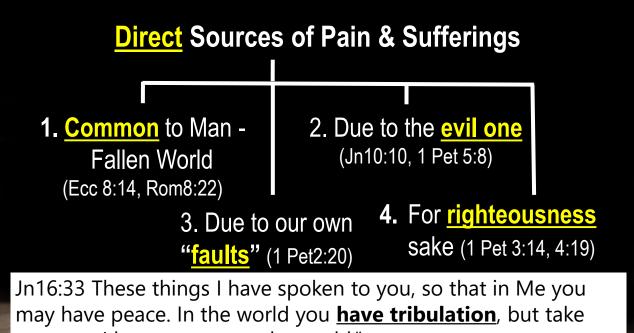


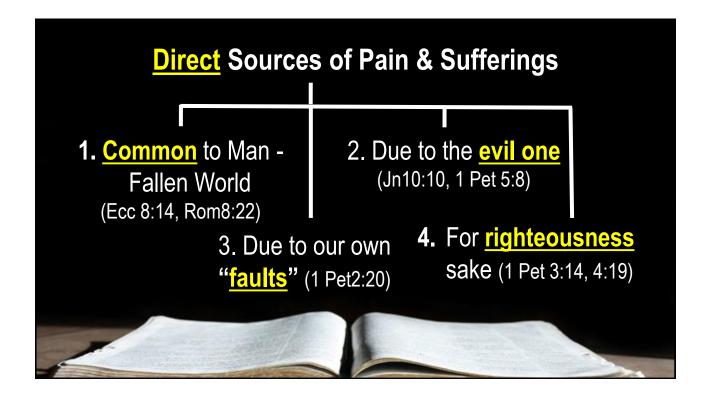
Ps 88 – A Psalm of the sons of Korah. A contemplation of Heman the Ezrahite 88 O Lord, the God of my salvation,
I have <u>cried out by day and in the night before You</u>.
2 Let my prayer come before You;
Incline Your ear to my cry!

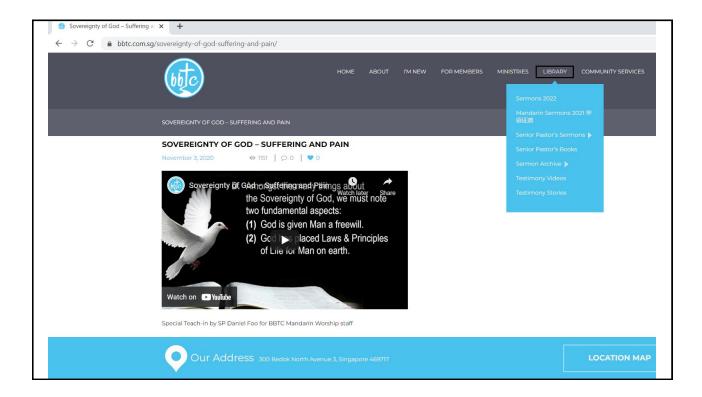
3 For my soul has had enough troubles,
And my life has drawn near to Sheol.
4 I am reckoned among those who go down to the pit;
I have become like a man without strength,
5 Forsaken among the dead,
Like the slain who lie in the grave,
Whom You remember no more,
And they are cut off from Your hand.

6 You have put me in the lowest pit,
In <u>dark places</u>, in the depths.
7 Your wrath <u>has rested</u> upon me,
And You have afflicted me with all <u>Your waves</u>. Selah.



courage; I have overcome the world."





8 You have removed my acquaintances far from me;
You have made me an object of loathing to them;
I am shut up and cannot go out.
9 My eye has wasted away because of affliction;
I have called upon You every day, O Lord;
I have spread out my hands to You.

10 <u>Will You perform</u> wonders for the dead?
Will the departed spirits rise and praise You? Selah.
11 <u>Will Your lovingkindness</u> be declared in the grave,
Your faithfulness in Abaddon?
12 <u>Will Your wonders</u> be made known in the <u>darkness</u>?

13 But I, O Lord, have cried out to You for help,
And in the morning my prayer comes before You.
14 O Lord, why do You reject my soul?
Why do You hide Your face from me?
15 I was afflicted and about to die from my youth on;
I suffer Your terrors; I am overcome.

16 Your burning anger has passed over me;
Your terrors have destroyed me.
17 They have surrounded me like water all day long;
They have encompassed me altogether.
18 You have removed lover and friend far from me;
My acquaintances are in <u>darkness.</u>

Ps 88 – A Psalm of the sons of Korah. A contemplation of Heman the Ezrahite

Song for Dark Times:

- 1. Darkness can be long.
- **2.** Acknowledge the Grace of God God understands.
- **3.** Right response matters.
- 4. K.F.O.J (to be revealed later)

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I suffer Your terrors; I am overcome.
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Your terrors have destroyed me.
17 They have surrounded me like water all day long;
They have encompassed me altogether.
18 You have removed lover and friend far from me;
My acquaintances are in darkness.



1. Darkness can be long.

2. Acknowledge the Grace of God - God understands.

- 3. Right response matters.
- 4. K.F.O.J

Derek Kidner, Old Testament scholar = The very presence of these prayers in scripture is a witness to God's understanding. God knows how men speak when they are desperate.

- 1. Darkness can be long.
- 2. Acknowledge the Grace of God God understands.
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Job1:9-10 Satan retorted, "So do you think Job does all that out of the sheer goodness of his heart? Why, <u>no one ever had it so good</u>! You pamper him like a pet, <u>make sure nothing bad</u> ever happens to him or his family or his possessions, <u>bless everything he does</u>—he can't lose! 11 "<u>But what do you think would happen</u> if you reached down and took away everything that is his? He'd curse you right to your face, that's what." (MSG)



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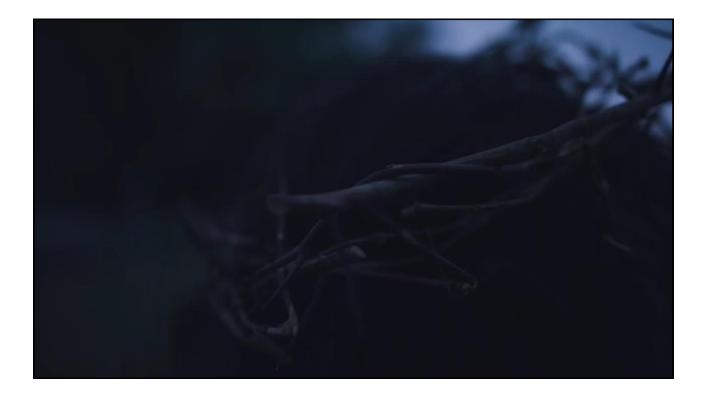
V1ff I have cried out by day and in the night before You.V9ff I have called upon You every day, O Lord;V13ff And in the morning my prayer comes before You.

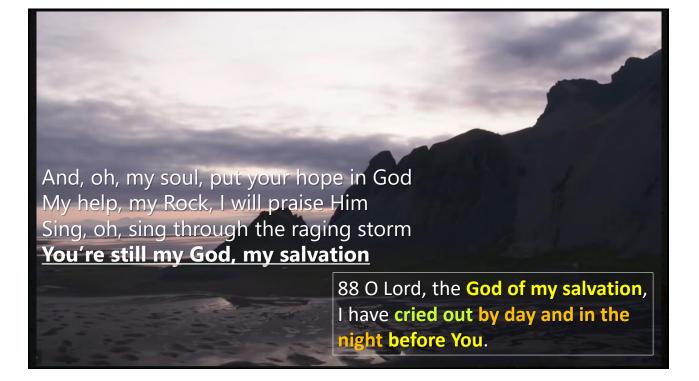


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Your terrors have destroyed me.
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They have encompassed me altogether.
18 You have removed lover and friend far from me;
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LORD FROM SORROWS DEEP I CALL

Lord, from sorrows deep I call When my hope is shaken Torn and ruined from the fall Hear my desperation For so long I've pled and prayed God, come to my rescue Even so the thorn remains Still my heart will praise You Storms within my troubled soul Questions without answers On my faith these billows roll God, be now my shelter Why are you cast down my soul? Hope in Him who saves you When the fires have all grown cold Cause this heart to praise You





Heman in the OT:

- \cdot He was named among <u>the wise (1 Kings 4:31)</u>.
- He was a Kohathite, son of Korah, <u>with musical ability</u> (1 Chron 6:33, 15:17-19).
- \cdot He <u>was chosen</u> to give thanks to the Lord (1 Chron 16:41-42).
- · Had many and exceptional sons and daughters (1 Chron 25:5-6).

He was a wise, talented, accomplished, and blessed man.

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- 1. Darkness can be long.
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Song for Dark Times:

- 1. Darkness can be long.
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- 3. Right response matters.
- 4. Keep focusing on Jesus

Matt27: 45 Now from the sixth hour <u>darkness fell</u> upon all the land until the ninth hour. 46 About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, <u>why have You forsaken Me</u>?" 10 <u>Will You perform</u> wonders for the dead?
Will the departed spirits rise and praise You? Selah.
11 <u>Will Your lovingkindnes</u>s be declared in the grave,
Your faithfulness in Abaddon?
12 <u>Will Your wonders</u> be made known in the <u>darkness</u>?
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Song for Dark Times:

- 1. Darkness can be long.
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Darkness can happen to a believer.... Darkness can happen to someone who does not deserve it.... Darkness can happen at any time.... Darkness can happen without you knowing why....

- 1. Darkness can be long.
- 2. Acknowledge the Grace of God God understands.
- 3. Right response matters.
- 4. Keep focusing on Jesus

Ps 34:18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted And saves those who are crushed in spirit.









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- 2. Acknowledge the Grace of God God understands.
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Jn8:12 Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."

Waymaker:

Way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper Light in the darkness

Bridge

Even when I don't see it, You're working Even when I don't feel it, You're working You never stop, You never stop working You never stop, You never stop working

Bendiction:

Dear Jesus, come and complete your healing among us. Meet us in our darkness. Assure us of our deliverance. Show us that you are here. Lift us out of our darkness. Magnify Yourself in our lives. In Jesus name

