

Songs for a Broken World

5. When our perspective is wrong Psalm 102

1. Life from Our Perspective

- An explosion of emotions
- Afflicted physically v3-5
- Afflicted emotionally v6-9 + 11
- Afflicted spiritually v10
- How does a Christian respond?
- There is One who understands

2. Life from God's Perspective

- v12 the writer lifts his tear-stained eyes to heaven
- Rather than magnifying his problems he magnifies his God
- God's perspective is:

a) Higher v12

- God is sitting enthroned v12
- \circ $\;$ The arrows that we receive from God are tipped with love
- o God is in control of the tapestry of our lives
- God actively takes part in our lives

b) Wider v13-16, 18-22

- o God's focus isn't simply on the individual He will rebuild Zion
- Concern about the state of God's church
- o Anticipate the spread of the church
- $\circ \quad \mbox{Look ahead with confidence to God rebuilding it}$

c) Longer v23-28

- He contrast his days with God's years v24
- "The contrast between God's years and man's days may be brooded on in hope"
- $\circ \quad \text{The eternity of God} \quad$

3. The Cross-Eyed Perspective

- Ps 102:25-28 quoted in Hebrews 1:10-12
- Psalm 102 is a song which speaks of the Messiah its words are almost too 'big' to fit the songwriter
- Jesus had the right perspective
- We can read the psalm from the perspective of our Saviour
- Jesus is the lens, through which we can look at life through God's perspective
- We are to be cross-eyed fix our eyes on the cross, helping us to see life from God's perspective
- Destitute people should be praying people v1&2, 17

