

Psalm 88

Page
597



THIS MORNING WE LOOK AT MAN
NAMED ***HEMAN THE EZRAHITE***
WHO EXPERIENCED A GOOD DEAL
OF DARKNESS THROUGHOUT HIS
LIFE

I Am I Said....



- But I got an emptiness deep inside
And I've tried
But it won't let me go
And I'm not a man who likes to swear
But I never cared
For the sound of being alone



"I am"... I said
To no one there
And no one heard at all
Not even the chair
"I am"... I cried
"I am"... said I
**And I am lost and I can't
Even say why**
"I am"... I said
"I am"... I cried
"I am"... I said

I Am Said I **I AM...**

- **Psalm 88 v1-2**
- ¹ LORD, you are the God who saves me;
day and night I cry out to you.
- ² May my prayer come before you;
turn your ear to my cry.

**A song.
A psalm of the Sons of Korah.
For the director of music.
According to *mahalath leannoth*.
A *maskil* of Heman the Ezrahite.**

- **Persistent In Prayer**

I Am Said I **I AM...**

V3-5 - I'm As Good As Dead

- ³ **I am overwhelmed** with troubles and my life draws near to death.
- ⁴ **I am counted** among those who go down to the pit; **I am like** one without strength.
- ⁵ **I am set apart** with the dead, like the slain who lie in the grave, whom you remember no more, who are cut off from your care.

Observer his **vulnerability/brutal honesty** before God

I Am Said I I AM...

V6-8 “Your To Blame God...”

- ⁶ **You have put** me in the lowest pit,
in the darkest depths.
- ⁷ **Your wrath** lies heavily on me;
you have overwhelmed me with all your waves
- ⁸ **You have taken** from me my closest friends
and have made me repulsive to them.
I am confined and cannot escape;
- ⁹ my eyes are dim with grief.
I call to you, LORD, every day;
I spread out my hands to you.

Isolated- Overwhelmed -Lonely- Depressed –Trapped
(we would say cut off from everything & everyone)

V10-14 Questioning God's Methods

- **What's your purpose God ?**
- ¹⁰ Do you show your wonders to the dead?
Do their spirits rise up and praise you?
- ¹¹ Is your love declared in the grave,
your faithfulness in Destruction^[e]
- ¹² Are your wonders known in the place of darkness,
or your righteous deeds in the land of oblivion?
- ¹³ But **I cry** to you for help, LORD;
in the morning my prayer comes before you.
- ¹⁴ **Why**, LORD, do you reject me
and hide your face from me

Meet only with sound of silence??

I Am Said I....



- ¹⁵ From my youth **I have** suffered and been close to death;
I have borne **your terrors** and **am in despair**.
- ¹⁶ **Your wrath** has swept over me;
your terrors have destroyed me.
- ¹⁷ All day long they surround me like a flood;
they have completely engulfed me
- ¹⁸ **You have taken** from me friend and neighbour—
darkness is my closest friend.

**Lifetime of Suffering- In Despair- Wrath- Terrior
completely engulfed -**

I Am Said I.... **I AM...**

15. From my youth **I have** suffered and been close to death;
I have borne **your terrors** and am in despair.
16. **Your wrath** has swept over me;
your terrors have destroyed me.
17. All day long they surround me like a flood;
they have completely engulfed me
18. **You have taken** from me friend and neighbour—
darkness is my closest friend.

- **Long-term Suffering**
- **Terror- Despair**
- **-Destroyed**
- **Completely- Engulfed**
- **Utter –Isolation**

Profile of Heman



1 Chronicles 15:16-18 (NIV)

- ¹⁶ David told the leaders of the Levites to appoint their fellow Levites as musicians to make a joyful sound with musical instruments: lyres, harps and cymbals.
- ¹⁷ So the Levites appointed **Heman son of Joel; from his relatives,**
- **1 Chronicles 16:42**
- **Heman** and Jeduthun were responsible for the sounding of the trumpets and cymbals and for the playing of the other instruments for sacred song

1 Chronicles 25:5 (NIV)

- ⁵ (All these were sons of Heman the **king's seer**. They were given him through the promises of God to exalt him. God gave Heman **fourteen sons** and **three daughters**.) **(6) Heman** reported directly to the king.
- 1 Kings 4:31 (NIV)
- ³¹ He (*Solmon*) was wiser than anyone else, including Ethan the Ezrahite—**wiser than Heman**, Kalkol and Darda, the sons of Mahol. And his fame spread to all the surrounding nations.



Neil Diamond

- But I got an emptiness deep inside
And I've tried
But it won't let me go
And I'm not a man who likes to swear
But I never cared
For the sound of being alone

- "I am" ... I said
To no one there
And no one heard at all
Not even the chair
"I am" ... I cried
"I am" ... said I
And I am lost and I can't
Even say why
Leavin me lonely still

- "I am" ... I said
- "I am" ... I cried
- "I am" ... said I

- **I am... ?**

Application

- He's describing deep **mental/ emotional pain/ distress isolation, loneliness, depressed, despair rejection, man and silence from God.**
- (a) Is this accurate description of your life this night?
That's exactly me?
- (b) I can identify with some stuff: isolation, loneliness or rejection by man or silence from God

I am said I **I AM**?



According to *mahalath leannoah*.^[b] A *maskil*^[e] of Heman the
Ezrahite.



- ¹ LORD, you are the God who saves me;
day and night I cry out to you.
- ² May my prayer come before you;
turn your ear to my cry.
- ³ I am overwhelmed with troubles
and my life draws near to death.
- ⁴ I am counted among those who
go down to the pit;
I am like one without strength.
- ⁵ I am set apart with the dead,
like the slain who lie in the
grave,
whom you remember no more,
who are cut off from your care.
- ⁶ You have put me in the lowest pit,
in the darkest depths.
- ⁷ Your wrath lies heavily on me;
you have overwhelmed me with
all your waves.^[d]
- ⁸ You have taken from me my
closest friends
and have made me repulsive to
them.
I am confined and cannot escape;
- ⁹ my eyes are dim with grief.
I call to you, LORD, every day;



- **10** Do you show your wonders to the dead?
Do their spirits rise up and praise you?
- **11** Is your love declared in the grave,
your faithfulness in Destruction^[e]?
- **12** Are your wonders known in the place
of darkness,
or your righteous deeds in the land of
oblivion?
- **13** But I cry to you for help, LORD;
in the morning my prayer comes
before you.
- **14** Why, LORD, do you reject me
and hide your face from me?
- **15** From my youth I have
suffered and been close to death;
I have borne your terrors and am
in despair.
- **16** Your wrath has swept over me;
your terrors have destroyed me.
- **17** All day long they surround me
like a flood;
they have completely engulfed
me.
- **18** You have taken from me
friend and neighbor—
darkness is my closest friend.