

HOW LONG IS THE NIGHT

PASTOR TIMOTHY GREEN

Ps 30:1-5 I will extol thee, O LORD; for thou hast lifted me up, and hast not made my foes to rejoice over me. O LORD my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me. O LORD, thou hast brought up my soul from the grave: thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit. Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness. For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favor is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

The words that we read here are the words, the testimony, of a man who knows what it is to be in the valley. David was a man who knew what it was to be at death's door. He had faced a lion, a bear and a giant. He knew what it was to be on the run, hiding out in caves in fear of his life, from a mad king, controlled by a jealous rage.

David tells us that weeping may endure for a night. He knew all about weeping. He cried himself to sleep many nights.

Flowers of character are watered by the tears of sorrow. We don't like sorrow, but it is through sorrow, through weeping, in the long lonely nights, that character is formed in us.

If weeping takes place in the night, and joy comes in the morning, then how long is the night? How long do I have to wait before I get some relief? How much darkness do I have to go through before I see the sun rise in the morning?

How long is the night? I don't know for sure, but I do know that we have to endure it. Those that endure to the end are the ones who will be saved.

If we endure the night, there is a brighter day coming. If we endure the night, we will understand it better by and by. If we endure the night, we will learn that God works in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform. If we endure the night, we will understand that all things really do work together for the good of those who love the Lord.

I don't know how long your night might be, but I do know, if you are faithful, joy is coming in the morning!