

Monday 27th July 2020

Psalm 13

1 How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?

How long will you hide your face from me?

2 How long must I wrestle with my thoughts
and every day have sorrow in my heart?

How long will my enemy triumph over me?

3 Look on me and answer, O Lord my God.

Give light to my eyes or I will sleep in death;

4 my enemy will say, 'I have overcome him,'
and my foe will rejoice when I fall.

5 But I trust in your unfailing love;

my heart rejoices in your salvation.

6 I will sing to the Lord,

for He has been good to me.

At different times in our lives we all have troubles which need to be overcome. Often, through talking over a trouble with a friend, we are able to gain some insight into it and put it into perspective. The best friend we have is God, but sometimes we forget to talk to Him through prayer and so we do not gain a sense of perspective and we do not find true peace in ourselves.

In this Psalm David shows distress. Four times in the first two verses he uses the phrase 'how long'. God does not always act when we want him to do so and this irritates us and makes us unhappy. We feel bereft for our suffering seems to go unnoticed. Notice that by the end of the Psalm David talks of his continuing hope and trust in God no matter how long he has to wait. His love for Him is unfailing. When we feel irritated by what appears to be God's unwillingness to respond to us when and as we wish Him to, we need to be patient and to ensure that our love for Him is unfaltering.

Prayer: O Lord my God. You are my dearest friend and, yet, I forsake You when I do not come to You in prayer or when I expect my prayers to be answered by You in my time and in my way. Teach me to be patient. Let my love for You never falter. Amen