

Psalm 84:2-7
The Desperate Soul
(First Things First)

² My soul longs, yes, even faints For the courts of the Lord;

My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

³ Even the sparrow has found a home, And the swallow a nest for herself, Where she may lay her young—

Even Your altars, O Lord of hosts, My King and my God.

⁴ Blessed *are* those who dwell in Your house; They will still be praising You. *Selah*

⁵ Blessed *is* the man whose strength *is* in You, Whose heart *is* set on pilgrimage.

⁶ *As they* pass through the Valley of Baca, They make it a spring;

⁷ The rain also covers it with pools. They go from strength to strength; *Each one* appears before God in Zion.

PSALM 142:5

I cried out to You, O Lord: I said, “You *are* my refuge,
My portion in the land of the living.

My portion in the land of the living – No other person

The Lord has had me in this place lately of considering and meditating upon the Desperate soul.

A)The Lord responds to and refreshes the soul that cries out to Him!

B)One of the first illustrations of the desperate soul is seen in the life of Jacob – Genesis 32

C)**Not letting God go until you bless me!**

In the NT in the life of Jesus – Mark 5

A)**Jairus – religious leader** – 12 year old daughter deathly ill

B)Lays aside **his position – influence – doesn’t care about what his friends are going to say – Desperate.**

1)Goes to Jesus – please come – Jesus says lets go

C)**Interruption:** Woman 12 years issue of Blood

1)Broke - Unclean - Destitute – Segregated –

D)In desperation she says if only.....

Jesus stops – validates her in the eyes of everyone.

A)The men come from the home of Jairus - don’t bother – daughter gone

B)Tears – Jesus meets the desperation and the anguish with these words - Don’t be afraid: only believe – she will be made well.

C)**The man with the Demon possessed son – Mark 9 Desperate Dad**

1)Jesus says – Just believe... made well – Lord I believe but help my unbelief!

D)Jesus is not like – “sorry man that is not good enough – that will not do”

1)Meets this guy where he is at.

Mark 10 the story of the Blind man Bartimaeus

A)Everyday put by the road – Begs – It is how he survives.

B)One day commotion – Bartimaeus asked – what is going on? Jesus

1)He begins to cry out – **Jesus son of David – Messiah – Mercy**

C)**He has never seen Jesus but he believes the reports – Cries out!**

The crowd tells him to be quiet – Jesus is too important – doesn’t have time for someone like Bartimaeus - He quiets down – NO!!!!

A)HE yells out even louder – Jesus mercy on me.

B)Jesus stops – calls for him.

C) Bartimaeus – gets up – **takes off his coat** – comes to Jesus

1) Significance of taking off the COAT – **identity – beggars coat**

D) Rabboni – my master my teacher – my Lord sight

All of these are examples of how Jesus responds to the Desperate heart

A) The heart that comes to that place of realizing – Jesus I am nothing without you.

B) Jesus I am lost without you! – Jesus I am destitute –

C) A broken and contrite heart – He will not despise.

Now you might be thinking – Pastor Rob – I have definitely had those times when I have been desperate – times felt lost

A) But my life is pretty good right now – everything is going great – I feel blessed. – That is AWESOME

B) However – **we should never lose that sense of desperateness** and here is why.

1) James tells us **God's word is like a mirror** – what do mirrors do? THEY REFLECT

C) WE LOOK IN THE MIRROR OF GOD'S WORD and we see Jesus – **Perfect man** –

1) Always does what is right – always responds the right way

D) The perfect picture of Love and grace - Full of grace and truth

We see ourselves in comparison - Fall way – short –

A) We look at Calvary – this perfect man – hanging in air – Punished for a wrong he did not commit.

B) Punished **for our wrongs – our sin – taking our punishment**

C) We see him beaten – bloodied – humiliated before his enemies –

1) We know He has the power to consume them – destroy them

D) He **COULD Reverse the whole scene** – but He doesn't do that – because of His love for us – Lost man – Separated and restored –

E) We are moved to think - I have never known such love –

1) Never experienced that degree of Love

Hearts should break with a sense of desperation of how unlike Him we really are.

A) One last thought – A time when God did not respond to the desperate heart?

B) Garden – His son – Cried out – another way..... The Father was silent

C) Then at Calvary: **My God forsaken me** – the Father was silent

D) The Father was silent with His son – because His son – Jesus was paving the way – for us to be able to cry out and God respond.

E) Enemies become friends – Those afar off become – His family

1) That is what Jesus did for us

Climbing in the Spirit is accomplished by kneeling, and not by running; by surrender, and not by determination. Despair of self leads to utter desperation; but beyond these mist lies the sunshine of God's presence.