

Psalm 130 - the depths of failure

Psalm 130 is an anonymous psalm – writer unknown as well as the failure or sin being unknown. The starting point is not the background or back story but ‘the depths’ which he is experiencing.

Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord;
Lord, hear my voice.

Let your ears be attentive
to my cry for mercy.

If you, Lord, kept a record of sins,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness,
so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits,
and in his word I put my hope.

I wait for the Lord
more than watchmen wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning.

Israel, put your hope in the Lord,
for with the Lord is unfailing love
and with him is full redemption.
He himself will redeem Israel from all their sin

The place of well-being and wholeness that was so evident in session 2 (Psalm 145) is clearly not the psalmist’s experience here.

Our expectations of what life is always going to be like may not match up to Psalm 145 but **our expectations of who God is should not be diminished.**

The Psalmist draws on this and gives three unchangeable truths about God:

‘With you/him, there is _____

What else do we learn about God from the psalmist’s prayer?

Waiting – it’s seems to be hard-baked into ordinary life and it is also very prominent in this psalm. As we cry from the depths, we wait ... and we wait in hope.

What are the reasons for hope given in this psalm?

