

Not Forsaken, Not Forgotten

Derrick Thompson

July 3, 2022

Isaiah 49:14-16 (NLT)

Yet Jerusalem says, "The LORD has deserted us; the Lord has forgotten us."

¹⁵ "**Never!** Can a mother forget her nursing child? Can she feel no love for the child she has borne? But even if that were possible, **I would not forget you!**"

¹⁶ See, I have written your name on the palms of my hands. Always in my mind is a picture of Jerusalem's walls in ruins.

Numbers 23:19 (NLT)

God is not a man, so **he does not lie**. He is not human, so **he does not change his mind**. Has he ever spoken and failed to act? Has he ever promised and not carried it through?

Psalms 13 (AMPC)

¹ How long will You forget me, O Lord? Forever? How long will You hide Your face from me?

² How long must I lay up cares within me and have sorrow in my heart day after day? How long shall my enemy exalt himself over me?

³ Consider and answer me, O Lord my God; lighten the eyes [of my faith to behold Your face in the pitchlike darkness], lest I sleep the sleep of death,

⁴ Lest my enemy say, I have prevailed over him, *and* those that trouble me rejoice when I am shaken.

⁵ **But I have trusted**, leaned on, *and* been confident in Your mercy *and* loving-kindness; my heart shall rejoice *and* be in high spirits in Your salvation.

⁶ I will sing to the Lord, because He has dealt bountifully with me.

- After being anointed King of Israel, David spent years running for his life from Saul who was crazy and out of his mind. Saul was so bent on harming David that he had to hide in caves.
- David talked it out with God, sharing his confusion and pain over what he felt like was God abandoning him in this season of his life.
- In v.3&4, David asks the Lord to "enlighten his eyes". He is asking the Lord to help reestablish his hope and his faith regarding his current state.
- Then v. 5 we see a shift where David is now choosing to trust and believe in God's presence and helping hand.
- David realized that feelings are fleeting, fickle and will not help you come out of the dark cave that you are in. When we place our hope and trust in the One who promises to never leave us and never forget us, that trust in Him will lead us to ultimate victory!

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How Do We Respond When We Feel Abandoned & Forgotten?

1. Praise Him

Psalm 22:1-3 (NLT)

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? Why are you so far away when I groan for help?

² Every day I call to you, my God, but you do not answer. Every night I lift my voice, but I find no relief.

³ **Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.**

2. Remember God's Character & Who He Is & All He's Done

Psalm 22:4-5 (NLT)

⁴ Our ancestors trusted in you, and you rescued them.

⁵ They cried out to you and were saved. They trusted in you and were never disgraced.

3. Place Your Trust In Him & His Word

Hebrews 11:1 (AMP)

Now faith is the **assurance** (title deed, confirmation) of things hoped for (divinely guaranteed), and the evidence of things not seen [the conviction of their reality—faith comprehends as fact what cannot be experienced by the physical senses].

Proverbs 3:5-6 (AMP)

Trust in *and* rely confidently on the LORD with all your heart And do not rely on your own insight *or* understanding.

⁶ In all your ways know *and* acknowledge *and* recognize Him, And He will make your paths straight *and* smooth [removing obstacles that block your way].

4. Get Ready For Victory

Psalm 22:24 (NLT)

For he has not ignored or belittled the suffering of the needy. He has not turned his back on them but has listened to their cries for help.

Psalm 72:12 (AMP)

For **he will rescue** the needy when he cries for help, The afflicted *and* abused also, and him who has no helper.

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Scriptures

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