

Sons of Korah

- Numbers 16:32 - Korah was a Kohathite who rebelled against Moses and was swallowed by the earth along with 250 men
 - He was also Moses and Aaron's first cousin, who were also Kohathites
 - Levi > Kohath > Amram > Moses/Aaron
 - Levi > Kohath > Izhar > Korah
- Numbers 26:11 - explains that the sons of Korah - Assir, Elkanah, Abiasaph - were not killed in this judgement
 - We also know that they had repented and not followed in their father's footsteps, as the evidence shows by the Psalms they wrote
- 1 Chronicles 6:33-37 - Samuel is from the line of the sons of Korah

3 Observations

1. Sadness/Depression are not indicators that God is not with us.

- a. Your mood does not determine your connection and closeness with God
 - i. Verse 1-2 - The Psalmist longs for the Lord. There is clearly a strong connection here.
 - ii. John 11:35 - "Jesus wept."
 - 1. For Lazarus, His close friends, even though He knew He would raise Lazarus from the dead
 - iii. Matthew 23:33 - "Snakes! Brood of vipers! How can you escape being condemned to hell?"
 - 1. Jesus speaking in anger to the Pharisees (says "Woe to you Scribes and Pharisees" 8 times in a row)
 - iv. Mark 14:34 - "Then He said to them, 'My soul is swallowed up in sorrow - to the point of death. Remain here and stay awake.'
 - 1. Jesus talking to the disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane before His betrayal
- b. Sometimes, our struggles or suffering might not make sense.
 - i. Verse 5, Verse 9, Verse 11
 - ii. Read John 9:1-3
 - 1. The man at the pool of Siloam
 - iii. One of the biggest reasons people struggle to submit to Jesus is because they have trouble with the problem of evil, of suffering. How could a good God allow people to suffer?

2. We need not be afraid of crying out to God with questions - this is what He wants from us.

- a. Verse 9
 - i. The Psalmist proclaims to the Lord what he is feeling. He asks the questions that plague him
 - ii. Jesus already knows our thoughts, but He wants us to be honest with Him about them
 - 1. One cannot trust what he does not know, and we cannot know Jesus unless we open ourselves to Him completely.

2. If we can trust Jesus with our Salvation, and He already demonstrated that He is worthy, then we should be able to trust Him with the questions and doubts we may have.
- b. Look at Jesus in the garden again
 - i. He asked The Father to take the cup of suffering from Him, yet He still continued on in the will of the Father. The Psalmist here acts similarly
 - ii. If we are going to question God, we need to do so with humility and reverence
 1. We need to be ready to listen if He gives us an answer (See Job 40-42)
 2. This is what the Psalmist does as well - "I will still praise Him"
- 3. When we encounter times of difficulty, we must put our hope in God and praise Him alone.**
 - a. How do we do this?
 - i. The Psalmist says the same lines to himself multiple times. He repeats the truth of who God is.
 1. Verse 5, Verse 11, continues on into Psalm 43
 - ii. The Psalmist remembers the events from the past when God was faithful, and he praises the Lord for this.
 1. Verse 4
 2. Verse 6
 3. Verse 8
 4. The Psalmist pours out his heart before the Lord. This is consistent across the Psalms - see Psalm 51 - David after Bathsheba.
 - iii. Look to the future and be grateful in advance for what we have been given.
 1. Romans 8:17-18 - "and if children, also heirs—heirs of God and coheirs with Christ—seeing that we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us."
 2. Revelation 21:4 - "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."
 3. Revelation 21:3 - "And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God."