

“The Change Prayer Makes”

Psalm 13:1-6

Tuesday Bible Lunch

February 26, 2019

Introduction: I was introduced to Psalm 13 forty-nine years ago and it was at the time not a good experience. I was in my final year of seminary and needed some direction with a decision Dottie and I were dealing with. One of the people I went to for advice was Dr. Robert Baker. Dr. Baker was the head of the Church History Department at Southwestern Seminary and I was his grader my senior year at Seminary. Graders were compensated which helped. Even though I was Dr. Baker’s grader, our relationship was more academic than personal which is one reason I wanted to get his opinion. I felt that he would be honest with me.

I made an appointment to see Dr. Baker to get his counsel. He listened very carefully as I shared my situation. Then he said, “I think you need to become familiar with Psalm 13.” He then told me to memorize the Psalm and write in three words what I learned about David from the Psalm.

I left his office very discouraged. I had come for advice and left with Bible study homework. I had no choice except to do what he had told me to do and I did. I still remember going back to his office with my three words. Dr. Baker looked at my three words and suggested three other words that would be something I could remember in years to come.

The Three Words Dr. Baker suggested:

1. Perplexity (verses 1-2)
2. Prayer (verses 3-4)
3. Peace (verses 5-6).

Conclusion: Prayer is the expression of our powerlessness and dependence on God.

- This probably explains one reason people pray so little.
- Seeing ourselves powerless is a hard “pill” to swallow.
- Complete dependence on God is not natural for us.

Dr. Baker gave me good advice. Start with God in prayer and completely trust Him. The way you will know is that you will have peace about what to do.