

## **GOD OF OUR SILENT TEARS**

**Psalm 139: 1- 4** *O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue, but behold, O LORD, You know it altogether.*

Introduction: Background of the verse.

Psalm 139 is a praise and prayer to the God who knows all and is everywhere. This magnificent psalm is titled **For the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.**

The Chief Musician is thought by some to be the LORD God Himself, and others suppose him to be a leader of choirs or musicians in David's time, such as Heman the singer or Asaph.

Illustration:

The Black National Anthem titled “Lift Every Voice”

Lyrics:

*God of our weary years*

*God of our silent tears*

*Thou who has brought us thus far on the way*

*Thou who has by Thy might Led us into the  
light*

*Keep us forever in the path, we pray*

*Lest our feet stray from the places, our God,  
where we met Thee*

This statement reminds us that God cares that your eyes are full of tears, even the ones no one knows about.

## **“GOD OF OUR SILENT TEARS”**

- 1. The Power of a Cry**
- 2. God Hears A Heartbeat**
- 3. Our Silent Cries Become The Heartbeat Of God**

**Psalm 56:8** reads, *“You number my wanderings; put my tears into Your bottle; are they not in Your book?”*

### **I. THE POWER OF A CRY**

**Luke 11: 5- 8** *Then He said to them, “ Suppose one of you has a friend, and goes to him at midnight and says to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me from a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; and from inside he answers and says, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already*

*been shut and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ “I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will get up and give him as much as he needs.*

E.g. Power of a baby’s cry.

It is possible that the philosophy of God not concerned about people’s tears may consist of people who are in sin, disobedience or in error with God. Nevertheless, when the people of Israel were not faithful they recognized their sin and sought repentance. The Scripture says, *“If My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will*

*hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land”(2 Chronicles 7:14).*

In a world that people seem to be more apathetic to other human beings, it is good to know that it is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not (Lamentations 3:22).

**Exodus 14: 14** *“The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.”*

There is evidence in the Bible where God continued to show up in the lives of His children when they cried out to Him because of their circumstances. **Exodus 2:23-24**, *“Now it happen in the process of time that the king of Egypt died. Then the children of Israel groaned because of the bondage, and they cried out; and their cry came up to God because of the*

*bondage. So God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.”*

Have you ever cried out to the Lord and He heard you and came to your rescue?

## **II. GOD HEARS A HEARTBEAT**

God is an advocate for the poor, broken hearted and those who have experienced misfortune and injustice. The mighty King David spoke of his needs and prayers to God in **Psalm 61:1-2** *“Hear my cry, O God, attend unto my prayer. From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I.”*

The Old and New Testaments examples of people who cried to God silently.

## **1. Eliezer who needs a wife for his Master's son Isaac.**

**Genesis 24: 45** *"Before I had finished speaking in my heart, behold, Rebekah came out with her water jar on her shoulder, and she went down to the spring and drew water. I said to her, 'Please let me drink.'"*

Through his silent prayer God sent Rebekah.

## **2. Hannah who wants a child.**

**1 Samuel 1: 12- 13** *"As she continued praying before the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. Hannah was speaking in her heart; only her lips moved, and her voice was not heard..."*

Her silent prayer brought Samuel.

## **3. Woman who wants healing from an Issue of blood**

**Matthew 9: 20- 22***“And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment: For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole. But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour.”*

God will take account of the pain measured in each tear and He will calculate the appropriate level of grace and mercy. **Psalms 57:2***“I cry out to God Most High, to God, who vindicates me.”*

God will operate on your behalf no matter the catastrophe. *“Casting all your cares upon Him, for He cares for you”***1 Peter 5:7.**



Let us diminish the thinking that tears are a sign of weakness. Paul said he rather boast about his weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in him (2 Corinthians 12:9).

### **III. OUR SILENT CRIES BECOME THE HEARTBEAT OF GOD**

**Psalm 139: 3- 4** *“You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.”*

God is well acquainted with all our ways. He knows us well even when we are silently crying. And God is not just an All-knowing God, He is an Ever-present God. He hears every silent cry.

David testified:

- ***“You have searched me and known me”:***

David prayed to Yahweh, understanding that He had personal knowledge of him. David knew that the true God cared enough to have searched and known each man and woman.

- It's not just that God knows everything – He knows me.

- It's not just that God is everywhere – He is everywhere with me.

- It's not just that God created everything – He created me.

- ***“You know my sitting down and my rising up”:*** David used this proverbial phrase to say that God knew everything about him, even the most everyday things. *“Even the hairs of your head are numbered.”*

- ***“You understand my thought afar off”***: God not only knew the smallest aspects of David’s everyday life; He also knew his thoughts. God knows our words before we speak them, and there is nothing of us hidden from the all-knowing God.

This wonderful Psalm points us to the One who perfectly knows us.

*For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin.* **Hebrews 4: 15**(CSB)

*“He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.”* **Isaiah 53:3**

# The Prophet Elijah

**1 Kings 19: 3** *“Elijah was afraid, and he ran for his life.....”*

Elijah was a powerful prophet:

- He caused the rain to cease for 3 1/2 years (1Ki 17:1)
- He performed a miracle on the barrel of meal and cruse of oil (1Ki 17:14)
- He raised the widow's son (1Ki 17:22)
- He called fire from heaven on the altar (1Ki 18:38)
- He caused rain to come (1Ki 18:45)
- He called fire from heaven upon the first 50 soldiers (2Ki 1:10)
- He called fire from heaven upon the second 50 soldiers (2Ki 1:12)
- He parted the Jordan River (2Ki 2:8)

In 1 Kings 19, Elijah did not command a fire from heaven. He knew God would do it. But he had a deeper need which fire and earthquake could not meet. He needs to hear clearly the answer for his heart's need. The powerful prophet has a silent cry that no one knew. **1**

**Kings 19:14** *And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.*

Many Christians today can believe in the mighty works of God. Like Elijah, they have been used to “call fire from heaven” and by faith “cast mountains into the sea” but many of their silent needs are not met. They called those silent needs “insignificant”.

God replied Elijah:

**1 Kings 19: 15- 18** *“And the Lord said unto him, Go, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria: And Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room. And it shall come to pass, that him that escapeth the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay. Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.”*

The way God replied Elijah shows that He is a God of details of his life.

God spoke to Elijah in a still small voice when Elijah was running for his life and God took him away through a chariot of fire. He did not die. But 2,000 years ago, the whole heaven was silent when the Son of God suffered and died on the cross. Every struggling breath and heartbeat of Jesus on the cross was our silent cry. There on the cross, Jesus had everything in his heart and his last cry, "It is Finished" released the answer to our cries. Jesus' cry was unheard on the cross so that ours will be heard in heaven. The cross is God's guaranty that He will respond. Now we have the reason to believe and trust as Jesus gave us the assurance:

***"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." Matthew 28: 18***

*“Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.”*

**John 14: 13**

*“Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”*

**Matthew 18: 18**

And Jesus teaches us. **Matthew 6: 6***But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.*



## CONCLUSION:

God knows every detail of your life, He knows what your concerns are and He is ready to respond to your needs because of what Jesus did. And the Lord Jesus himself gave us the assurance that when you cry to your Father who is in secret, your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

## TESTIMONY:

*For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory. 2 Corinthians 1: 20*