



Riverstone
BAPTIST CHURCH

Sermon Based Questions

Date- Sunday 7th October 2018
Series- Songs of prayer & praise 7

Remember Zion!

*5 If I forget you, Jerusalem,
may my right hand forget its skill.*

*6 May my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth
if I do not remember you,
if I do not consider Jerusalem
my highest joy. (Psalm 137:5-6)*

1. May I never forget you Jerusalem. (137:1-6)

2. May your enemies get their just deserts. (Psalm 137:7-9)

A. Examining the texts.

1. Read Psalm 137:1-6. What happened in Babylon and how were the exiled Hebrews taunted?
2. Read Psalm 137:7-9. What does the Psalmist want the Lord to remember? Why does he pray for this and what is he wanting the Lord to do?
3. Read Psalm 137:8-9. According to these verses- who are those who are said to be happy? Does this shock you? Why?
4. Read Matthew 5:7-9 & Romans 12:14-21. What do these verses reveal about blessedness or happiness in the face of dealing with enemies? How does this fulfill or speak into the dark request in Psalm 137:8-9?

B. Meditation & application

5. Do you have any enemies or have you experienced injustice or mistreatment at the hands of another? If you have what does Psalm 137 teach you about dealing with anger in your prayer life and worship?
6. What does Jesus (Matthew 5:7-9) and Paul (Romans 12:14-21) teach you about relating with ones enemies?
7. Do you think its ok to pray your anger (See Psalm 137:8-9, Psalm 3:7, Psalm 10:15, Psalm 58:6, Psalm 110:6)? Why do you think the Psalmist thought it was ok to pray in this way and what place might such a prayer have in your prayer life as you approach God?
8. What do you make of the following quote from Eugene Peterson; *“Who let this in our prayer book? Hadn’t we better get it out? A lot of people think so- but they are wrong headed because our hate needs to be prayed, not suppressed. Hate is our emotional link with the spirituality of evil- and if it is not prayed we have lost an essential insight and energy in doing battle with it.” – Answering God, the Psalms as Tools for prayer. Pg: 98. So pray your hate out till you find love.*

Prayer: Heavenly Father; Help us to do battle with anger by praying it out- so that like you might help us to get to a place where we entrust judgement and justice to you. Help us pray out our hate in order that we might enact love and compassion- in Jesus Name Amen.