

DAYS 17 – 24: TRUST IN THE VALLEY

DAY 17 – How Long, O Lord?

Psalm 13

13 *How long wilt thou forget me, O LORD? for ever? How long wilt thou hide thy face from me?*

2 *How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily? how long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?*

3 *Consider and hear me, O LORD my God: lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death;*

4 *Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him; and those that trouble me rejoice when I am moved.*

5 *But I have trusted in thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice in thy salvation.*

6 *I will sing unto the LORD, because he hath dealt bountifully with me.*

Focus: Faith That Endures Waiting

Psalm 13 is one of the shortest psalms, yet it carries deep emotion. David cries, “How long, O Lord? Will You forget me forever?” This is the voice of waiting — the tension between promise and fulfillment. Lent is often a season of patience, where answers do not come quickly. Psalm 13 gives us permission to ask honest questions without losing faith.

The psalm moves from complaint to confidence. After pouring out his frustration, David declares, “But I have trusted in Your mercy; my heart shall rejoice in Your salvation.” That shift is the turning point. Faith does not deny the delay; it chooses to trust God’s steadfast love in the middle of it. Waiting refines us, deepens dependence, and strengthens hope.

As we reflect today, **Psalm 13** reminds us that even when God seems silent, He is not absent. Honest lament can lead to renewed trust. In every “How long?” there is an opportunity to rediscover God’s faithfulness.

Prayer: Patient Lord, when waiting feels long and answers seem delayed, strengthen our faith. Help us to trust Your mercy and rejoice in Your salvation. Sustain us as we wait on You. Amen.