



2/14/21 Sermon Notes

“Complaint”

Psalm 10

Pastor Dan DeRoche

Psalm 10 (CSB) - ¹ Lord, why do you stand so far away? Why do you hide in times of trouble? ² In arrogance the wicked relentlessly pursue their victims; let them be caught in the schemes they have devised. ³ For the wicked one boasts about his own cravings; the one who is greedy curses and despises the Lord. ⁴ In all his scheming, the wicked person arrogantly thinks, “There’s no accountability, since there’s no God.” ⁵ His ways are always secure; your lofty judgments have no effect on him; he scoffs at all his adversaries. ⁶ He says to himself, “I will never be moved – from generation to generation I will be without calamity.” ⁷ Cursing, deceit, and violence fill his mouth; trouble and malice are under his tongue. ⁸ He waits in ambush near settlements; he kills the innocent in secret places. His eyes are on the lookout for the helpless; ⁹ he lurks in secret like a lion in a thicket. He lurks in order to seize a victim; he seizes a victim and drags him in his net. ¹⁰ So he is oppressed and beaten down; helpless people fall because of the wicked one’s strength. ¹¹ He says to himself, “God has forgotten; he hides his face and will never see.” ¹² Rise up, Lord God! Lift up your hand. Do not forget the oppressed. ¹³ Why has the wicked person despised God? He says to himself, “You will not demand an account.” ¹⁴ But you yourself have seen trouble and grief, observing it in order to take the matter into your hands. The helpless one entrusts himself to you; you are a helper of the fatherless. ¹⁵ Break the arm of the wicked, evil person, until you look for his wickedness, but it can’t be found. ¹⁶ The Lord is King forever and ever; the nations will perish from his land. ¹⁷ Lord, you have heard the desire of the humble; you will strengthen their hearts. You will listen carefully, ¹⁸ doing justice for the fatherless and the oppressed so that mere humans from the earth may terrify them no more.

Godly Complaint:

- Godly complaining in lament leads you to the heart of God.
- Two typical responses when we get hurt: Anger, Denial
- Lament is how those who know God deal with their pain.

Four parts of lament:
TURN - COMPLAINT - ASK - TRUST

“Lament is the language of a people who believe in God’s sovereignty, but live in a world of tragedy.” - Mark Vroegop

Verse 1

- The Psalmist starts by bringing questions to God.
- Complaint gives voice and expression to hard questions.
- God can intervene. He has the power to change it, but there are many times He doesn’t. That is the place where we need lament.

The painful questions that were once barriers between us and God now become the very thing that draw us closer to God.

The Psalmist is not just bringing questions, but also frustrations...

Verses 2-18

- Laying your complaints before God will bring you life and peace instead of bitterness and a dungeon of anger on your soul.
- In dark and difficult times, simply tell God what is going on in your soul.

Why?

Wake up LORD! Why are you sleeping?
Get up don’t reject us forever! Why do you hide and forget our affliction and oppression? (Psalm 44:23-24)

How?

How long, LORD? Will you forget me forever? (Psalm 13:1)

Five Key Practices of Godly Complaint

1. Write out your complaints

If there is pain there – write it down in a journal. Talk with God about it.

2. Come humble

Proud demanding questions from a heart that feels like God owes you will never lead you to trust and healing.

3. Pray the Bible

Allow your soul to enter into what is written in the Bible.

4. Be honest

God I know You are not _____, but it feels like You are today.

5. Don't get stuck

Lament is not an excuse to wallow in frustrations.

It is a river where you move from one practice to the next – ending up in deeper levels of trust.

*“As I wrote out my complaints, and talked to the Lord about them,
it was surprising how they lost their hold on me.”*
