

## **"Understanding the severity and goodness of God"** **(Psa 38:1-12)**

### **Part II: "I will show you who you should fear"([Mat 10:28](#))**

[Psa 38:4](#) For mine iniquities are gone over mine head: as an heavy burden they are too heavy for me.

[Psa 38:5](#) My wounds stink *and* are corrupt because of my foolishness.

[Psa 38:6](#) I am troubled; I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long.

[Psa 38:7](#) For my loins are filled with a loathsome *disease*: and *there is* no soundness in my flesh.

[Psa 38:8](#) I am feeble and sore broken: I have roared by reason of the disquietness of my heart.

[Psa 38:9](#) Lord, all my desire *is* before thee; and my groaning is not hid from thee.

[Psa 38:10](#) My heart panteth, my strength faileth me: as for the light of mine eyes, it also is gone from me.

[Psa 38:11](#) My lovers and my friends stand aloof from my sore; and my kinsmen stand afar off.

[Psa 38:12](#) They also that seek after my life lay snares *for me*: and they that seek my hurt speak mischievous things, and imagine deceits all the day long.

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Last week we looked at how there is one event unto all men and how many times, God's word is written in such a way that it only appears that we can escape going through the needful chastening and scourging that every son and daughter must endure if he or she is going to be a king and priest, made ready to rule under Christ ([Heb 12:6](#) , [2Ti 2:12](#) , [Rev 15:8](#)). It has been given unto the elect today to see that we live by every word of God and that we keep the sayings of the prophecy and don't avoid them ([Mar 4:11](#) , [Mat 4:4](#) , [Rev 1:3](#)).

The ability to endure is of the Lord through whom we can endure all things and the "burden" and "wounds" and "heaviness" (that Psalm 38 speaks of) of life that God places upon us is to bring us to our wits' end ([Psa 107:27](#)) so we can learn of His faithfulness to deliver us from every trial, in this our trial-filled age as God's elect who are being brought to our desired haven ([Php 4:13](#) , [1Pe 4:12](#) , [1Pe 4:17](#) , [Act 14:22](#) , [Psa 107:30](#)).

This second part of our study of Psalm 38 demonstrates the needful conditions that God brings about in our lives that cause us to cry out with strong tears ([Heb 5:7](#)). The flesh must be brought into this place of being disoriented, else we would still be relying on it and not crying out to God for deliverance as we go about thinking within ourselves that there may be something that I can yet do to get out of this situation ([2Co 4:8-12](#) , [Heb 13:6](#)).

God will bring us to not just see the verses of ([Pro 3:5-8](#)) but to live them as he destroys our souliness, our fleshly weakness that wants to lean unto our own understanding ([Jer 17:9](#) , [Rev 13:4](#)).

God uses the weak, sinful flesh to demonstrate that He is the one who is faithful and able to do what we cannot do, no matter how well-intentioned we are in our hearts. It takes the sword of God's word not departing from our house in order for His spiritual life to abide richly within us ([Rom 7:15](#) , [Rom 8:9](#) , [2Sa 12:10](#)).

So Christ is showing us, in this age as God's elect, who we should fear, and when we fear God we will obey and read and hear and keep the sayings of the prophecy of His word ([Rev 1:3](#)). It is those words which are judging us in this age ([Mat 12:37](#) , [1Pe 4:17](#)) , God's words within us today ([Col 3:16](#)), that destroy our souliness ([Mat 10:28](#)).

This psalm is a good shadow of Christ's and the Christ's (our) death, and whom to fear through the stink, mourning, feebleness, roaring, groaning, heart panting, and betrayal that we too experience as we fill up the things lacking of the tribulations of the Christ in our flesh ([Col 1:24](#) - YLT).

[Col 1:24](#) I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and do fill up the things lacking of the tribulations of the Christ in my flesh for his body, which is the assembly, (YLT)

Our bodies (which are bodies of death which "stinketh" - [Joh 11:39](#)) are naturally dying, witnessing to the spiritual condition of the first man Adam ([Rom 1:20](#)). Without the spiritual healing of God's word which is shed abroad in our hearts we would have no hope of glory ([Rom 5:5](#) , [Joh 16:7](#)), but because Christ is risen ([Joh 16:7](#)) and we are blessed to abide in the truth with the hope of glory within ([Col 1:27](#)), we can therefore expect that the judgement that Christ speaks about in ([Mat 10:28](#)) has come upon us and is our blessed day of salvation in earnest unfolding ([2Co 6:2](#) , [Eph 1:14](#)).

Our Saviour knows our form and knows what it will take for us to drink the cup that we've been called to drink ([Psa 139:1-4](#) , [Mar 10:38-39](#)). This cup is our communion ([1Co 10:16](#)), and we are not to despair nor despise it, for it is the cross (the altar) that we can endure through Christ. It is the cross that we bear of each other's burdens which is made possible to bear by the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus ([Rom 8:2](#)).

As we will see in the following verses of this Psalm, God makes His strength perfect through our weakness, which weakness manifests the sinful nature that is being destroyed by the power of His holy spirit. God must make manifest what needs to be destroyed within us if we are going to be purified in this age, and His power will rest upon those whom He is judging as He destroys our souliness and creates a new creation through this process ([2Co 12:9-10](#) , [2Co 5:17](#) , [2Co 3:18](#))

**[Psa 38:4](#) For mine iniquities are gone over mine head: as an heavy burden they are too heavy for me.**

This verse is a lamentation of the death of the old man within us who is drowning in his iniquities and realizing that he is powerless over the sin which is in his members ([Rom 7:14-17](#) , [Joh 8:36](#)).

**[Psa 38:5](#) My wounds stink *and* are corrupt because of my foolishness.**

Our inner wounds, our secret sins, stink and are brought about by our own foolishness as God allows us and also causes us to reap what we sow. What no one can see except God opens our eyes, is that He is the one who is causing us to err ([Isa 63:17](#)) and to sow corrupt seed at first which will bring about a "loathsome *disease*:"(verse 7) and "*there is* no soundness in my flesh"(verse 3) as result of this initial bondage we all start off with.

**Psa 38:6** I am troubled; I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long.

**Psa 38:7** For my loins are filled with a loathsome *disease*: and *there is no soundness in my flesh*.

**Psa 38:8** I am feeble and sore broken: I have roared by reason of the disquietness of my heart.

These conditions which God creates are for our good ([Psa 107:13](#)) and are what bring us to our wits' end as we are brought to be "troubled" and "bowed down greatly", and "mourning all the day long".

These situations that God causes, bring us to cry out with strong tears as our Lord did ([Heb 5:7](#)). We are heard in our most "feeble and sore broken" condition where our merciful Father hears our roars by reason of the "disquietness" of our hearts, which heart He has brought to cry out ([Psa 107:28-30](#)).

**Psa 38:9** Lord, all my desire *is* before thee; and my groaning is not hid from thee.

**Psa 38:10** My heart panteth, my strength faileth me: as for the light of mine eyes, it also is gone from me.

**Psa 38:11** My lovers and my friends stand aloof from my sore; and my kinsmen stand afar off.

**Psa 38:12** They also that seek after my life lay snares *for me*: and they that seek my hurt speak mischievous things, and imagine deceits all the day long.

This is the heavy stuff of betrayal that David is speaking of, and it is a shadow and type of Christ's betrayal, but also of our betrayal from the world which we no longer run after "to the same excess of riot" ([1Pe 4:4](#)) that our former conversation had us doing ([Eph 2:1-3](#)).

The inevitable end result of having the life and light of Christ within us is also described for us in these verses in the new testament ([Joh 15:25](#) , [Joh 3:19-21](#)).

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It pleases God to put Christ's body which is the church through this bruising process as the bride is blessed to identify the spots and wrinkles on her garment which simply represent the soulishness and first man Adam which cannot inherit the kingdom of God.

We are a bride together, looking over that garment together, confessing together our weakness so that Christ's strength can be formed in holiness that is being formed together within each of us, not by might or by power, but by His holy spirit ([Zec 4:6](#) , [Eph 2:8](#))

Our initial title to this study was "**Understanding the severity and goodness of God**" and the second part was called "**I will show you who you should fear**".

When we are given a healthy fear of God, we will recognize that we do not want to displease our Father.

Little by little as Christ increases within us, our discernment of good and evil, of strong meat, of understanding the severity and goodness of God will get clearer and clearer. This all helps us to recognize His sovereignty in all the affairs of His creation, where all things work together for the good for those who love God and are called according to His purpose ([Eph 1:11](#), [Rom 8:28](#)).