FOR THY MERCIES’SAKE

**DATE: 8/7/2011 am**

**TEXT: Psalm 6**

**INTRODUCTION**

The pre-script tells us that David wrote this psalm

But we aren't sure when he wrote it

Some believe it was during Absalom’s Rebellion

Others believe it was in regards to David’s sin with Bathsheba and the death of Uriah

Be aware that there is no chronological order to the psalms

Either way, he describes his plight *–*

→ *“His fears within”* in **vs. 1-7**

→*“And the foes without”* in **vs. 8-10**

Neginoth means *“stringed instruments”*

Last week we saw the word Nehiloth to mean *“flutes”*

Sheminith means *“eighth,”* which may refer to the number of a familiar melody,

Or a lower octave for men's voices or the number of strings of the instrument to be played

You find Sheminith also in the title of **Psalm 12** and mentioned in **I Chronicles 15:21**

Of the 150 psalms, there are 7 that are called penitential psalms or …

Psalms of Penitence, which speak of someone being repentant over their sin

**Psalm 6** is the first of these types of psalms

The others are **Psalms 32, 38, 51, 102, 130** and **143**

In **Psalm 6** we see the heart of God as He deals with the heart of one of His children

David was sure he was facing certain death (**v.5**)

This indicates that his experience was real and that he wasn’t using sickness and war as metaphors for his personal troubles

Let’s read **v. 4** and note a very special expression –

Note that he cries out to God for mercy

***“For Thy mercies’ sake”***

How can we approach the Lord?

How can sinful men approach a Holy God?

This can happen only because of His mercy

David cried out and said –

*“I need deliverance and salvation for Thy mercies’ sake”*

We come to God, not on our own Merit, but by His Mercy

In **Luke 18:9-14** we read the story of a publican [tax collector] who recognized he was a sinner and said –

***“God be merciful to me”***

The word ***“merciful”*** here is connected with the Mercy Seat

He said – *“I don’t need justice. I need the mercy seat!”*

This is the only way to God

We are all sinners in need of the mercy of God

Let’s pray and look at David’s plea for God’s Mercy

David said – ***“For Thy Mercies’ Sake”***

**~~~Prayer~~~**

**I. THE “CHASTENING” OF THE SAINT**

May God be merciful to all of us

We all need as much mercy as we can get

In **v.1** David says –

***“O LORD, rebuke me not in Thine anger, neither chasten me in Thy hot displeasure”***

Make special note of the words ***“rebuke”*** and ***“chasten”***

When God deals with those of us that are His children,

He deals with us, first, thru His Word, then with the Rod

We have the opportunity to listen to His Word and not feel His Rod

If we do not harken to His Word, we shall surely feel His Rod

There is no way to escape it

**A. The ‘Methods’ Used**

First, let me say that God does not correct unbelievers

**John 3:18 – *“He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God”***

**Romans 5:18 – *“Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life”***

**Hebrews 12:7, 8 – *“If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?”   
“But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons”***

If you can get by in your sin without being chastened,

Then you need to seriously think about whether or not you are truly a child of God

A lot of folks have the idea that they are going to have to pay for their sin

That is just not true, let’s get the theology straight

Jesus paid for all of our sin on the cross

H. G. Spafford had it right when he wrote –

*“My sin – not in part, but the whole – is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!”*

If you pay for sin, it is going to be in death and hell

**1. God’s Word**

**II Timothy 3:16 – *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable - for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:”*** [an alteration that removes an error]

**I Corinthians 11:28 - 34**

**II Corinthians 13:5 – *“Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?”*** [counterfeit]

If someone will heed God’s Warnings in God’s Word

Then they will not have to endure God’s chastisement **–**

**I John 1:9**

**2. God’s Rod**

**Psalm 89:32 – *“Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes”***

**Proverbs 22:15 – *“Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him”***

**Hebrews 12:1-11**

**Proverbs 3:11, 12**

**B. The ‘Means’ Utilized**

**1. Removal of Joy**

**Psalm 51:12 – *“Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit”***

**2. Removal of material possessions**

**Job 1**

**3. Sickness of self or others**

**Job 2**

**I Corinthians 11:28 - 34**

**4. Premature death**

**I Corinthians 5:5 – *“To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus”***

Let me clarify one thing here,

Not every hardship or sickness is a chastening of the Lord

Sometimes God chastens us in order to deal with our disobedience,

But at other times, He allows things to happen to prepare us for what lies ahead

God will always speak to us and let us know the purpose of our sufferings

**THE “CHASTENING” OF THE SAINT**

**II. THE “CONSEQUENCES” OF THE SIN**

Notice the Consequences of sin, as we continue

David declares in **vs. 2 & 3** –

***“Have mercy upon me, O LORD; for I am weak: O LORD, heal me; for my bones are vexed”***

***“My soul is also sore vexed: but thou, O LORD, how long?”***

Notice in **v.2** David is talking about his *body* and in **v.3** about his *soul*

In each case he uses the word ***“vexed”***

This means to be *“faint, weak, troubled,* and *terrified”*

It means to *“tremble inwardly”*

It is the same emotion Epaphroditus experienced in **Philippians 2:26** when he ***“was full of heaviness”*** for the believers in Philipp

It was the same emotion Christ felt in the garden when He was ***“exceeding sorrowful”*** in **Mark 14:34** & **Matthew 26:38**

**A. The Havoc it Plays on our ‘Bodies’ – v.2**

***“I am weak: O LORD, heal me; for my bones are vexed”***

We just saw in **I Corinthians 11** that weakness is a part of chastening

Remember David was a very strong man

He killed a lion and a bear in his youth

And we can’t forget about the giant, Goliath

Yet now, sin was playing havoc on this body

David says – *“I am not the man I once was. I feel it in my body”*

In **vs.6 & 7** he says – ***“I am weary with my groaning; all the night make I my bed to swim; I water my couch with my tears”  
“Mine eye is consumed because of grief;”***

This is a consequence of sin

**B. The Havoc it Plays on our ‘Souls’ – v.3**

***“My soul is also sore vexed”***

In our souls reside the *intellect, emotion*, and the *will*

It’s the soul that *informs* the body

The body *performs* for the soul

At times people do things with their bodies that they should not do

As a result, they experience the chastisement of God in both their bodies and their souls

The one that *informs* and the one that *performs* both suffer the effects and consequences of sin

**C. The Havoc it Plays on our ‘Lives’ – v.5**

***“For in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?”***

David asks *– “I’m I going to die?”*

As I mentioned before, some Christians die prematurely because of their sin

I do not know when a person crosses that line, but I know it happens

Many of God’s children have lost the idea of the Horribleness of sin

The reason is because we have lost sight of the Holiness of God

**THE “CHASTENING” OF THE SAINT**

**THE “CONSEQUENCES” OF THE SIN**

**III. THE “CRY” OF THE SINNER**

Our text says in **v.8** –

***“Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity; for the LORD hath heard the voice of my weeping”***

What a tremendous thought!

There is hope

One’s life does not have to end in darkness

The painful things we suffer because of our sin does not have to be the final chapter of our life

**A. The Devil’s ‘Attempt’**

**1. First the Devil ‘Invites’**

The Devil says – *“Come, join in”, “Have a good time”, “Get involved”, “Indulge yourself”*

You heed, you cross that barrier

The world says – *“What the big deal” “it’s not going to hurt to have a little fun”*

But has a Christian God holds you to a higher standard

He does not hold the world to the same standard

Even within the Churches, among the saved …

God hold some to an even higher standard than others

**2. Then the Devil ‘Accuses’**

First the Devil Invites, then he becomes the Accuser

First he is your Host, then he is your slanderer

He is a liar and a deceiver

He turns on you, like the beast he really is and says –

*“This is your life. This is what has become of it. This is what you are. This is what you are going to always be”*

**The Devil’s ‘Attempts’**

**B. God’s ‘Provision’**

David says – Not so

Let’s read **vs. 8-10**

David says – *“The Lord God broke through, He has dealt with me. He has rebuked and chastened me. I have dealt with my sin. I have confessed it and repented of it. I have called on the Lord. He has heard my weeping”*

Tears have a voice that God listens to

**CONCLUSION**

David says – “The Lord has come to me “**For His mercies’ sake”**

God always deals with His children with the ultimate goal of bringing them to the place of restoration and usefulness again

This is what the Lord does

The Lord Jesus is a wonderful Saviour

Tell the dirty Devil that only God knows the last chapter

He is able to make it a happy ending

**THE “CHASTENING” OF THE SAINT**

**THE “CONSEQUENCES” OF THE SIN**

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