

PSALM 6:1-10

CHAPTER STUDIES ON THE PSALTER

"God's absence was the main cause of David"

(Ps. 6:3) My soul is also sore vexed: but thou, O LORD, how long? God's absence was the main cause of David's misery. The Lord's return would be enough to deliver him from trouble.

(Ps. 6:4) Return, O LORD, deliver my soul: oh save me for thy mercies' sake. He knows where to look and what arm to grasp. He does not hold God's left hand of justice; he holds His right hand of mercy. David knew his iniquity too well to appeal to anything but the grace of God. For Your mercies' sake! What a plea! How prevailing it is with God! If we turn to justice, what plea can we use? But if we turn to mercy, we may cry, despite the greatness of our guilt, Save me for Your mercies' sake!

(Ps. 6:6) The psalmist gives a fearful description of his long agony, **I am weary with my groaning**. He groaned until he was hoarse. He cried for mercy until prayer became an effort. God's people may groan, but they may not complain. Yes, burdened they must groan, or they will never shout in the day of deliverance.

All night (when nature needs rest and when I am most alone) **I make my bed swim**. My grief is fearful. If God does not save me soon, my tears will be so many that my bed

will swim. This is a description of what David feared, not what took place.

You must weep, but keep it short. Get up, get up, from your garbage heaps. Throw away your sackcloth and ashes! **"Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning"** (Ps. 30:5). David has found peace. Rising from his knees he sweeps the house.

(Ps. 6:8) Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity. The best remedy against evil is a long space. "Be gone; I can have no fellowship with you." Repentance is practical. It is not enough to regret the desecration of the heart's temple, we must scourge out the buyers and sellers and overturn the money changers' tables. A pardoned sinner will hate the sins that cost the Savior His blood. Grace and sin are quarrelsome neighbors. One or the other must go. (*The Treasury of David*, Charles Haddon Spurgeon, updated by Mark Wash)

What should our reaction be to the words of Psalm 6:1? Ps. 6:2

David may be thinking that it is his own sin that has caused this trouble upon him. How does he handle this suspicion? Ps. 6:2-3, 8-10