *cried out* aloud, shouted, to be freed! I *testify*, "I Love The LORD; HE Heard my Cry!"

Church, GOD *cares* and HE *hears* when we "cry"! Before HE became *man*, throughout the Old Testament of The BIBLE, it is clear that GOD feels sorrow and even weeps with all. Psalms 34: 18 promises, "The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit." Every *tear* shed with Faith in GOD, has this banner over it,

"The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart..."

*JESUS says, I SEE *everything*... "...not one sparrow falls to the ground apart from GOD'S notice. Neither does one of our *tears*..." (Matthew 10: 29)

*When Hagar, "lifted up her voice, and wept" in the wilderness of Beersheba, GOD *drew near*. (Genesis 21: 16-17)

*When Hannah wept bitterly outside the *Temple of The LORD*, GOD heard her "cry" and remembered. (I Samuel 1: 10, 17)

*When David became weary with groaning, GOD did not become weary with listening, and answered his prayer! (Psalm 6: 6-9)

*The GOD of all *comfort* keep watch over our weeping. "HE gathers up all our tears and puts them in HIS *bottle* [that is, GOD remembers us, knowing what hurts us, being totally aware of the sufferings we are going through] (Psalm 56: 8).

Just because JESUS loves us and knows how to fix our problems, does not mean HE takes a shortcut through our griefs. The same ONE who raise the dead, first stoops to linger with us in our sorrows—to climb down into our valleys of tears and walks alongside us.

"I Love The LORD; HE Heard my Cry!"

I encourage *prayer*, but we are faced with times of "*shava*", *crying out* unto to GOD for help! Should I remind us, we are in a drought for The WORD of GOD; souls are *crying-out* for Salvation; so much divisiveness, destruction, demonic aggressiveness. The 2020 Presidential Election, the economy, the endangerment of our children's future. This Pandemic... we need to "*cry-out* to GOD!"

--A "cry" is a spontaneous response to an urgent need.

--A "cry" usually centers on one immediate specific need.

--A "cry" maybe motivated by the pressures of danger.

--A "cry" maybe the response to pain and hurt.

--A "cry" maybe the reaction to heart-breaking news.

--A "cry" is the response to a sense of desperation.

What message are we sending when we “cry” to **The LORD**?

- We should be saying, **LORD**, have *mercy on me!* **LORD** *forgive me!* Normally, it is felt, that we are made to “cry” because we have *sinned*... And, since we have, “If we confess our *sins*, **HE** is faithful and just to forgive us *our sins*, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”
“If I regard iniquity in my heart, **The LORD** will not hear me.”
- We are facing a desperate situation and we are fearful. We need **The LORD’S Help**.
- We feel helpless before our circumstances and we don’t know what to do.
- We finally realize, only **GOD** can *help* us. We are at the end of our rope.

This is what the Psalmist is experiencing in this 57th Number of the Psalms. David had been delivered from the Valley of Gath where **GOD** and he, slew the giant Goliath. David then fled for protection in the cave of Adullam, and later he would move to a cave in Engedi [better to be *in The Will of GOD* in a cave, than *out of HIS Will* in a king’s palace] ... this can be overwhelming, so David “cries-out” to **GOD**...

-- “Be *merciful* unto me, O **GOD**, be *merciful* unto me...” (Psalm 57: 1, 2) Everyday should be a day of prayer, but some days, you have to “cry-out”! “Be *merciful*”, wisely seek **GOD’S Mercy**. Merit will not bring much ‘*blessing*’ but, **The Mercy of GOD** brings *abundant blessings*. “Be *merciful* unto me.” It’s *me*, it’s *me*, it’s *me* O **LORD**, standing in the need, of **YOUR Help!** “For my soul trusteth in **THEE** . . . in the shadow of **THY WINGS** will I make my refuge until these calamities be overpast.” To “cry” to **GOD**, is to have **Faith in GOD!** We ought not ask for help from those we do not think can deliver help. Because we *trust GOD*, we seek **GOD** for refuge. And, since **GOD** did it before, surely, **HE** will do it again. Also, fill your “cry” with “*praise*.” Past help predicts future help. If we do not *praise* and *thank GOD* for past help, we jeopardize obtaining future help.

-- Not every day, but most days, we will have to “cry-out”, but don’t forget to **Praise GOD!** *Recognize the enemy* (v. 6), but **witness The LORD** (vss. 7, 8) and **Praise The LORD** (vss. 9-11). The *enemy* may dig pits and set booby traps, *but I dare you to trust GOD*; in so doing, I find myself *singing* and *praising The LORD!* And **GOD** sends *down HIS Mercy* and **Truth** from heaven. (v. 3) And as in v. 10, **Mercy** and **Truth** reaches up to clouds—goes back to **GOD WHO** *blessed me!*

--Every day, should be a **Day of Exalting The LORD!** It helps before we have to “cry”! “Be **THOU exalted**...” (vss. 5, 11) The *promoting* of **GOD** is needed. Today in our land we are *demoting GOD* and making laws to stop the **Exalting of GOD**. Eternity will curse these laws and those who made them, for **GOD is The ONE WHO** needs to be *Exalted* and *Honored*. **Exalt The LORD** so, that others will say, “**This is The LORD’S doing: it is marvelous in our eyes!**”

I'm *persuaded*... "My heart is fixed . . . my heart is fixed; I will *sing* and *give praise*." (Psalm 57: 7). My heart is *full of conviction*. It is steadfast, *firm, strong*. We don't *praise GOD* well if we are *uncertain, doubtful, weak*. Our ***Faith in GOD*** must have some dogmatism in it if we are to ***Praise GOD***.

"I will *sing* and *give praise* . . . I will *sing* unto **THEE** among the nations..." (vs. 7-9)
Since death is defeated! Since the grave has no more victory! Since my (our) destiny is Eternally sure—Heaven is our Home! Because GOD, so Love the world...
"I will *sing* and *give praise* . . . I will *sing* unto **THEE** among the nations..."
I'm going *public* with my *praise unto GOD!* This is the kind of *witness* we need today!
We need to *show* (not just *give*) **Honor to GOD** even though the world around us does not want **GOD Honored!**
For **HIS Mercy** is great unto the heavens, and **HIS Truth** unto the clouds (v. 10).
"**THY Mercy**", like the Psalmist, ought make us "cry", for **GOD'S Mercy**; seek and receive **HIS Mercy** and **GOD** will honor **HIS Mercy** upon us! And, **HIS Truth**, which speaks of *retribution* will be applied to the *enemy*.

"I Love The LORD; HE Heard my Cry!"

**I love The LORD; HE heard my cry and pitied my every groan.
Long as I live and troubles rises, I'll hasten to **HIS Throne**.**

**I love The LORD; HE heard my cry and chased my grief away.
O let my heart no more despair, while I have breath to pray.**

Church, our **GOD** is not deaf... **HIS Ear** is attentive to our every "cry" ...

**I love The LORD; HE heard my cry and pitied my every groan.
Long as I live and troubles rises, I'll hasten to **HIS Throne**.**

www.magnoliambcbmt.org