

# MOMENTARY AND TEMPORARY

REV. MARK MAGANGAT

**H**ave you ever felt so alone that you felt like no one would ever be there for you? Have you ever felt as if God has forsaken you? Have you ever felt ignored by God? Do you know what it is like to pray, and pray, and pray, only to receive no answer? Maybe you are going through a physical illness as you ask God to heal you and somehow He seems so quiet and nothing is happening. You see your children heading in the wrong direction, you're praying to God to speak to their hearts but you don't sense any change. Have you ever followed God somewhere or to do something and when you get into that somewhere or something only to discover the mess has become so bad? The mess was so dismal, then suddenly, you feel as if you're all alone.

Many kinds of circumstances crowd us. Sometimes we are trapped and pushed in a corner and cannot lift our hands anymore to worship. We are so dry and we cannot open our mouths to sing.

Our journey in life is not always easy. It's not. Let's face it - this world is a difficult place to live in. But in the midst of darkness in our lives, God has an ultimate goal. Our momentary pain and struggles are but temporary.

One day, we will be with God all throughout eternity worshipping Him. Like David, we can learn to be totally honest with God, to trust Him and expect Him to respond to all our concerns.

***God hears your cry and He will definitely answer.***

The concept of being far from God is used in Psalm 22 to help communicate David's total isolation and helplessness in the face of trouble. The picture here reflects a pained and anguished cry that resembles the roar of a lion. David felt that God had left him all by himself. He was crying for help.

God is still in control of the universe, and He still desires to reach into our lives and draw us closer to His presence. He loves us so much. We have to seriously recognize that we can never question His love for us. If you truly understand the cross you can never question his love for you. Hang in there, be patient, be honest before Him. He will see you through.

***God delivers and in His presence we find shelter.***

The Psalmist is looking for deliverance, for God to act and change the situation and save him from all the terrible things that he is facing. David asked God to stay close to Him

because he faced trouble and no one was there to help him. David looked for deliverance but in the midst of his trouble, He first asked God to be present with him.

In other words, his strongest request was God's presence in his life. What a wonderful truth and lesson! This teaches us that our first desire needs to be the presence of God in our lives. Not for what He can do for us, but for who He is. In His presence we find shelter.

***God cares and His deliverance deserves the highest praise.***

From David's plea for help and petition for deliverance, he declared his praises for God's answer. He had been delivered from his struggle and God answered his cries. He now turned to give thanks and praise to the Lord, and invited others to join with him in assembled devotion. His praise pictures a perfect confidence in God that expresses assurance.

In the midst of life's darkest moments, we can expect God to deliver us as long as we are willing to trust Him. Trust Him even when He seems silent. God is aware of our deepest cries and His willingness to respond according to His good and perfect will for our lives. ✠