Cry of the Righteous

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi

Coordinator

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Topic:

CRY OF THE RIGHTEOUS

Bible Text: Psalm 120:1

Teacher: Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank You for another blessed day You gave us, as we are about to begin our study, let Your Holy spirit take absolute control. Give us wisdom and understanding, let every word that we are going to learn here stay in our heart in Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

Introduction

I welcome you all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I hope we all had a lovely sabbath day. May the blessings of God not cease from our lives in Jesus Christ name, Amen. We would quickly look into some important truth of the scriptures, and I would really enjoin us to aptly follow, as the Holy Spirit is set to illuminate our hearts with the Light of His word.

Study

Psalm 120:1 KJV

In my distress I cried unto the Lord, and he heard me.

Someone might be wondering if the righteous do cry, and can say if he cries maybe he's not righteous in the first place. Today, we would establish the fact that the righteous do cry, and what's the cry of the righteous, and how to overcome it? In this passage of the scriptures we see the psalmist pray for relief from bitter foes. He said that in his distress he cried to the Lord.

Firstly, before a man can remember the Lord, that is, to run to the Lord in his distress, it must have been that he knows the Lord. For someone who does not know the Lord can never seek Him for help. Rather, he would go to his gods. Talking about distress, it is pain or suffering affecting the body, a bodily part or the mind: trouble; it is a painful situation. This tells us that even the righteous can pass through painful situations. At the end of this chapter the psalmist said he is for peace but they are for war which means that, despite that he always chooses to be for Peace, trying all he could to follow peace with all men and holiness without which no man shall see the

Lord. **Hebrews 12:14 KJV** **Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: They do not want peace so they keep causing him troubles.**

Those troubles can be related to the worries of the soul and mind; it can also be physical troubles, but in whichever way, he saw that it is only God that can deliver him. So he cried, he did not only choose to cry lamenting about his troubles as many do in hopelessness, he was not crying complaining either, he was not crying that he might be pitied by men. But he cried unto the Lord Who is able to grant him deliverance, he cried unto the Lord who can grant him succor. Just like Jonah cried out of the belly of the fish. **Jonah 2:2 KJV** **And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the Lord, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice.**

Jonah though a righteous prophet found himself disobeying God and he was punished by God, when he realized his mistakes in the moment of his afflictions, he repented and cried to the Lord. These holy men knew Who you cry to. When we are afflicted, when we are troubled, when we are faced with challenges, who do we cry to? Do we cry to the Lord or do we cry to men? If Jonah had not known the right Person to cry to in the belly of the fish he would have died there and his corpse wouldn't have been found. If he was the type that was fond of crying to his wife, pastor or friend he would have died in the belly of the fish because none of these people were present inside the fish's belly to help him; but he cried to the Lord. We have heard of cases whereby people were kidnapped and did not know who to cry to, if some children are kidnapped they would only be shouting "my mummy, my daddy", Kai!, If your children get into trouble and all they are shouting is your name it means that you have successfully trained them to know you as their Savior and not the Lord Jesus Christ.

Children who are well-trained and nurtured in Christ would consciously and subconsciously run to the Lord for help before running to their parents. There are children who refuse to deny their faith in Christ when they were kidnapped and asked to renounce their faith. Daniel, Shedrack, Meshach, and Abednego found themselves in Babylon, they never knew they would find themselves there, these four teenagers were not of the same parents but there was something common about them which singled them out and it was their faith in the God of Israel. Most times we talk about their stand in the land of Babylon saying it is good, teenagers who knew the Lord, but we often leave out the fact that their parents must have put conscious efforts in

place for them to know the laws and commandments of the living God. They must have made them know that working with the Lord has to do with personal relationships which was why they did not defile themselves, though their parents were not present to scold them, yet they stood for righteousness and holiness. Were they the only teenagers that were taken to Babylon? No! Just that others compromised! and we never heard of them to date. Little compromise in our faith can delete our names from the book of records that contains the names of the faithful. **Daniel 1:19 KJV** **And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood they before the king.**

These ones were then blessed by the Lord, the Lord did not take them out of Babylon but He made them to be lights in the midst of darkness. God will not take a man out of this wicked world because he is faithful to Him, He will only keep him and make him shine to bring others to the light. Some of the children that were taken to Babylon must have said "at least my parents are not here so I'm free to do what I want." It's pathetic to see that many keep raising children in this generation who do not fear God and since they do not fear God they cannot run to Him in their troubles, nor stand for Him. Some parents place more attention and resources on their children's education and pay little or no attention on their children's spiritual growth. That is why they can pay thousands of dollars to send them to school and even get private lesson teachers to teach their children after school because they believe education is all their children need to be great. They wake these children up to go to school early but on worship days they would never do so, but leave them to go to the presence of God anytime they want; how many parent employ bible teachers to teach their children the word of God? Many would not even encourage them to attend Bible studies which is free of charge, many do this because church is free, forgetting Christ paid for it with His blood. While some of the teenagers who are willing to go and learn God's words are stopped by many parents, how then will these children know the Lord God Almighty? even as family altars are always dry, as they sleep while fellowshipping. That's if there is still an altar in the home, because many are already broken down, no more family altar! Very pathetic. Alas! On Judgment Day many parents would go to hell because of how they handled their children which made them go wayward.

The psalmist cried to the Lord, many cry to their bosses when faced with difficult situations, some cry to their husbands, some to their neighbors.

Before crying to any man make sure God has heard about it. In fact there are times you have to cry to the Lord alone because there are some situations where it is only God that can solve them. He said the Lord heard him just like Jonah, God heard him! Though he was in serious thick darkness inside the belly of the fish, which was why he called it hell because it is hell that is filled with darkness, in fact the Lord often refers to hell as a place of outer darkness. **Matthew 25:30 KJV** **And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**

The word of God never said the righteous would not pass through troubles, it never said that we would not find ourselves in distress but God promised us Deliverance. In fact he said many are the afflictions of the righteous, not few but many, if as a righteous man you are always afraid, please don't be dismayed, many are your afflictions "but" there is a but there, The Lord whom the righteous cry to would deliver him not out of few of his affliction but all of them.

Psalm 34:17 KJV **The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles**. From these portions of the scriptures, we are able to see the category of those whom the Lord listens to and delivers from all their troubles, they are the righteous ones not those who are unfaithful to Him. This means that no matter the situation you are passing through just remain righteous, you will be delivered but the moment you decide to go after other gods then problems would overcome you because God's promises of deliverance are for the righteous. *May you not be overcome by your problems in Jesus Christ's name.*

God's word does not fail, and will never fail. If He says He will deliver those who are righteous from all of their troubles then He will do so, He does not change and does not lie. Many of those whom you think have been overcome by their troubles must have compromised their stand with and in God which made it so, because if they remain faithful and righteous then troubles would never overcome them. Now concerning what you are passing through, who do you want to run to? Is it God or men? At times, it looks as if God is slow, in that kind of situation you have to put your mind at rest by being patient because He will surely come through, in as much as you remain faithful and righteous to Him. Haven't you started compromising your righteous stand because of the troubles you face at work? Compromise only proves that you are capable of delivering yourself from the hands of those who afflict you. You are tired of the troubles you face because of your godly dressing at work, so you have chosen to compromise and trade with

your righteousness by adding a little touch of worldliness to your righteousness. Remember that a little touch of worldliness to your righteous stand is altogether unrighteousness. Your spouse keeps telling you to give in to demonic sexual positions, you know these are sins before the Lord but because they threatened to have concubines or divorce, so you decided to give in. As a student, just because you see your mates living fine in school by adding an extra amount of money to the school fees, you decide to do the same by inflating the amount of your school fees, price of books, projects, materials etc because you are facing hardship in school. You are already adding a touch of worldliness to your righteousness, and God may not listen to your cry because of this. How many times have you slept with that lecturer because he said you will not graduate if you do not do so? You laid down your prestige, and your pride just because you do not want to fail. Hmmm, yet you keep crying to God that you want a first class. Do you think God will listen to you now? You were threatened not to preach the gospel again then you stopped because you are afraid of them, yet you are crying day and night for power and that you want God to take you to the next level, would you be able to preach to those at the top because of fear if God answers that prayer? What about you who have been praying for promotion at work, yet you join others to turn figures and even take and give bribes, you are already unrighteous before God, you need to repent if God must answer your prayers. You are praying that God should give you a God fearing partner, this is the cry you raise to Him daily, yet you keep fornicating, sleeping with every Dick and Harry who promises you marriage. God does not deliver those who are unrighteous, return to Him.

Tithes and offerings are reducing just because you are preaching the undiluted truths of the word of God so you decide to water the gospel down to accommodate the goats among the sheep, yet you keep crying to God to expand your ministry. You see it is painful to see strong believers who had at one time waved the flag of righteousness now being overcome by their troubles because they could no longer hold on due to the many afflictions and persecutions that came their way. Many preachers of righteousness have now become preachers of heresies because they cannot withstand the attacks anymore, this troubles made them shift grounds on their convictions, as such they were overpowered.

If you hold on to God not departing from His ways, your victory is certain. Satan knows that a man who is uncompromisingly righteous is unbeatable by him. So the first thing he does to catch such is to try as much as possible

to make him unrighteous. He knows God does not joke with the righteous and would never give them over to him to destroy. No matter what you pass through don't joke with your life of holiness and righteousness, by this your testimony is sure.

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