

Psalm 42-43 – Misery away from Christ

“distant from God”?

“dry”?

“swamped by life’s overwhelming tide”?

“isolated and rejected by people”?

42 & 43 = One Psalm

What does it say?**Stanza 1 – Dying in drought**

... Psalm 42:1-5

... feels dry, he feels disconnected, he longs for God who brings life, his living God.

... he remembers

... telling himself the solution

= to place his hope, his trust in God. To praise God as his Saviour and God.

Stanza 2 – Overwhelmed and drowning.

... Psalm 42:6-11.

... overwhelmed and like he is drowning

... verse 6 ... distance has play its part in separated him

Mt Hermon map

... he remembers God.

God is a living God

God’s name is YHWH (LORD)

= deep covenant love YHWH has shown to his people.

... the solution to the problem.

= Put your hope in God, praise him, he is our savour, the one who rescues us. He is personal ... he is my God.

Stanza 3 – Persecuted and attacked

... Psalm 43:1-5

... attacked by an unfaithful nation

His goal = pursue God

... the work of God that he will allow to draw him back.

... the familiar refrain he keeps repeating to himself.

= put your hope in him you can praise him. God is personal, he is a God who saves his people.

For us today

1) Reflects reality

Qu: Do you feel that you can cry out to God in times like this? Do you do it?

2) A good pattern

Hope ...springs from truths about God that the psalmist rehearses

= “Put your hope in God, for I will praise him my saviour and my God.”

Qu: What truths about God do you rehearse?

3) Take steps.

... a man who longs and thirsts for God.

... we can all too easily NOT really be seeking to do what we have just sung about.

4) Desire to be led by God and back to God

... the psalmist seeks God’s light to lead him and God’s faithful care to care to be provided by God.

... do we seek God?