

Our Promise Keeping King – 2 Samuel

2 Samuel 1:17-27

“Bless those who persecute you” – September 9, 2018



Introduction

What do we do with the grief that comes from suffering loss? Instead of ignoring the pain, trying to control our circumstances, or masking it with work, entertainment, or food, we can lament. To lament is to put words to our grief. Lamenting is a pathway to hope; a tool God provides to face our heartache and trust Him *in* painful circumstances. Problem is, many of us don't know *how* to grieve, but thankfully, David teaches us how.

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response.

Sermon Outline

- I. Godly grief cares first about the glory of God (1:17-21)
- II. Godly grief doesn't dwell on the faults of others (1:22-25)
- III. Godly grief speaks up, and speaks honestly (1:26-27)

Read & Discuss

1) Read [2 Samuel 1:17-21](#)

Though David had lots of things to be concerned about in his grief, his chief concern was not how others viewed him, but how God was seen. When our perspective turns inward with self-obsession and the fear of man, we work against the very purpose for which God made us: to make much of Him! Sometimes, we're desperate just to be loved; to know the approval of someone, we forget we already *have* it in God and seek it from the world. What keeps you from resting in His love? How would knowing God's love keep you from living for *your* glory and free you to live for His?

Additional reading: Ephesians 3:14-19, Romans 5:8, Ephesians 2:8

2) Read [2 Samuel 1:22-25](#)

Though David had every reason to dwell on the faults and sins of Saul, he helps us see how to grieve without becoming embittered and angry. Sometimes our grief leads us to look down on others in an effort to find hope for ourselves. Is there self-righteousness in your heart making it easy to dwell on the faults of others and look down on them for how they've failed you? Don't grieve to make yourself feel better at *their* expense, grieve the loss of good that *could've* been or what *can* be. So long as there's breath, there's hope for people to trust in God and change.

Additional reading: Romans 12:14-21, Proverbs 24:17-18

3) Read [2 Samuel 1:26-27](#)

Lament gives us a place to go with our pain, before pain turns into poison. As hard as it can be to talk about our heartache, we must learn to pour out our hearts to God in our sorrow and to express our grief to trusted, godly friends. What's more, we can turn to Psalms of laments as a template for our own laments – ones like Psalm 13, 25, 42, or 90. Who are the examples you've learned from as you've watched them grieve and come to trust God? What are ways we can help each other trust God by going to God with our grief?

Additional reading: Psalm 62:8, John 16:20, 23

Prayer of Response

Spend time praying together in response to God's word for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

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