
“How Long Is The Night?”

Psalm 30:5

There is not a person who will read this outline or hear this sermon today that has not had to endure a range of frustrations. The nightly news and the daily forecasts all send the foreboding signal that all is not well. The economic downturn or meltdown has sent housing, healthcare, energy, employment and small business entities into a negative period of history. Jobs are disappearing at an alarming rate and home foreclosures have hit an all time high. This dilemma has unfortunately created a people consumed with fear.

God did not give us the spirit of fear, but of a sound mind and love. In today’s text, David tells us that when we go through very difficult days and times, they will not last forever. He tells us that weeping or tough times or unimaginable trials will only last for a night; and that rejoicing or joy will come in the morning. We have heard, read, or studied these words for years, but their meaning does not lessen the pain and grief we feel during the night. We all can attest that after the storm, the sun will shine, but enduring the storm can be devastating. When we are experiencing those long, sleepless nights there is one ever present, penetrating thought—“How long is the night?” When will the sun come up and the dark shadows fade? When will this hollow, sinking feeling subside and we can see our way through this maze called life. King David faced many victories during his reign as King of Israel, but his rulership was laced with many long, dismal nights. His experience and his teachings let us know that if we trust God, and lean not unto our own understanding that God will lead us to the dawn of a fresh new day.

Whatever you are going through right now, know that God has not abandoned you. He has heard your late night cries for help and is right now answering your prayers in His own time and in His own way. Do not lose faith, but hold to the truth that however long the night God will see you through and will pull back the drapes, which have blocked out the moonlight during the night.

God may not make your long nights any shorter, but He will bring you joy in the morning if you do not let the long night destroy your faith.

How long? Not long!!