

# Sermon Notes

## 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019

### Psalms 10, 23, 72, 77

### Summary of the psalms

#### What have we learned?

- The hymn and prayer book of the Jewish people
- Collected together after their exile, from earlier sources
- Personal as well as for public worship
- Even though 3000 years old, still talk about the same situations we face and the same God we worship
- Many different types (genres) of psalm

#### Lament (sorrowful) psalms 10:1-11, 77:1-9

- Nearly half of them!
- Many kinds of problem
  - Other people
  - Sickness and depression
  - Angry at God
- Not over spiritualised – no stiff upper lip
  - Tell God exactly what they think
- The Bible gives us permission to talk to God like that
  - We're emotional creatures, not Mr Spock
- Faith comes and talks to God about problems

#### Thanksgiving psalms 10:14-18, 77:10-20

- May be part of a psalm of lament
- Not every problem resolved – sometimes need to wait
- May be a change of our heart to face the problem
- May be a resolution of the problem
- Remember to give thanks just as specifically as we stated the problem
- Remembering God's past faithfulness helps us trust him for the future
- They could look back to the Exodus, we have Jesus giving himself for us

#### Royal psalms 72:1-11

- Celebrating Israel's king – even when there weren't any more kings
- God made promises to David, but his descendants were all flawed men
- Points us to the Messiah, king Jesus as presented in the gospels
  - The one who gives himself for his people and rules with justice

#### Praise

- More than just giving thanks for what he's done for us
- Recognising him for who he is
- He is the God who gives himself, who loves, and who keeps his promises

#### What do we do with the psalms?

- Other churches make better use of them
  - Use all the psalms in worship so people know them
- Need to be familiar so we know where to turn
  - What words has God given us for this situation
  - How have people found their way through over 3000 years
- Need to read them to be familiar
- Note the ones that are special for you
- Our aim is trust and quiet confidence in God (Psalm 23)

#### Space for your notes

*Written by Ian McLenaghan, September 2019*