

SERMON OUTLINE

THE LANGUAGE OF LAMENT

PSALM 13:1-6

JULY 31, 2022

What Is Lament?

- “Lament is the prayer language for God’s people as they live in a world marred by sin. It is how we talk to God about our sorrows as we renew our hope in his sovereign care. To cry is human, but to lament is Christian.” –Mark Vroegop

Four Elements of Lament

- I. Turn to God (vs. 1a)
- II. Bring Your Complaint (vs. 1b-2)
 - The shining of God’s face signifies blessing (Num. 6:25-26; Ps 4:6; 31:16; 67:1; 80:3, 7, 19)
- III. Ask Boldly for Help (vs. 3-4)
- IV. Choose To Trust (vs. 5-6)
 - “David, as far as he could gather by the actual state of things, seemed to himself to be deserted by God. Still, however, having previously enjoyed the light of faith, he penetrated, with the eye of his mind, into the hidden grace of God; how else should he have directed his groans and desires to him” – John Calvin
 - “If David can bank everything on God, even when on the brink of despair, how much more can we today? For David saw God’s steadfast love only in fairly abstract terms, in past acts of deliverance through events such as the exodus. We see God’s steadfast love in concrete terms, in the great climactic act of deliverance in the person of his own Son. Jesus Christ was steadfast love embodied not merely in an event but in a person.” (Dane Ortland)

BENEDICTION: “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. – Romans 15:13