

Psalm 130
Lifted to the LORD, Our Lord

Tuesday, January 21, 2025 • Read Psalm 130

Questions from the Scripture text: What sort of song is this (superscript)? Where has the psalmist been (v1)? To Whom did he cry? What was his first, great request (v2)? What circumstance makes it so urgent that he be heard (v3)? What hope does he have in this guilt (v4a)? Unto what end (v4b)? So, for What (Whom!) does he wait (v5), and how intensely? How can he be sure of the outcome, despite the delay (v5b)? Whom else does he tell to do this (v7a)? Why—what does YHWH have/offer (v7b)? How much of it (v7c)? And what will He do (v8a)? How much (v8b)?

Who is the Lord? Psalm 130 looks forward to the opening portion of morning public worship on the coming Lord's Day. In these eight verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that **the Lord is the merciful God Who hears and forgives us.**

YHWH, the Lord, our Hearer. There is no height greater than God's glory, and therefore there is no depth lower (v1) than knowing one's guilt against God and His glory. But, even from such a low depth, the Scripture has taught the believer that he may hope (v5b) to have his cries heard by the living God (v2). What a generous gift and privilege is "heard prayer"! And the believer knows that God is glorified as the Hearer of prayer (cf. 65:1-2), and Forgiver of iniquities (v3-4).

YHWH, the Lord, our sin's Healer. The great test of this faith is when relief does not immediately come. Are we so sure that God is this Forgiver that He says He is—that He has given His Son to be our atonement and our righteousness—that, even when our conscience is not finding this comfort (cf. 1Jn 3:20), we continue to wait for Him as our only hope (v5-6)? We must wait only upon Him for this relief, for however long He takes.

YHWH, the Lord, our Hope. Once we have this relief, however, we are renewed in our desire that everyone would bring Him glory for the marvelous blessing of forgiveness. We cannot wait to come into the public worship, where we are gathered as "Israel" (v7), stirring up one another's faith in the Lord for redemption, and praise to Him for that redemption. It is abundant; there is more than enough for all of His Israel to be redeemed from all of His iniquities (v8)! How great is the glory of this Hearer of our prayer, Healer of our iniquities, and our Hope!

When have you felt your guilt to the point that it brought you into the depths? When have you had to wait upon the Lord for His forgiveness to come home to your conscience? What should you do with your voice and your heart in this waiting? How does personal redemption fuel your desire for corporate worship?

Sample prayer: Lord, we praise You for glorifying Yourself by hearing us and forgiving us. Truly, with You there is steadfast love and abundant redemption! Be glorified by Your Israel, who wait upon You for this mercy, through Christ, AMEN!

Suggested Songs: ARP130 "Lord, from the Depths to You I Cried" or TPH130A "Lord, from the Depths"

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. PLEASE BE AWARE of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Psalm 130. A song of ascents, out of the depths I have cried to you o. Yahweh Hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications. If you Yahweh should Mark iniquities, oh Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you that you may be feared.

I wait for Yahweh, my soul Waits. And in his word I do hope my soul waits for the Lord. More than those who watch for the morning. Yes, more than those who wait for the morning. Oh Israel, hope in Yahweh. For with Yahweh, there is Mercy. And with him is abundant Redemption.

And he shall redeem Israel. From. His iniquities.

There are three sections in this Psalm. each of them marked by the Covenant name of God. Yahweh and then Recognizing that this Yahweh has made himself. Our Lord has made himself our Master, not just that he has authority over us not just that we have respect for him but that we belong to him.

This is similar to what was rejoiced in.

This is similar to what was rejoiced in in Psalm 123. When we were thinking about as the eyes of a servants look to their hand, to their masters, the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress. So our eyes look to Yahweh our God. And so you have verses 1 and 2 cried to you o Yahweh Lord.

Hear my voice verse three and four or just in verse three, rather. If you Yahweh should Mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand I wait for Yahweh. Soul for the Lord. And so the psalm itself gives us these these three sections by this pattern in the language driving home.

The, the first main point is that Yahweh is our Lord. Our Lord, he is. Hearer. And he is our healer or forgiver and he is Our Hope first. He is our hearer note that the first request of the psalm is to be heard to have the request heard. Out of the depths, I have cried, hear my voice.

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications. Here is a wonderful thing. Yahweh. Creator of Heaven and Earth. The one, who is the only true and living God, who has all existence and being in himself. The only one who is genuinely independent upon him. All other things must be dependent for.

He is Creator and they are creature. Listens to our voices. To the sound of our voices. He even knows and hears and listens to the cries of our hearts.

And so, Even when we are in the very depths Illustration there, or the metaphor. There is either depths of Earth or depths of. see either one being buried or being drowned or at the bottom of the sea, Psalm 139 is going to refer to the womb. As the depths of the earth and Ephesians.

Four is going to allude to that about the Lord Jesus that he who ascended first descended into the depths of the earth, meaning the womb. The womb is also like being buried in a cave and being underwater, it's actually kind of both. Which is a wonderful little word picture there.

But what's also like that is when you're overwhelmed by the greatness of your sin, Which is the Circumstance in this Psalm. You just feel buried and drowned. By how guilty you are. And you're not wronged. But praise God, Yahweh who has made himself, our own Covenant, Lord, and bound himself to us and us to him has done.

So not only as our hero but also as our healer, our forgiver System to the second section. Verses three and four. If you Yahweh should Mark iniquities O Lord, who could stand So you're remembering in your depth that you're you're not in good company, you don't want to use the word good.

But you are definitely in Broad company. Every person to walk this Earth. Other than the Lord Jesus. Would not survive this examination. Cannot survive. The justice of God. But there is forgiveness with you that you may be feared. He gains nothing. By our fearing him. By our worshiping him and wandering at him and loving him and serving him and honoring him.

We cannot add to God, like we heard. Proverbs chapter 9. If we are wise, we are wise for ourselves. God is not the beneficiary of our wisdom. We are the beneficiaries of his giving us wisdom. But in his love and generosity. He has given. To an innumerable multitude. Whom he has chosen out of his good pleasure.

Just because he is pleased to do it to display. His Mercy to display in an outward way into the creature.

The love that God has within himself. And deciding to redeem to bring these creatures us into that love Between among the father and the Son and the Holy so just as he has Mutual Adoration and devotion and Delight within himself. He has delighted and determined. To give to us to fear Him.

And since he is determined to give to us to fear Him, He has determined that the great way in which he will do. So, is by forgiving sins in his son. So that not only do we get forgiven of sins. But because of the method necessary for sins against such a God to be forgiven We would be forgiven in Union with his son.

Which is applied to. By his Spirit. Who is not only with us for the purpose of giving us life that we may believe in to the sun, but because we belong to the Sun. And dwells in our hearts. He sends the spirit of the sun into our hearts. And so, all of this God has determined In order to bring us at last to be fearers of him forever.

So, verses three and four are not saying Since God. Respect craving. Despot. He forgives people to get them to fear Him. No, the forgiving and the fearing are both. Divine, infinite gifts. Not only is there forgiveness with him. But the reason there's forgiveness with him. Is so that we may come into the blessedness of fearing him.

And so you go from, Dreadful depths of who we are in our sin against God. To the Un incomprehensible, Heights. Of who this God is. To people such as we are in our depths Yahweh, our Lord. Is not just our hero. But he's our healer and therefore, he's our hope.

And that's verses 5 through 8 first, the individual waiting for the Lord, and then the urging to others to do the same. That we would all do this together because God's determination to save is not merely individual. But as corporate, he has an entire Israel, he has an entire church, that he is determined to bring into this Everlasting and infinite blessedness of fearing him and knowing him.

So as I wait for him more than the Watchmen, wait for the morning, my soul realizes that what I'm waiting for is something that must be enjoyed with the rest of his people. You know, as Hebrews says that he didn't give it to them yet. Because his plan his purpose was that apart from us.

They should not be perfected, or they should not inherit so that we all come into it together. So you have this Lord, our hearer, the Lord, our healer, the Lord, the individual Believers. Hope I wait for Yahweh, my soul Waits in his word, I do hope my soul Waits for Yahweh more than those who watch for the morning.

Yes, more than those who watch for the morning. Of the depths that we are in are worse than the night that the Watchmen are looking forward to the morning dispelling, and the morning that they are looking forward to dispelling is so much less than the blessedness of God. The knowledge of our Forgive her.

Whom we are brought into the blessedness of fearing so of course we should long for it more. Than those who watch for the morning. But then realizing that God's Plan of Salvation is not merely individual, but corporate In Christ. You know, whether you're thinking about as a bride or members of a body, Or as a Zion.

Jerusalem or as a nation. Israel, a people. They're all the corporate idea. Realizing that his plan is not merely individual salvations. But the redeeming of this corporate entity who are in Christ the entire Covenantal people who are in Christ, the individual longing in verse 5, 6 turns to urging the others who will inherit with us, and come into the blessedness with us.

To do the same o Israel. Open Yahweh. For with you always, there is mercy and with him as abundant Redemption You see how great is the Forgiveness? Even of a single believer, That that which is infinitely. Culpable or requires infinite punishment, one sin. Deserves an eternity of. And how great is the Forgiveness and mercy necessary to relieve one believer, but he doesn't just redeem one believer.

He redeems an innumerable multitude. And so you get into the higher math or the calculus of this, And it shows the greatness of his mercy and the greatness of his forgiveness and the greatness of his Redemption. Oh Israel, hope in Yahweh for with Yahweh, there's Mercy with him, is abundant Redemption.

And he shall redeem Israel, not just Israelites, but all Israel. From. All. Iniquities. Every last one of them. And so, however, great are the depths. Of the guilt that you might feel. At any point in time, whether it has come from, knowing your sin better or whether, as as often the case, That comes from, knowing him, and his glory, and his Holiness better, and having to see your sin in contrast to that.

You can Bank on that word, all At the end of verse 8, he's already in Israel from all his iniquities. Your guilt will never outpace. His Redemption. His Mercy. His forgiveness. Indeed, it won't even outpace. The greatness of the blessedness of that fearing him. Into which, He is bringing all of his Israel.

Amen, let's pray.

How we thank you, our father. For your words that is full of Riches on every page for in it. You communicate yourself to us. And not just yourself as. the only God the true and living God, the Creator Yahweh. But our God, our Covenant Lord. The one who.

Giving yourself to us and taking us to yourself. And we thank you for presenting yourself here, as Hearer that even now you listen to our voice. The prayer as imperfectly composed as it is, and yet. Not only have you helped us by your spirit using your word. To form our prayers, but even your spirit, then intercedes for us.

Then perfects, our prayers.

So that you are our And you are our healer. And you are our hope, grant that your spirit. Would stir up Our Hope in. And that we would heed. The exhortation at the end of this song. For we ask it all in Jesus name. Amen.