

Lesson 9 | July 31, 2022

Worship God in Times of Trial

Study Text: Psalms 56:1–13; 61:1–8; 124:1–8

Central Truth: Praising God can lift us up in any situation.

Key Verse: Psalm 56:12

Thy vows are upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee (KJV).

I will fulfill my vows to you, O God, and will offer a sacrifice of thanks for your help (NLT).

Learning Objectives

- Students should recognize the reality of trials, even in the lives of God's people.
- Students should be able to describe what the Book of Psalms teaches about why we can worship God amid hard times.
- Students should appreciate the value of praise as a means of redirecting their focus toward God when they feel burdened or overwhelmed.

Introducing the Lesson

Say: No one is immune from trials and struggles. No amount of money, power, or influence can create the “perfect life.” Rather than deny trials, then, we must find ways to successfully navigate them. Thankfully, Christians have an abundant supply of strength, peace, and provision they can receive from God.

Opening Activity—Weathering the Storm

Ask: What is the most difficult trial you have ever faced, and how did you get through that trial? Encourage students to share testimonies. Note that they might mention the help of loved ones as well as the help of the Lord.

Say: Today's study looks at three important psalms that remind us how worship can help us endure hard times. You may be surprised to think of worship this way, yet we are reminded through these psalms that worship redirects our focus from our own crises, as serious as they may be, and onto the One who helps us through difficult times. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

In the Old Testament, the root meaning of the word worship is “to bow,” a reference to giving due honor and acknowledgment to an individual (most often toward God). When applied to God, the word speaks to external acts that reflect internal attitudes and values. For this reason, while this word only appears seventeen times in the Psalms, worship to God is present throughout this book, seen in responses such as trust, praise, glory, acclaim, and magnification directed toward God. As we move through this unit,

note the many ways we can show our heartfelt worship to Him. Today we begin this journey by examining worship amid times of trial.

Each morning I recite or repeat various Psalms such as Psalms 23, two excerpts from Psalm 37 and others. Here are three I would like to read this morning. Be careful. You can read the Psalms and not really take them in to your spirit. Either distraction or false motives can play a role in missing out on God's promises.

[Psa 96:11-13 NLT] 11 Let the heavens be glad, and the earth rejoice! Let the sea and everything in it shout his praise! 12 Let the fields and their crops burst out with joy! Let the trees of the forest rustle with praise 13 before the LORD, for he is coming! He is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with justice, and the nations with his truth.

[Psa 98:7-9 NLT] 7 Let the sea and everything in it shout his praise! Let the earth and all living things join in. 8 Let the rivers clap their hands in glee! Let the hills sing out their songs of joy 9 before the LORD. For the LORD is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with justice, and the nations with fairness.

[Psa 139:1-5 NLT] 1 For the choir director: A psalm of David. O LORD, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. 2 You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'm far away. 3 You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do. 4 You know what I am going to say even before I say it, LORD. 5 You go before me and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head.

Ahaz was an evil king. He closed the Temple and promoted worship of false Gods. His son Hezekiah opened the Temple and had the priests and Levites purify the Temple for worship. After the Temple was cleansed, the next day, the king took his officials to worship the Lord. They offered sacrifices and worshiped. Then, Hezekiah and the officials ordered the Levites to praise the Lord with psalms written by David and by Asaph the seer.

Part 1—Trust God When Afraid When We Find Ourselves Under Attack

Psalm 56:1–7

[Psa 56:1-7 KJV] 1 [[To the chief Musician upon Jonathelemrechokim, Michtam of David, when the Philistines took him in Gath.]] Be merciful unto me, O God: for man would swallow me up; he fighting daily oppresseth me. 2 Mine enemies would daily swallow [me] up: for [they be] many that fight against me, O thou most High. 3 What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee. 4 In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me. 5 Every day they wrest my words: all their thoughts [are] against me for evil. 6 They gather themselves together, they hide themselves, they mark my steps, when they wait for my soul. 7 Shall they escape by iniquity? in [thine] anger cast down the people, O God.

Say: The unbelieving world often holds real animosity toward God and His people. As a result, we find ourselves and our beliefs under attack in a variety of ways. Psalm 56 offers assurance that we can trust God in such times. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Danger from enemies—and the fear that results—is a common theme in the Book of Psalms. Often, these enemies are foreign rulers and armies. However, in psalms such as Psalm 56, the threat is individual. As a result, the fear and danger can be more subtle, yet just as real. Commentators note that the attacks mentioned here often come from people who do not take the Lord or His Law seriously, and it shows in how they speak to and treat the people of God. Just as real as attacks of an invading force, these are aimed at our faith in God. Our attackers can present real dangers, whether they are physical or dangers to our reputation, emotional well-being, or even our faith.

This psalm of David records the cries of his heart as he desperately fled to Gath while Saul pursued him. There, he felt threatened by the king of Gath and fled yet again (see 1 Samuel 21:10 through 22:1). **And so, we find David pleading to God for mercy, fearful of the bold attacks of his enemies (Psalm 56:1–3, NLT). It's worth noting that the term rendered "man" in verse 1 is not the usual word for man. The term used here usually emphasizes the weak and mortal aspect of the human race. (Note its use in Isaiah 13:7; 24:6, KJV.) In short, the Psalmist provided a reminder that while his attackers were real, they were weak in comparison to the Almighty God.**

It is not surprising, then, that David can proclaim his trust in the Lord; he does not need to fear whatever human flesh can do to him (Psalm 56:4). Mere mortals

are no match for God. This is not to say that the battle is not real. David's enemies twisted his words and looked for opportunities to bring him trouble and harm (verses 5–7). Yet he held tightly to the confidence that God would not let them get away with their wicked schemes, but would inflict real consequences upon them for their wickedness.

David included danger of physical harm in his lament. While we may not face this kind of danger, we know what it means to have our words twisted and our beliefs attacked by those who reject the power and authority of our God. When attacks come, and fear arises, we can rest in the knowledge that God is greater than any foe.

Discuss

? What are some specific ways believers are attacked today?

? How can the trust in God expressed in Psalm 56 help us endure those attacks?

The Lord Is Greater Than Our Fears

Psalm 56:8–13

[Psa 56:8-13 KJV] 8 Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: [are they] not in thy book? 9 When I cry [unto thee], then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for God [is] for me. 10 In God will I praise [his] word: in the LORD will I praise [his] word. 11 In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me. 12 Thy vows [are] upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee. 13 For thou hast delivered my soul from death: [wilt] not [thou deliver] my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of the living?

Say: Sometimes life's circumstances cause fear that can stifle our hope, diminish our joy, and bring real pain and tears into our lives. In times of attack, we are reminded by the words of Psalm 56 that God is greater than all of our fears. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Psalm 56:8 provides beautiful imagery and illustration to the incredible compassion of our Lord. David calls upon God to remember his sorrows and recall the tears he has shed. This, of course, was not so that God could reopen the wounds of the past that David had endured. Rather, such remembrance would testify of God's faithful care through the difficult times of life.

At this point, the psalm becomes a kind of celebration of trust in God—of recognition that God is greater than David's enemies: "My enemies will retreat when I call to you for help. This I know: God is on my side!" (verse 9, NLT). David's

proclamation reminds us of Paul's exaltation, in Romans 8:31–39, that nothing can separate us from God's love, because if He is for us, nothing can stand successfully against us.

Such an assurance (be it from David or Paul) is rooted in the promises of God: promises that can be trusted. Psalm 56:10–11 is quite similar to verses 3–4, and serves as a kind of poetic refrain for what is contained in the passages bracketed by these pairs of statements. David recognized that his enemies were real. Had he been left to fend for himself, there was genuine reason for fear. He would no doubt have been overwhelmed by his enemies and their wickedness. **But he trusted God to intervene. Such trust reassured him that no mortal could take away God's promises.**

From there, the psalm ends with David accepting his responsibility to respond properly to the loving and trustworthy God he served (verses 12–13). David vowed to faithfully follow God's commands. It is critical, however, that we see David's commitment in the context of what has come before. He would obey with an attitude of heartfelt praise. This is the nature of what it means to walk with God. Life as His follower is not a cold transaction of service-for-protection. It is a relationship built on a recognition of who God is, gratitude for all He has done, and joy in walking in His presence daily. Such a life can be gloriously free of fear.

Resource Packet Item 1: The Proper Perspective

Distribute the work sheet and divide the class into small groups to answer the questions. When they are finished, discuss their results in class.

Discuss

? Why is it important to recognize that spiritual battles cannot be won without the intervention of the Lord?

? What are some ways we can respond to God for His gracious intervention?

Part 2—Praise God When Overwhelmed

The Lord Is Our Refuge

Psalm 61:1–4

[Psa 61:1-4 KJV] 1 [[To the chief Musician upon Neginah, [A Psalm] of David.]] Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer. 2 From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock [that] is higher than I. 3 For thou hast been a shelter for me, [and] a strong tower from the enemy. 4 I will abide in thy tabernacle for ever: I will trust in the covert of thy wings. Selah.

Say: King David, the writer of this psalm, certainly faced times when he had reason to feel overwhelmed—from fleeing for his life before his coronation to facing dreadful

enemies as king. When we are in overwhelming situations we can learn from David's example.

(Share your highlights from the following text.)

In Psalm 61, David began with a statement that can resonate with every follower of God: "O God, listen to my cry! Hear my prayer! From the ends of the earth, I cry to you for help" (verses 1–2, NLT). He projects a sense of desperation, capped by the phrase "from the ends of the earth." This refers to remote places that are far from his known surroundings. For a king such as David, this could take the form of leading his forces in a faraway military battle in an unknown land. For other God-followers, it can be more personal—and more unseen. With the unknown comes uncertainty, and even anxiety, as one struggles to grasp the battles he or she is facing. Believers today confront a wide range of uncertainty, whether financially, relationally, or culturally with political and social upheaval. In these unfamiliar settings, the heart of the believer instinctively cries out to God.

These cries are well-founded and rooted in God's past blessings: "For you are my safe refuge, a fortress where my enemies cannot reach me" (verse 3, NLT). David had often enjoyed the safe harbor of God's refuge amid the storm of life. God had protected him from the murderous intentions of Saul and provided him with great military victories. It is important to highlight, then, that the fortress of verse 3 is unreachable by any human, including David himself. Even this great king knew that only God could protect him. It is no surprise, then, that David would pray to live forever in God's sanctuary, "thy tabernacle" (verse 4, KJV), where God's people met God. David longed to rest safely in God's presence.

There is a temptation in the overwhelming moments of life to adopt the battle as our own—to trust our own instincts and strength in a struggle to figure out, or even fight, our way to victory. **We do well to learn from David. The battle belongs to the Lord. He desires that we seek out the refuge that only He can give. Instead of filling our hearts with anxious and fearful thoughts, we can choose to fill our hearts with praise.**

Discuss

? What are some common issues that cause the believer to feel overwhelmed?

? How do you normally respond when life overwhelms you, and how might you better respond?

We Will Praise God in Song and in Action

Psalm 61:5–8

[Psa 61:5-8 KJV] 5 For thou, O God, hast heard my vows: thou hast given [me] the heritage of those that fear thy name. 6 Thou wilt prolong the king's life: [and] his years as many generations. 7 He

shall abide before God for ever: O prepare mercy and truth, [which] may preserve him. 8 So will I sing praise unto thy name for ever, that I may daily perform my vows.

Say: The word praise usually brings to mind joyful songs or personal words of adoration for the Lord in our times of devotion. Psalm 61 reminds us that praise involves more than that. It includes words and lifestyle that affirm and rejoice in our close walk with God. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Psalm 61:5 is a natural continuation of verse 3 (NLT): “For you are my safe refuge . . .” —and “For you have heard my vows . . .” (verse 5, NLT). God’s mercies do not exist in a vacuum. Rather, they exist in a relationship between God and His people. While “vows” can seem like a daunting term, it basically refers to a commitment to God. Here, David did not take such commitments lightly; instead, he honored God. This healthy communion with God gave David the assurance that he had been given the inheritance of the Lord—“an inheritance reserved for those who fear your name” (NLT).

Verses 6–7 are especially important for Christians today, for they foreshadow the everlasting reign of the Messiah, who would arise from the line of David. God’s promises of preservation are rooted in the hope we hold so dear in Christ.

And so, what began as a heartfelt cry from a lonely, distant place in the beginning of the psalm became an intimate moment with God in the sanctuary of His presence. Despite whatever overwhelming circumstances David may have faced, God’s precious promises were unmoved. The future was secure. God would preserve King David and his line, ultimately fulfilling His unfailing love for humanity through Christ.

Verse 8, then, serves as a fitting capstone on this psalm, for it describes worship by voice and by action: “Then I will sing praises to your name forever as I fulfill my vows each day” (NLT). An ongoing relationship with God is a relationship of praise unto Him. David offered praise to God by prayer and by song. Yet as he did, he also lived a life of commitment to God that reflected such praise. He fulfilled his commitments to God as an act of praise, recognizing that God was always near to him. God’s presence and His promises would never leave David.

Likewise, the Christian life today is a life of praise to the Lord. This praise is offered in word and song, and it is demonstrated by faithfulness to the commitment we have made to God as His children. Both of these forms of praise can be challenging at times. Sometimes words do not come easily when life is hard. But in such moments we can reflect upon God’s faithful promises. Likewise, living for Him can be challenging in the face of temptation to sin, or even fear of what may happen to us for serving Him. Then, yet again, we find peace and security in knowing that the Lord is near, and He is faithful to His promises.

Resource Packet Item 2: A Cinquain Poem: Praise

Distribute the cinquain poem work sheet “Praise.” Invite students to complete the sheet, then share their poems in class. Use their responses as a discussion starter on the topic of how Christians might define praise.

Discuss

? What are some of your favorite songs for worshipping the Lord, and why do they mean so much to you?

? How do you demonstrate your praise to the Lord through your lifestyle?

Part 3—Rely on God When Opposed What if the Lord Were Not on Our Side?

Psalm 124:1–5

[Psa 124:1-5 KJV] 1 [[A Song of degrees of David.]] If [it had not been] the LORD who was on our side, now may Israel say; 2 If [it had not been] the LORD who was on our side, when men rose up against us: 3 Then they had swallowed us up quick, when their wrath was kindled against us: 4 Then the waters had overwhelmed us, the stream had gone over our soul: 5 Then the proud waters had gone over our soul.

Say: Psalm 124 presents an important reminder to every God-follower who is facing opposition: Victory and defeat depend solely upon whether or not the Lord is on our side. As we study this psalm, we are reminded that overcoming is not about us; it is about whom we trust in times of need. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Psalm 124 is a Psalm of Ascent. That is, this psalm was sung by God’s people as they made their way through Jerusalem toward the temple to worship. (The fifteen Psalms of Ascent are Psalms 120–134.) The people would pass through the Kidron Valley, ascend toward the temple steps, and then climb those steps to the entrance of the temple. These psalms, which are usually quite joyful, extol and exalt the Lord, recognizing His might, His grace, and His mercy—a fitting prelude to a time of corporate praise in His presence.

Resource Packet Item 3: Four Psalms of Ascent

Distribute the work sheet “Four Psalms of Ascent.” Complete it in class, discussing how these psalms help prepare the believer’s heart for worship and praise.

Psalm 124 is believed to have been written upon return from the Babylonian Exile, a fact that adds to its rich meaning and beautiful poetry. God’s people were well aware of the horrors that an evil enemy could inflict upon them. They, or their immediate ancestors, had personally witnessed what happens when God is not on their side.

Psalm 124:1–2, then, is a rhetorical question with a terrifying answer. They knew beyond any doubt that all was lost if God were not on their side.

Note the vivid imagery of verses 3–5. They contain two analogies that compared common dangers that faced God’s people living in Israel to the dangers of their enemies. The first analogy is wild animals that stalked a person who wandered out alone. When the Jordan River overflowed its banks during the rainy season (see Jeremiah 12:5, KJV), wild animals—especially lions—would venture from their normal hunting grounds looking for food. If not for the Lord, God’s people would have become like the helpless prey of ravenous animals. The second analogy is the flash floods brought on by seasonal rains in the mountains. The powerful floods could sweep people away and drown them. So the Psalmist was saying that their lives were being overwhelmed by their enemies, similar to being swamped by raging flood waters.

We, too, face dangers in our world. We are opposed by enemies of the faith in ways that could impact our relationships, our standing in a community, and even our livelihood. Like the Psalmist, we need to ask ourselves in those moments, “What if the Lord were not on my side?” Such a question can compel us to trust Him and remind us that since He is with us, we have nothing to fear!

Discuss

? What are some forms of opposition that confront Christians today, and what would happen to us if God were not on our side?

? How can you find reassurance that God is indeed on your side?

Praise God for Preserving Us

Psa 124:6-8

[Psa 124:6-8 KJV] 6 Blessed [be] the LORD, who hath not given us [as] a prey to their teeth. 7 Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are escaped. 8 Our help [is] in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Say: The tone shifts dramatically in Psalm 124:6. It becomes joyous, festive, and hopeful. We can imagine God’s people approaching the temple in celebration as they recount how God preserved them from the attacks of their enemies and delivered them from their foes. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

God was not merely a passive, impersonal force to His people. He was deeply involved in their lives, helping them and blessing them. They knew that their enemies could have torn them to pieces and destroyed them. But God intervened, and for that they offered exuberant praise (Psalm 124:6).

God's people recognized that their enemies had the ability to ensnare them. Without the Lord's help, they could find themselves in a trap, the prey of a crafty hunter. But the Lord had broken that trap, providing reason to praise the Lord.

Verse 8 forms a fitting conclusion to the psalm, in stark contrast to the opening in verse 1. While God's people could not defeat their enemies on their own, they had the help of the Lord, "who made heaven and earth." No trial is any match for the Almighty Creator. So, while the trials of life are real, they pale in comparison to the One who made us. He is worthy of all our praise.

Discuss

? What are some specific reasons to praise God today?

? How can recalling that God is maker of heaven and earth help us endure trials?

What Is God Saying to Us?

Say: Being a child of God does not always spare us from trials, but our position in Christ gives us the peace and confidence of knowing that God is with us. So, if you are struggling with a trial today, take time to praise God—not as a way of denying the trial, but to recognize that God walks with you and sustains you.

Living It Out

Ministry in Action

- Identify someone in your life who is enduring a trial. This week, take time to tell him or her that you are praying, and offer to help if possible.
- If you are enduring a trial or feeling overwhelmed, ask someone in the class to join you in prayer throughout this week.
- Spend some time in corporate praise, and continue in that attitude of praise throughout the week.

Daily Bible Readings

Monday:

Seeking God Amid Trouble.

2 Chronicles 15:1–9

[2Ch 15:1-9 KJV] 1 And the Spirit of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded: 2 And he went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin; The LORD [is] with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you. 3 Now for a long season Israel [hath been] without the true God, and without a teaching priest, and without law. 4 But when they in their trouble did turn unto the LORD God of Israel, and sought him, he was found of them. 5 And in those times [there was] no peace to him that went out, nor to him that came in, but great vexations [were] upon all the inhabitants of the countries. 6 And nation was destroyed of nation, and city of city: for God did vex them with all adversity. 7 Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded. 8 And

when Asa heard these words, and the prophecy of Oded the prophet, he took courage, and put away the abominable idols out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the cities which he had taken from mount Ephraim, and renewed the altar of the LORD, that [was] before the porch of the LORD. 9 And he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and the strangers with them out of Ephraim and Manasseh, and out of Simeon: for they fell to him out of Israel in abundance, when they saw that the LORD his God [was] with him.

Tuesday:

Praying in Troubling Situations.
Nehemiah 9:32–38

[Neh 9:32-38 KJV] 32 Now therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and the terrible God, who keepeth covenant and mercy, let not all the trouble seem little before thee, that hath come upon us, on our kings, on our princes, and on our priests, and on our prophets, and on our fathers, and on all thy people, since the time of the kings of Assyria unto this day. 33 Howbeit thou [art] just in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly: 34 Neither have our kings, our princes, our priests, nor our fathers, kept thy law, nor hearkened unto thy commandments and thy testimonies, wherewith thou didst testify against them. 35 For they have not served thee in their kingdom, and in thy great goodness that thou gavest them, and in the large and fat land which thou gavest before them, neither turned they from their wicked works. 36 Behold, we [are] servants this day, and [for] the land that thou gavest unto our fathers to eat the fruit thereof and the good thereof, behold, we [are] servants in it: 37 And it yieldeth much increase unto the kings whom thou hast set over us because of our sins: also they have dominion over our bodies, and over our cattle, at their pleasure, and we [are] in great distress. 38 And because of all this we make a sure [covenant], and write [it]; and our princes, Levites, [and] priests, seal [unto it].

Wednesday:

Finding Refuge in Troubled Times.
Psalm 9:7–14

[Psa 9:7-14 KJV] 7 But the LORD shall endure for ever: he hath prepared his throne for judgment. 8 And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness. 9 The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. 10 And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee. 11 Sing praises to the LORD, which dwelleth in Zion: declare among the people his doings. 12 When he maketh inquisition for blood, he remembereth them: he forgetteth not the cry of the humble. 13 Have mercy upon me, O LORD; consider my trouble [which I suffer] of them that hate me, thou that liftest me up from the gates of death: 14 That I may shew forth all thy praise in the gates of the daughter of Zion: I will rejoice in thy salvation.

Thursday:

“Be Not Troubled.”

Matthew 24:4–14

[Mat 24:4-14 KJV] 4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. 5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. 6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all [these things] must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. 8 All these [are] the beginning of sorrows. 9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. 10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. 11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. 12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. 13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

Friday:

Experiencing Comfort in Trouble.

2 Corinthians 1:3–10

[2Co 1:3-10 KJV] 3 Blessed [be] God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; 4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. 5 For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ. 6 And whether we be afflicted, [it is] for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, [it is] for your consolation and salvation. 7 And our hope of you [is] stedfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so [shall ye be] also of the consolation. 8 For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life: 9 But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead: 10 Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver [us];

Saturday:

Troubled, but Not in Despair.

2 Corinthians 4:5–9

[2Co 4:5-9 KJV] 5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. 6 For God, who commanded the

light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to [give] the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. 8 [We are] troubled on every side, yet not distressed; [we are] perplexed, but not in despair; 9 Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;