

GOD’S RESPONSE TO HUMAN SIN

PSALM 90: 7-17

Introduction:

Moses had first-hand knowledge of God’s response to human sin. In the first two years of leading the people of God toward the promises land, they were constantly sinning against the Lord. They moved from one offense to another. In each case God would respond with anger and then with mercy.

This psalm grew out of the last of the experiences.

God faithfully led the people from Egypt to Sinai; graciously gave the law at Sinai; forgave their horrible transgression with the golden calf; then directed them to the very border of the land He had promised. When some spies sent to the land brought back a negative report, the people refused to trust and obey the Lord so they could claim the land. God pronounced a word of judgment upon the nation—every one above the age of 20 would die in the wilderness, only Caleb and Joshua would be allowed to enter the land. It was a crushing experience for Moses, the leader of the nation. Almost immediately the condemned generation began to die. It was that way for about 38 years—death after death after death! Sometime during this period, Moses put these profound words on parchment and the people of Israel

began to sing them. They have been a part of the hymnody of the church ever since.

This section of the psalm is about the divine response to human sin.

I. HUMAN SIN PROVOKES THE ANGER OF THE LORD.

1. The anger of the Lord fills humans with fear.
2. The anger of the Lord takes away the joy of life.
3. The anger of the Lord limits the days of life.
4. The anger of the Lord makes life a burden.

II. HUMAN REPENTANCE FINDS THE MERCY OF THE LORD.

1. The mercy of the Lord removes His anger.
2. The mercy of the Lord restores His favor.