

DECEMBER 6
WALKING IN GRIEF
PSALM 116:1-9, 15-17

(v. 1-4) One of the fallacies we sometimes latch on to is that faith can insulate us from difficult times. If that were the case, we would choose faith for the wrong reason. There would be no reason for service and sacrifice. The lives of many faithful servants of God proves this.

The author of this Psalm was well aware of trouble and he knew if he cried to the LORD, he would rescue him. Having the feeling of loneliness can cause us to believe no one cares. The Psalmist knew that God would hear his cry for mercy and would act.

If we come to God in earnest prayer, He will listen. God pays attention to our cries for help. We do not know the difficulty the Psalmist was facing, but we do know that he was helpless and powerless to save himself, possibly death.

Job knew this type of sorrow, yet he spoke of triumph in the middle of his trials. "But I know that my Redeemer lives." Having no place else to turn, the Psalmist cried, "LORD save me." Our prayers need not be elaborate; short and to the point, from the heart is all God asks.

(v.5-9) The Psalmist was humble and grateful for the way God answered him. He knew that the LORD would help him in his suffering, by calling him gracious, righteous, and compassionate. He knew the LORD would forgive and restore him if he would only seek him. God has set a standard of how we are to obey him, because He

is filled with love for His people. The Psalmist was suffering under troubles in his life.

When Christians are wrestling spiritually, it affects the whole body. Only the compassions of God can bring relief. Because of the relief that the LORD brought to the Psalmist's life, he renewed his commitment to God's power. Being obedient before the LORD is what every believer is called to do.

(V. 15-17) With the assurance that he knew God saved him and heard his call for help, the Psalmist declared God would show compassion when death came. God not only sees the struggles of his people; He promises to be with the righteous to the end. The Psalmist was so grateful for what the LORD did for him, he promised to serve the LORD the rest of his early life.

Verse 16 speaks of the importance of Godly parents. The Psalmist's mother had the desire her son would grow in love and service to the LORD. The Psalmist and believers today, serve a God that is faithful to us in life and to the end of life. Let us put our trust in the One who can see us through our darkest hour - the Lord Jesus Christ.