

Series: Seasons in the Psalms, Reflections on God and the Significance of the Soul

Passage: Psalm 40

Title: Our Savior in the Psalms

Speaker: Pastor JC Cooper 10/5/2025

Discussion Starter –Are you patient in the face of difficulty or injustice or are you one to intervene, take charge, and overcome the situation? Both reactions can be proper in the appropriate context, (think of David and Goliath). Which response is described in this Psalm? What in this Psalm specially encourages you to wait patiently for the Lord to work in difficult situations?

Read Psalm 40:1-5

- 1. How does David describe his condition before God answered him? What is different about his mental state after God responded to him?
- 2. What specific action(s) was David likely doing as he waited for God's response?
- 3. Who in verses 3 and 4 hear of the deliverance? How do each of them benefit? How are they made aware of God's faithfulness?
 - a. How have your times of difficulty and/or despair resulted in others growing in their faith?
 - b. Have you grown in faith after going through difficulty with a friend?
- 4. What is David's overwhelming response when God finally inclines His ear to him? Do you think he had similar words for God when he was waiting patiently in verse 1?
 - c. Do you value a growing relationship with God through trials and delayed answers to prayer?

Read Psalm 40:6-11

- 5. What is taught by the statement, "sacrifice and offering you do not desire" (Especially considering the detailed methods for offerings described in Numbers 28-29, and Leviticus 1-7)? What does God desire from His children?
- 6. How does the writer of Hebrews apply this passage to Jesus, (Hebrews 10:5-10)?
- 7. Is this passage about Jesus, David, or both? Explain your conclusion.

Read Psalm 40:12-17

- 8. How did Jesus conquer the evil rulers of His day, both religious and political? How do these verses speak of Jesus victory over evil and death?
- 9. We are called to take up our cross and follow Jesus. When faced with a horrible pit, or mirey clay, (as described in verse 2 of this psalm), what assurance do you find in God's unwavering character that strengthens you to "wait patiently for the Lord"?
 - d. How does this psalm encourage you to respond to injustice, either against you or others?