

"Walk before God in the light of the living"

[Psa_56:6-13](#)

Psa 56:6 They gather themselves together, they hide themselves, they mark my steps, when they wait for my soul.

Psa 56:7 Shall they escape by iniquity? in *thine* anger cast down the people, O God.

Psa 56:8 Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: *are they* not in thy book?

Psa 56:9 When I cry *unto thee*, then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for God *is* for me.

Psa 56:10 In God will I praise *his* word: in the LORD will I praise *his* word.

Psa 56:11 In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me.

Psa 56:12 Thy vows *are* upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee.

Psa 56:13 For thou hast delivered my soul from death: *wilt not thou deliver* my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of the living?

In this week's hope filled study we will look at how God delivers us from our enemies within and without as He delivers our souls from death so that we may "walk before God in the light of the living".

We will also consider the enemy that we are told to be mindful of both within and without ([1Pe_5:8](#) , [2Co_2:11](#) , [Eph_6:1-7](#) , [Mat_10:16](#)) and how God brings his people to see that they can't make war with the beast which results in our strong tears ([Heb_5:7](#)) as we cry out like John, Christ and Nehemiah who is a type of Christ only to be reassured that we can be more than conquerors through Christ who is the builder of the new wall within each of us ([Rev_5:4](#) , [Neh_1:4](#)).

Nehemiah and the history surrounding these verses have to do with how the body of Christ works together to build the wall of Jerusalem against our enemies who despise us. We are those "feeble Jews" ([Neh_4:2](#) , [1Co_1:26-27](#)) , the weak of the world who are called and chosen to do this miraculous work of the Lord also typified by the rebuilding of the street in the seventy weeks prophecy of Daniel 9 and likened unto "The repairer of the breach"([Isa_58:12](#) , [Dan_9:24-27](#)). That breach as we discussed a couple of weeks ago is God repairing the elect first so that we can be used to turn the hearts of the Fathers to the children and the children to their Fathers ([Mal_4:6](#)).

It has always been part of God's purpose and design for His elect that they would see the nations rage both within and without ([Psa_2:1-5](#)) and demonstrate to us first in our age as a kind of first fruits ([Jas_1:18](#)) how we let the dead bury the dead ([Luk_9:60](#)) again both within and without so that we can "walk before God in the light of the living". It is only when those nations are buried through repentance and confession that we can walk again "in the light of the living"([1Jn_1:7-9](#)).

We are called to learn how to deal with the hatred directed toward us as we are given the strength through Christ to endure until the end as we go through this process of being purified by the light of God's word for which we are hated of all men for ([1Jn_1:7](#) , [Mar_13:13](#) , [Mat_10:28](#)).

We may or may not have to physically move from city to city as our Lord did to walk before God in the light of the living ([Mat_2:13](#)), but we can know with certainty that we will have to flee from the cities within us that are being judged and destroyed by our Lord as he delivers us from becoming settled and established in the earth ([Rom_8:14](#)), this is in fact how He keeps and receives us as sons so that we can become true overcomers through Christ ([Mat_10:23-25](#) , [Mat_8:20](#) , [Heb_12:6](#)).

Our goals therefore are distinctly different from the world around us as we discussed a couple of weeks

ago as they try to save their lives by losing them but are unable to do this for Christ's sake without Christ giving them the desire and sacrificial spirit needed to do this ([Psa_127:1](#)). It is akin to starting to build something like the temple in Jerusalem and not finishing it as was the case in Nehemiah's day. God has blessed us to be moved to tears because we see inwardly the ill repair and that which is lacking within ourselves as our sadness turns to joy know that we are able to be healed by the grace and faith of Christ which is saving us ([Rev_2:14](#) , [Rev_2:20](#) , [Eph_2:8](#)).

Now we pray that we can be repaired by our Lord and become the healers of the breach that Christ is to us for others ([Isa_58:12](#)).

Psa_56:6 They gather themselves together, they hide themselves, they mark my steps, when they wait for my soul.

It does feel like we are under the looking glass in this life, and that nothing that we do is done in a corner as these verses remind us ([Act_26:26](#) , [Mat_5:16](#) , [1Jn_4:17](#)).

When we are persecuted by the enemy we can look for this pattern to emerge as it is something that is written in their books for our sakes.

Every one of these points can be connected to a time in the life of Christ as it can within our own if we are Jesus Christ, but like Christ we are also promised that His right hand will strengthen us and deliver us from all our enemies and all their feeble plans to destroy the elect ([1Jn_4:4](#) , [Mat_24:24](#) , [Luk_12:32](#))

- 1 they gather themselves together ([Act_4:26](#))
- 2 they hide themselves ([Gen_3:8](#) , [Rev_6:16](#) , [Amo_9:3](#))
- 3 they mark my steps ([Rev_12:10](#) , [Gen_4:15](#) , [Joh_8:6](#) , [Luk_23:1-2](#) , [Mar_14:55-56](#))
- 4 they wait for my soul ([Psa_119:95](#) , [Psa_10:9](#))

any comments on this first verse?

[Psa_56:7](#) Shall they escape by iniquity? in *thine* anger cast down the people, O God.

God allows evil men to wax worse and worse at the end of this age both within and without before the Lord comes to build the new street, the new city, the new wall.

Our time of licentiousness after we initially are drawn out of Babylon and learn of God's sovereignty puts our flesh in a position where we think we can escape by iniquity, that God will not bring us into judgement which in fact is exactly what is happening when the hedge of our lives is taken down and we enter into a period of greasy grace where we sin with impunity. If God is working with us in this age He will "in *thine* anger cast down the people, O God. " or crush us with the stone that is Jesus Christ ([Mat_21:44](#)).

any comments on this second verse?

[Psa_56:8](#) Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: *are they* not in thy book?

All our days are numbered and written in His book (Psa_139:16), and while we are yet sinners in our "wanderings" the Lord loves us and is preparing the way for us to receive the hope of glory through knowing Him and his Son (Rom_5:8 , Col_1:27).

any comments on this third verse?

Psa 56:9 When I cry unto thee, then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for God is for me.

The end result of those strong tears that the Lord is working in our lives (Heb_5:7) is that our enemies within shall turn back (1Pe_4:1, 1Pe_4:12). This we know is true for God is with us (Deu_31:6).

any comments on this fourth verse?

Psa_56:10 In God will I praise his word: in the LORD will I praise his word.

Psa 56:11 In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me.

Again the correlation is made for us that God's word is purified through the trials that cause the tears of Psa_56:9 which in turn enable us to put our trust in God (1Co_2:3-5 , 1Ti_4:10). We praise the Lord for these wonderful works that are bringing us to a safe haven where we "will not be afraid what man can do unto me."

any comments on these verses?

Psa_56:12 Thy vows are upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee.

Psa 56:13 For thou hast delivered my soul from death: wilt not thou deliver my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of the living?

We come to our last verses and the title of our study this evening that reminds us that God is not unfaithful to remember the work that He is doing within each of His elect, as it is His workmanship (Eph_2:10 , Mat_5:14). Yet as unlikely it would be for a "woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb"(Isa_49:15) we are promised that "yea they may forget, yet will I not forget thee". God does not forget the precious work that He is working within the elect to "walk before God in the light of the living".

any comments on these last two verses?