



The May 20, 2020 edition of TruNorth Daily Devotional with Dr Jim Brown:

## **“Learning Life from the Psalms of David”**

### **Psalm 31**

#### **#5 – the conclusion**

Psalm 31:21-24 (NIV)

***“Praise be to the LORD, for he showed me the wonders of his love when I was in a city under siege. In my alarm I said, ‘I am cut off from your sight!’ Yet you heard my cry for mercy when I called to you for help.***

***“Love the LORD, all his faithful people! The LORD preserves those who are true to him, but the proud he pays back in full. Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD.”***

David wraps up Psalm 31, after the sharing of his numerous sufferings, by singing praises to the Lord and proclaiming the wonders of his love!

I find the phrase ***“wonders of His love”*** intriguing. Perhaps David chose the word “wonders” because as he remembers the grief he caused the Lord by his sinful actions; that to still be loved by God was a wonder!

David recognizes – again – that the Lord hears his cries for mercy and help even when he was in a place that was **“under siege.”** David was lauding God’s ability to see him and hear him no matter where he was or what was going on. God is that powerful.

How about you? Are you in a place where you wonder about God’s ability to KNOW where you are or what you’re going through? Or perhaps knowing is not the issue... you wonder if he cares.

David continues by singing an encouragement to God’s faithful people to **“Love the Lord”** because God protects those who are true and faithful to Him.

One of the Great Gifts which God has given to all people is the ability to choose. But that gift is a double-edged sword; it can cut both ways. Our choices can be good ones... or bad. We can choose to pray to God, or not. We can choose to love God, or not. We can choose to be faithful to God, or not.

David is encouraging us, in this Psalm, to be loving, faithful, and trusting of our Lord God. To put our hope in Him, even if we’ve driven our life into a ditch. Trusting God allows us to eventually enjoy all the benefits of God’s love.

His **“be strong and take heart,”** is as needed today and in our world as it was in David’s day. You’ve probably noticed that we’re living in trying times.

Jesus’ brother taught: **“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials.”** (James 1:2)

Now most people do NOT think like that. We don’t want “trials” (or troubles) of any kind. Yet, such is the way of the world and we need to be prepared for WHEN they come... not IF.

David has the right idea and focus; we can learn from him.

***Prayer: Lord, although I don’t like it, I recognize that problems are a part of life. I realize that this is NOT heaven – at least not yet. So, Lord, help me to look to You immediately when I have problems of any kind. Then, Lord, lead and guide as You see fit and best for me. Amen.***