

Treasure Hunt

- What is the common theme in Psalms 6 and 13?
- What are the two kinds of divine chastisement?
- Which kind is in view in these psalms? How do you know?
- What do we learn by comparing Psalm 6:1 and Psalm 38:1?
- What three Hebrew word families are sometimes translated “mercy”?
- How are they distinct from each other?
- Which one appears in both of these psalms?
- Why is God’s lovingkindness a stronger reassurance to us than his grace?
- What are some of the benefits that chastisement can bring us?

Groups of Psalms in Book 1 (Robertson & others

Book 1: 1-41

1-2: Opening

3-14: God delivers the **weak** from the strong

3-7: **Sleep**: Temple, chastisement, **words**, “arise”

8: David and Goliath

9-14: **Poor**: Temple, chastisement, **words**, “arise”

15-25: Kingship

15:1-2 Qualifications for ascending Zion
& entering the sanctuary

19: 2nd Torah Psalm

24:3-4 Qualifications for ascending Zion
& entering the sanctuary

26-32: Regal Dwellingplace Psalms
Centered on Ps 29

33-41: Psalms of the Sufferer

34-37: The Innocent Sufferer

38-41: The Guilty Sufferer

Two Kinds of Chastisement

Correcting Sin (“Penitential”)

Psa 38:1 O LORD, rebuke יכה (Strong 3198) me not in thy wrath קצף: neither chasten יסר (Strong 3256) me in thy hot displeasure תִּמָּה.

2 For thine arrows stick fast in me, and thy hand presseth me sore. 3 There is no soundness in my flesh because of thine anger; neither is there any rest in my bones because of **my sin**. 4 For **mine iniquities** are gone over mine head: as an heavy burden they are too heavy for me. 5 My wounds stink and are corrupt because of **my foolishness**.

Pro 3:11 My son, despise not the chastening מוֹסֵר (Strong 4148) of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction תּוֹכַחַת (Strong 8433): For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth יכה (Strong 3198); even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.

“How Long?”

Psa 6:1 O LORD, rebuke יכה (Strong 3198) me not in thine anger אף, neither chasten יסר (Strong 3256) me in thy hot displeasure תִּמָּה.

Structure of Psalm 6

Description	Petition	Motive
	1 O LORD, rebuke me not in thine anger, neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.	
	2 Have mercy חַנּוּן upon me, O LORD;	for I am weak:
	O LORD, heal me;	for my bones are vexed.
3 My soul is also sore vexed : but thou, O LORD, how long? ... 6 I am weary with my groaning; all the night make I my bed to swim; I water my couch with my tears. 7 Mine eye is consumed because of grief; it waxeth old because of all mine enemies.	4 Return , O LORD, deliver my soul: oh save me for thy mercies' טוֹב sake.	5 For in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?
	8 Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity;	for the LORD hath heard the voice of my weeping. 9 The LORD hath heard my supplication; the LORD will receive my prayer.
	10 Let all mine enemies be ashamed and sore vexed : let them return and be ashamed suddenly.	

Word Families translated “Mercy” in the OT

Exo 34:6 And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God,

merciful רחום (Strong 7349)

and **gracious חנון (Strong 2587)**,

longsuffering, and abundant in

goodness טון (Strong 2617)

and truth,

רחם: “Pity,” sympathy for the miserable state of the recipient

Psa 102:13 Thou shalt arise, *and have mercy* upon Zion:

חנון: “Grace,” unexpected and undeserved favor

Psa 6:2 **Have mercy upon me, O LORD**

טון: “Lovingkindness,” faithfulness to a covenant
Psa 13:5 But I have trusted in thy **mercy**;

6:5 in death there is no remembrance of thee

Psa 30:9 What profit is there in my blood, when I go down to the pit? Shall the dust praise thee? shall it declare thy truth?

Psa 88:10 Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? shall the dead arise and praise thee? Selah. 11 Shall thy lovingkindness be declared in the grave? or thy faithfulness in destruction? 12 Shall thy wonders be known in the dark? and thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?

Psa 115:17 The dead praise not the LORD, neither any that go down into silence.

2Co 5:6 Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: 7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) 8 We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

Summary of Psalm 6

Faced with unexplained suffering (1) both physical (2) and emotional (3, 6-7), David is confident that his appeals to God's grace (2) and covenant love (4) will be heard (8-9), to the frustration of his enemies (10).

Matching Laments and Petitions in Psalm 13

1 How long wilt thou forget me, O LORD? for ever?	3 Consider and hear me, O LORD my God:
How long wilt thou hide thy face from me?	lighten mine eyes,
2 How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily?	lest I sleep the sleep of death;
how long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?	4 Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him; and those that trouble me rejoice when I am moved.

13:3 Lighten mine eyes

Num 6:24 The LORD
bless thee, and keep thee:
25 The LORD make his
face shine upon thee, and
be gracious unto thee: 26
The LORD lift up his
countenance upon thee,
and give thee peace.

Psa 4:6 LORD, lift thou up
the light of thy
countenance upon us.

13:5 Thy Mercy

Heb 6:17 Wherein God, willing more abundantly to
shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his
counsel, confirmed it by an oath: 18 That by two
immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to
lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled
for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

Summary

*David appeals to the Lord for deliverance (vv. 3-4)
during a prolonged period of spiritual emptiness (vv. 1-
2), confident because of his covenant relation with God
(v. 5) and the memory of God's past goodness to him.*

Common Features of Psalms 6 and 13

	Psalm 6	Psalm 13
Originates with God	1 O LORD, rebuke me not in thine anger, neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.	1 How long wilt thou forget me, O LORD? for ever? how long wilt thou hide thy face from me?
Enemies as immediate irritant	7 it waxeth old because of all mine enemies. 8 Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity	2 how long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?
No apparent reason	3 How long?	1-2 How long? (4x)
The eye	7 Mine eye is consumed because of grief; it waxeth old because of all mine enemies.	3 lighten mine eyes,
Concern with death	5 For in death <i>there is</i> no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?	3 lest I sleep the <i>sleep of death</i> ;
Confidence in God's רַחֵם	4 oh save me for thy mercies' sake.	5 But I have trusted in thy mercy

Rom 5:3 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that **tribulation worketh patience**; 4 And patience, experience; and experience, hope: 5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.