

Where Do You Find Your Joy?

4th in the “Psalms” Series

Psalm 4

August 14, 2022

Pastor Casey Ehlers

Introduction

In this sermon we see that only God is our ultimate source of peace and joy.

The Text: Psalm 4

To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments. A Psalm of David.

¹Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!

You have given me relief when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

²O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?

How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? *Selah*

³But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself;
the LORD hears when I call to him.

⁴Be angry, and do not sin;

ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. *Selah*

⁵Offer right sacrifices,

and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶There are many who say, “Who will show us some good?

Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!”

⁷You have put more joy in my heart

than they have when their grain and wine abound.

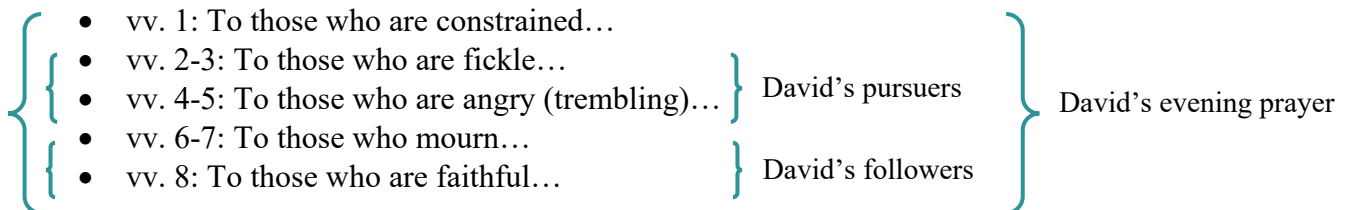
⁸In peace I will both lie down and sleep;

for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

Message: At the day’s end, despite circumstances or opposition, faithfulness in God yields true joy and security.

Introducing Psalm 4

Structure:



Application: Christian faith offers an upside-down view of the world’s values and securities (kingdom of God).

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

-Matthew 5:3-5 (a partial Psalm of Jesus)

Sunday Text Questions

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- 1) Starter Question: Do you have an evening prayer routine? If so, what does it look like?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) How is this text connected to the previous Psalm? (Hint: 4:8 → 3:5)
- 4) Who are the different groups of people that David identifies in this Psalm?
- 5) Where do you see anger or fickleness (“fickle: changing frequently, especially as regards one’s loyalties, interests, or affection.”) in the world today?
- 6) Where do you see anger or fickleness in your own heart today?
- 7) What is something in this world or life that robs your joy?
- 8) What is something in this world or life that you tend to trust in more than God?
- 9) What does it look like to “sing” Psalm 4 in your life today?
- 10) How does David’s prayer challenge or supplement your prayer life?

Further study this week: Passages that are connected to Psalm 4: (Sermon on the Mount) Matthew 5 (Mon); Matthew 6 (Tues); Matthew 7 (Wed); Psalm 3 (Thurs); Psalm 5 (Fri).