

Sermon Notes

Providence Community Church

2-14-16 Ken Carlton

Title: CAVE SONG

Main Text: Psalm 57

Sermon Description: Augustus F. Tholuck summarized his thoughts on the value and virtues of Psalm 57 as follows: “A hard and ungrateful heart beholds even in prosperity only isolated drops of divine grace: but a grateful one like David's though chased by persecutors, and striking the harp in the gloom of the cave, looks upon the mercy and faithfulness of God as a mighty ocean, waving and heaving from the earth to the clouds, and from the clouds to the earth again.” While this is certainly the conclusion of David's prayers and meditations, there was nevertheless, a struggle to grasp and maintain this perspective. Psalm 57 joins 58, 59, and 75 with an interesting note of introduction in their titles which rings out like a desperate cry: “do not destroy!” David's song was tempered and hammered to exquisite quality in the fires of adversity and affliction. Spurgeon imagines David beginning His song despairingly in the dark depths of his cave retreat, then gradually emerging from the shadows until the sun rays of jubilant faith lift his countenance at the mouth of his bunker as he closes his song raising a melody heavenward of triumphant praise...

Heading: DAVID'S PATH FROM AFFLICTION TO AWAKENING MARKED BY...

1. DESPERATION (Ps 57:1-3)

- a. Parallels and priorities
- b. Wings and mercy (Ex 25:20-22)
- c. Vantage point

2. DEVICES (3b-6)

- a. Enemy's arsenal
- b. Tables turn (Ps 7:14-16, 34:21, 35:8, 37:17)
- c. Narrative context (I Sam 22, 24)

3. DOXOLOGY (7-11)

- a. Awake to awaken
- b. Triumphant expectations
- c. Grave to glory (Jonah 2:1-9, Heb 7:26)

Close: Heb 7:26 repeats the chorus in glorious fulfillment first sung in the cave of Adullam from Psalm 57:5,11 “Be exalted oh God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over al the earth!”

FAMILY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Theme: Cry to God | Theme: Mercy seat | Theme: Tables turn | Theme: Retreat to ambush | Theme: Triumph | Theme: Fulfillment |
| Verses: Ps 57:1-3 | Verses: Ex 25:20-22 | Verses: Ps 57:3-6 | Verses: I Sam 24 | Verses: Ps 57:7-11 | Verses: Heb 7:26-8:2 |

FURTHER STUDY: see 'Further Study' posted weekly at providencecrosslake.com

NEXT WEEK: Mt 23:23-27 ...*More Woes...*