

In God Alone

A Sermon on Psalm 62

by

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1. Introduction

2. God Alone is True Even When All Others Are Liars (vv. 1-4).

- a. “My soul waits in silence for God alone; from Him is my salvation. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I shall not be greatly shaken” (vv. 1-2).
 - i. David begins the psalm with a statement of incredible trust and confidence.
 1. From the depths of his being—his soul, he will wait in silence for God to save Him.
 - a. Immediately you get a picture of a man who is at rest in the midst of his trials.
 - b. David is legitimately at peace because he holds on to an important truth: his salvation will come from God and God alone.
 2. There are times that call for quick action and decisiveness—but more often than not, the trials you and I are faced with in the Christian life are designed to test the object of our faith.
 - a. Trials are often slow. The decisions that need to be made aren’t as urgent as we might like to think they are.
 - b. We find ourselves in a state of frantically thinking, “I need to do this,” and “I need to do that,” when the reality is that the best possible thing we can do is simply sit still, and put our confidence in God.
 - ii. The simple reason David is confident he will be saved is because of who God is.

1. God alone is his rock; God alone is his salvation; God alone is his stronghold.
 - a. It is part and parcel to the very nature of who God is to be these things to His children.
 - b. In essence, David is saying this is why God is worthy of all our confidence.
2. Therefore, it is in light of who God is, you can have the confidence to say, “I shall not be greatly shaken.”
 - a. The presumption though, is that you will be shaken to some degree. You will have challenges to your faith.
 - b. You will undergo suffering, hardship, possibly persecution, and more— but the question, again, is who and what do you trust in?
- b. “How long will you assail a man, that you may murder him, all of you, like a leaning wall, like a tottering fence? They have counseled only to thrust him down from his high position; they delight in falsehood; they bless with their mouth, but inwardly they curse” (vv. 3-4).
 - i. David begins by asking a rhetorical question of the men who are relentless in their pursuit of him.
 1. Their goal is clear enough from verse 3: they continually attack him because they desire to kill him.
 2. They counsel only throw him down from his high position, meaning simply that they meet in secret to get him off the throne.
 - ii. The first lesson we learn is that even if everyone else in all the world proves to be a liar, God alone is true.
 1. The simple reason David had peace in the midst of his trials was that he put all of his confidence in God alone.

2. This is, once again, where that word “alone” comes to bear in a rather ordinary, but profound way.
 - a. Every last one of us is faced with a constant barrage of people who say we should put our trust in them.
 - b. But in the end, let them all be liars—and let God be true. If salvation belongs to the Lord, then where else shall you go?

3. God Alone is Safe Even When the Times Are Not (vv. 5-8).

- a. “My soul, wait in silence for God alone, for my hope is from Him. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I shall not be shaken” (vv. 5-6).
 - i. David starts this next section much the same as the first, but there are some key differences to be seen between these two sections.
 1. Rather than start with the affirmation of faith as he did in verse 1, he now commands himself, “My soul, wait in silence for God alone.”
 2. God alone is David’s rock, salvation, and stronghold. He finds resolve in God Himself, and this is why David will not be shaken.
 - ii. “On God my salvation and my glory rest; the rock of my strength, my refuge is in God” (v. 7).
 1. Everything that makes David “special” comes from God.
 2. For David, every aspect of his life belongs to the Lord, and light of that, he affirms once more, God alone is what he puts his trust in.
 - a. David may need rescuing, but his salvation comes from the Lord.
 - b. David may lose his glory in the sight of men, but his dignity rests upon what God thinks of him.

- c. David may lose his strength and his heart may grow frail, but his strength comes from the rock, who is God.
 - d. David may not be safe, but God is his place of refuge.
 - b. “Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us” (v. 8).
 - i. This is the one and only direct command given to the congregation in this psalm.
 - 1. The command is simple: trust in God. When? At all times. In every waking moment, our trust is to be directed toward God and God alone.
 - a. The way the command is expressed is in the second phrase: pour out your heart before Him.
 - b. The reason why the command is expressed in this way is then made clear at the end of the verse: God is a refuge for us.
 - 2. Thus, in this one verse you have everything you need to carry out the command to trust in God.
 - a. In essence, this is all that prayer is. It is an expression of our trust in God.
 - b. The picture of pouring out your heart before God suggests a continual heart attitude of deliberate trust in God.
 - ii. The truth behind the command for us to trust in God at all times is that both the good and the bad times have a way of eroding our trust in God.
 - 1. The “good times” lull us into a stupor.
 - a. When all is “right” in life, we feel no real need to commune with God in prayer as much as we should.
 - b. We simply continue about our days, with the prideful arrogance which forgets that apart from Jesus Christ we can do nothing.

2. When the “bad days” come upon us, instead of trusting in God, we give way to fretting, anxiousness, depression, and every malaise of the soul.
 - a. Whether you face the “good times” or the “bad times,” the point is much the same: God alone is worthy of your trust and hope, for He is your refuge.
 - b. The difficult doctrine of trusting in God is this: there is no bygone era or better days in the past. All of them alike are evil and tainted by this reality we call sin.

4. God Alone is Sure Even When All Else Is Transient (vv. 9-12).

- a. “Men of low degree are only vanity and men of rank are a lie; in the balances they go up; they are together lighter than breath. Do not trust in oppression and do not vainly hope in robbery; if riches increase, do not set your heart upon them” (v. 9-10).
 - i. David begins by expressing much of what would be considered proverbial wisdom: the stature of a man and the riches of this world will never provide a genuine hope.
 1. The first statement he makes is by way of contrast between the “haves” and the “have nots.”
 - a. Notice how he illustrates his point here: men who are the dregs of society are nothing but mere hebel.
 - b. Yet just in case you are tempted to think that people who “leave a legacy” are more important, he says they are a lie.
 2. “In the balances they go up; they are altogether lighter than breath.”
 - a. The breath, or the vapor, weighs more significant than all men combined. They are not nearly as important as you might think they are.

