

The Unthinkable Thought

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Psalm 77:11-12.

B. The Psalmist has come to a desperate point in his life, but he has not heard from God.

II. The psalmist has undergone a great change in his thinking—there is a growing sense of confidence and peace before God, concluded with a statement of trust.

A. The Psalms can have a soothing effect, but this is not the final intent of Scripture.

B. The book is meant to give us an understanding of life—we are to see things as they are.

C. Three questions to ask with regard to the Psalm.

1. What changed the man so drastically?

2. How did he proceed next?

3. Why did this whole circumstance of unresponsiveness occur?

III. What changed the man.

A. He reversed his direction because he saw where he was heading.

B. If God can change then He is not really God.

C. God is changeless—He is reliable. (Psalm 73)

D. It is good to examine doubt when one struggles with it—many Christians are afraid that if they follow their doubt that they will lose their faith. (John 6)

IV. How the man proceeded next.

A. He began his thinking with God.

B. He has caught hold of himself so that he is no longer the victim of his feelings.

V. Why the whole circumstance of unresponsiveness occurred.

A. Prejudice against the truth.

B. This man was prejudiced by his emotions and feelings.

VI. God was unresponsive deliberately because the man was mastered by his feelings.

Application questions:

1. How can a person reverse his thinking when he starts blaming God for bad circumstances that have befallen him?

2. In what ways have you struggled with prejudice against the truth?

3. In what situations would you like to stabilize your moods? What can you do to find rest during these circumstances?
