"THE DARK SOUL OF THE BELIEVER"

Delivered to DANVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Lord's Day Morning Oct. 30th 2016

Elder Jeff E. King тн.м.

Also titled:

"When Perplexity Feels Like Despair"

Despondency: Depression; loss of courage or hope.

Ps. 13:2

"How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily?"

Self-diagnosis is often wrong.

Your heart is now measured by pounds.

This is not a result of one single incident.

This is worse, much worse.

We will discover 3 life experience that result in despair.

1- Not Sin but Spirituality:

Mt. 26: 36-38

³⁶ Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples,Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.

³⁷ And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and **began to be sorrowful and very heavy.**

³⁸ Then saith he unto them, **My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death**: tarry ye here, and watch with me.

Consider some scriptures that may describe despair. People that have felt the same pain.

Ps. 69:1-3 – Enemies that were supposed to be friends

Save me, O God; for the waters are come in unto *my* soul. I sink in deep mire, where *there is* no standing: I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me. I am weary of my crying: my throat is dried: mine eyes fail while I wait for my God.

Job 10:1- Life and the weight of it.

My soul is weary of my life; I will leave my complaint upon myself;

I will speak in the bitterness of my soul.

1 Thess. 4:13 – Lose of family

But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren,

concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not,

even as others which have no hope.

2- Sin has its Consequence.

May primarily be associated with unfaithfulness or backsliding.

If you don't feel like a backslider- it may be result of personal sins.

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If you don't believe your sinning... then you're a liar and you have found the cause of your problem.

1 John 1: 8&10

⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

You can very easily look to your own soul to find the problem, but you will have to look elsewhere to find the solution.

Depression is the deepest well you will ever draw from **and** loneliest, coldest place you will ever visit.

There is no immunity to this in Christ. Just, in some cases, a quick recovery.

The things we may suffer are often given to us through Adam. But we must look for our healing through Christ.

Sin has its consequence. And its consequence is often despondency.

3- Environment is a Factor.

Rev. 12

¹⁴ And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

¹⁵ And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood

If you are a wilderness saint, you will suffer the effects of a wilderness. With spiritual manna to eat, you may find yourself very much like the first set of Israelites to walk this trail.

2 Cor. 4:8-9

⁸ We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;
⁹ Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;

I'll leave you with a spiritual paradox: In my deepest darkness; I have found my most joy. It is from this angle we always see the hand of God. Bro. King