

2020.09.27 Sunday Sermon <In The Trouble>

Psalm 42:1

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God.

Psalm 107:10-15

- ¹⁰ *Some sat in darkness, in utter darkness, prisoners suffering in iron chains,*
- ¹¹ *because they rebelled against God's commands and despised the plans of the Most High.*
- ¹² *So he subjected them to bitter labor; they stumbled, and there was no one to help.*
- ¹³ *Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.*
- ¹⁴ *He brought them out of darkness, the utter darkness, and broke away their chains.*
- ¹⁵ *Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind,*

***Image of a Sail Boat**

Once I read a report about commercial ships. As 100,000 ships are made...

- 6,000 ships sink and end in the sea
- 9,000 ships get severely damaged and cannot be navigated
- 60,000 ships would face several disasters - more than 20 times.

No matter what material the ship is made of, once the ship sails to the sea it cannot avoid disasters.

Our lives are similar to these boats out in the sea.

We do not know what type of trouble (physical, mental, or spiritual stress) we may face in life.

When we do face these trouble...we may ask following three questions.

1. Why Do We Face Trouble?

- **Psalm 107: 10-11**
 - ¹⁰ *Some sat in darkness, in utter darkness, prisoners suffering in iron chains,*
 - ¹¹ *because they rebelled against God's commands and despised the plans of the Most High.*

Based on verses 10-11, the troubles and sufferings we face are due to our sins. Sins that was created once Adam and Eve disobeyed God's command.

- Recently in USA Today, I read an article that said "2020 The Worst Year." In this article, it talked about all of the troubles we faced during this year - Covid 19, multiple hurricanes, many wildfires, and chaos in political world were listed. It also mentioned, rates of gun shooting in NYC was close to double since last year. Last year around this time NYC had 580 gun shooting cases, but this year NYC reported 1,123 gun shooting cases.
- Story of Wyatt Tofte's Family - As wildfires ravage the West Coast, one boy and his dog died huddled together in a car, where they sought safety from the flames. Wyatt Tofte, 13, died Tuesday in the wildfires in Marion County, Oregon, along with his 71-year-old grandmother, Peggy Mosso. Mosso was found dead in a car that went up in flames, as her daughter and Wyatt Tofte's mother, Angela, stood nearby attempting to save her. Angela survived but is in critical condition. Her husband and Tofte's father, Chris, also survived.
- All sufferings in the world are due to our sins...but it hurts to see the innocent children suffer or face death.
- **Psalm 32:3-4**
 - ³ *When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.*
 - ⁴ *For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer*

2. Why Does the Lord Make Us Face Trouble?

- **Psalm 107:12**
 - So he subjected them to bitter labor; they stumbled, and there was no one to help.*

- **2 Timothy 3:2**
² People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,

The Lord makes us face troubles in our lives due to our sins but most importantly due to our pride.

- Image of King Herod and Saul
Proverbs 29:23 *Pride brings a person low, but the lowly in spirit gain honor.*
- Image of South Korea and U.S. Flags
Proverbs 22:4 *Humility is the fear of the Lord; its wages are riches and honor and life.*
- As we face so many difficult challenges due to COVID-19, we must look back our days and repent for our sins. Most importantly, we need to let our pride go. Where were we when we first landed in America as immigrants? How did the passengers in Mayflower start in America?

3. What Can We Do When We Face Trouble?

- Cry out to the Lord, and He will hear us
Psalm 107:13-14
*¹³ Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.
¹⁴ He brought them out of darkness, the utter darkness, and broke away their chains.*
- Praise to the Lord, and He will be pleased
Psalm 107:15
¹⁵ Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind,
- Image of David in **2 Samuel 24**
*¹⁴ David said to Gad, "I am in deep distress. Let us fall into the hands of the LORD, for his mercy is great; but do not let me fall into human hands."
¹⁵ So the LORD sent a plague on Israel from that morning until the end of the time designated, and seventy thousand of the people from Dan to Beersheba died. ¹⁶ When the angel stretched out his hand to destroy Jerusalem, the LORD relented concerning the disaster and said to the angel who was afflicting the people, "Enough! Withdraw your hand." The angel of the LORD was then at the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.
¹⁷ When David saw the angel who was striking down the people, he said to the LORD, "I have sinned; I, the shepherd,^[c] have done wrong. These are but sheep. What have they done? Let your hand fall on me and my family."*
- As David cries out to the Lord, the Lord hears him and stops the plague.
Psalm 30:4-5
*⁴ Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people; praise his holy name.
⁵ For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.*
- Story of Jack
A young boy named Jack woke up in a hospital. The surrounding relatives could not bear to tell Jack that he lost all of his family members due to a disaster. However, Jack knew and said to the relatives that a doctor came late night and told him everything. The doctor also told him that the Lord will help and should not worry about anything. When the relatives heard this, they told Jack that he must had a dream. The next day, a nurse walked Jack to get testing done. As they were walking in the hallway, he saw a painting and he told the nurse that the man in the painting is the doctor who told him the news late night. He asked the nurse the name of the doctor. The nurse told Jack, the painting is a portrait of Jesus Christ.

In Summary, when we are faced with trouble...

- We must repent for our sins
- We must cry out to the Lord for help