Ps 56:8-9* God is for Me!

Nobody Likes to Loose.

<u>Illus</u>: I hate losing.

<u>Illus</u>: If Scott Showed up, we won!

Illus: Went to the State Championships my Freshman year.

They from a bigger school. More Fans.

The Ref's called everything. We couldn't catch a break.

We went home devastated.

It seemed like every way we turned, we were hitting a wall.

Have you every felt like that? God, can I catch a break?

This is how David felt in Ps 56

King Saul was hunting David, so David fled to the Philistines at Gath. (He had been raiding their towns)

Though living under the protection of Achish, king of Gath, it was a perilous time for David, he secretly continued to raid other Philistine towns.

The Warlords were starting to suspect him.

Jona-thelem-re-chokim literally means "the silent dove of far-off places."

The thought is of a muted dove in a frightened situation.

The application undoubtedly is to David as he spent those months in Philistia.

While in Philistia, David was like a dove in strangers' hands. Upon his escape, he records his gratitude.

He starts this Psalm by pleading his case with God. Vs 1 Be merciful unto me, O God: for man would swallow me up; he fighting daily oppresseth me. Vs 2 Mine enemies would daily swallow me up: for they be many that fight against me, O thou most High.

Please Be Merciful unto me.

I don't Deserve it.

I already have so many enemies. Not you too God.

Let me be crossways with every one else, but not you.

I. Everything God does is for My Good: (Rom 8:28)

Vs 3 What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee.

I will not let the Fear of Man, Pain, Loss, my trust is not in others, only you.

II. God gave me Salvation!

Vs 4 In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me.

His Promises are sure.

God cannot Lie!

Man has to get through God to get to me.

God is for Me! (Rom 8:31) "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"

(LK 19:10) Seek and to Save!

<u>Illus</u>: Flowers at the Office, "Those are for Me!" Prayer in the garden:

(Jn 12:27) For this cause I came

(Mat 26:39-42) *Those were for Me!*

Agony: (Lk 22:44) Drops of blood. Those were for Me!

Strips: (Is 50:6) Those were for Me!

(Is 53:4-6) Those were for ME!

(Heb 2:3a) *How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation:*

God Gave Me the Holy Spirit

(Rom 5:5) And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

III. God gave me the Church!

Vs 5 Every day they wrest my words: all their thoughts are against me for evil.

They are trying to discredit me.

6 They gather themselves together, they hide themselves, they mark my steps, when they wait for my soul.

They are looking for the opportunity to trip me.

They are looking for the opportunity to cast me down.

7 Shall they escape by iniquity? in thine anger cast down the people, O God.

Nothing Escapes your sight Lord.

(Rom 12:19) Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

God gave me the Church to Encourage ME! (Heb 10:24)

- a. *Illus: Spiritual Dialysis!* (Heb 10:25)
- b. Weak and sickly-Spiritually Anemic!
- c. Lift each other up: (Gal 6:1)
- d. Edify/Build each other" (Rom 14:19, 1 Th 5:11)

IV. You may think, "God doesn't care about me!"

Vs 8 Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: are they not in thy book?

- a. You are in God's Scrap Book (Mal 3:16) "Book of Remembrance"
- b. (Mk 4:38-40) "Carest thou not that we perish?"
- i. <u>Tears-</u> (Ps 56:8) Every hurt, pain loss. <u>Illus</u>: Everyone of my grey hairs has a name and a memory!
 - ii. Steps: (Ps 139:1-3 Ps 1:6) Knoweth the way of the righteous.

<u>Illus</u>: Like every school play, every sporting event! He is there and taking pictures.

iii. Prayers: (Rev 5:8) He keeps your prayers in bottles like precious love notes.

Every request, Every Burden, Every Care & Concern. (1 Pet 5:7) Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

Illus: Josh's nightmares.

"Daddy I can't see you, Yes son, but I am here."

God is for me!

Vs 9 When I cry unto thee, then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for **God is for me.**

V. God gave me His Word! to comfort and Guide Me (VS 10) In God will I praaise his word: in the LORD will I praise his word.

(Rom 15:4) For whatsoever things were <u>written aforetime</u> <u>were written for our learning</u>, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures <u>might have hope</u>.

(Psa 138:2b) magnified thy word above all thy name.

VI. I am struggling so terribly: I have His Immutable Character to trust in.

(VS 11) In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me.

<u>I can't Take It!</u> No one has ever had to struggle like me. a. Oh Hush! God is For You!

(1 Cor 10:13) There hath no temptation taken you but <u>such</u> as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

VII. Don't Quit: (1 Cor 10:13)

a. "<u>God is faithful"</u> He Will Come Through! (Heb 13:5b) *I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.* (Psa 37:25) *I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.*

God has given us everything we need to live for Him!

(2 Pet 1:3-4) According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: 4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

b. "Way of Escape"

(2 Pet 2:9) The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

c. "Able to Bear it" "I'm not strong enough to handle it"

God is able to strengthen us to meet every challenge!

God has your back!

(James 4:6) But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

VIII. So Let me ask you: (Rom 8:31) "If God be for us, who can be against us?"

a. God is on our Side!

IX. (1 John 4:4) Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

In Faith, I will Pray, Praise,

Vs 12 Thy vows are upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee.

I posses Eternal Life now!

I don't have to wait til eternity to receive you promises and blessings.

Vs 13 For thou hast delivered my soul from death: wilt not thou deliver my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of the living?

While in Philistia, David was like a dove in strangers' hands. Upon his escape, he records his gratitude.

My relationship with God is NOW, not then.

Brother & Sisters, God is Us!

If you can't hear His voice, Trust His Promises! If you can't see His hand, Trust His Character! If you can't feel His Presence, Trust His Heart!