



Betrayed
Psalm 55:1-23
#6 in a series on the Psalms
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Theme: **God Always Sustains Those Who Trust Him.**

What Happened.

1. The betrayer's actions. (3, 18, 21; cf. 10:7; 35:19-21; 36:3; 52:1-4; 56:1-2; 57:4; 109:2-5; Matthew 12:36; Ephesians 4:29)
2. The betrayer's character. (9-11, 15, 19, 23; cf. 27:12; 36:3; 52:2; 56:5; 64:5)
3. The betrayer's identity. (12-14; cf. 41:9 compare John 13:18; Job 19:19)

How He Felt.

1. Unsettled. (2; cf. 119:143; Job 4:14; 7:11)
2. Deadly terror. (4; cf. 18:4-5; 116:3)
3. Overwhelming horror. (5; cf. 31:13; 69:1-2; 119:143; contrast Psalm 23:4; 27:1, 3; 118:6)
4. A tidal wave of desire to run away. (6-8)

How He Responded.

1. To God for himself. (1, 2, 16, 17, 18, 23; cf. 18:3; 27:9; 50:15; 54:2; 56:3, 11; 64:1; 69:16-17; 102:1-2)
2. To God for his enemies. (15, 23; cf. 35:1-8; 58:6-9; 59:12-13; 64:7; 69:22-28; 109:6-13; 139:19-21)
3. To others in similar situations. (22; cf. 15:5; 22:8; 37:1-5, 23-24, 39-40; 40:1-4; 62:5-8; 112:1-6; 1 Peter 5:6-7)

In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

Monday. *be-tray*: to act treacherously; to be disloyal to; to break a trust or promise; to deceive. You probably don't need a definition of betrayal. We see it all around us. Sometimes it comes crashing into us, overwhelming us as it did to King David. The closer the relationship, the deeper the trust, the deeper the wound, the more agonizing the pain.

Read Psalm 55. During this week determine with God and walk the path of facing and moving forward with respect to past or present acts of betrayal you have received or inflicted.

Tuesday. Read Psalm 55 noting what happened to King David. We are not told who the betrayer was or when this took place but we can see something of the person, his character and actions in the Psalm. Check some of the references on the outline under "What Happened." What similarities do you see to when you have been betrayed or betrayed someone?

Wednesday. Read 55:1-5 listing the descriptions of how King David felt when he was betrayed. Have you experienced those feelings? Now read verses 6-8. The mighty Warrior King wanted to run away. Why do you think this was so different from his response to opposing armies? When we experience unsettled feelings, deadly terror and overwhelming horror we come face to face with the options of fight or flight. Most, if not all of us, have wished we could just fly away "from the stormy wind and tempest" (verse 8). Tomorrow we will look at what King David actually did.

Thursday. Today we look at how King David actually responded to being betrayed by a close friend. Verses 1, 2, 16 and 17 describe his ongoing prayer, pleas and complaints to God. He ran to, not away from God. Then David had confidence that God would save him, would "redeem his soul in peace" from the attack and his internal devastation. He summed it up in the last line, "But I will trust in You." Have you been, are trusting God for the turmoil you have faced?

What do you make of the King's prayers for his enemies in verses 15 and 23? Check some of the other references on the outline and any notes you made on Sunday to help you with these difficult words. Finally, in verse 15 King David gives others counsel based on his experience. What is your part? What will God then do for you?

Friday–Saturday. On Sunday we plan to look at Psalm 19. Read and think through this Psalm as you prepare for our time of worship together.

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