**Black Preacher Sermon.Com**

**So What’s Next?**

****

(Psalm 39:1-3 KJV)

*1I said, I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me. 2I was dumb with silence, I held my peace, even from good; and my sorrow was stirred. 3My heart was hot within me, while I was musing the fire burned: then spake I with my tongue,*

T

his entire Psalm is about the brevity of life. The Psalmist pauses in the midst of a busy existence and begins to meditate on his life, his Lord, and the length of his days. As he sits quietly, he begins to consider how short life is; furthermore, he considers how important it is for man to know how short life is (v. 4-7).

It is in the brevity of life that he discovers that there is no real hope outside of the Lord, for God is eternal. He begins to call on God for forgiveness of sins and goodness of days. The theme of this Psalm, however, is v. 4-7. It is in these verses that the Psalmist really comes to understand that life is like a vapor. So I want to teach and preach on a very important subject matter today, “So What’s Next?”

The setting could easily have David sitting on New Year’s Eve looking back at a year filled with disappointments. He had done what most of us have done. He made some New Year’s Resolutions. Resolution #1—“I will watch my ways.” Resolution #2— “I will keep my tongue from sin.”But David did what you and I have done plenty of times. He broke his resolution. David says he is going to curb his tongue when the ungodly are around. And he really tries to fulfill those resolutions. But look what happens when he does.

**(Psalm 39:1-3 KJV)**

*1I said, I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me. 2I was dumb with silence, I held my peace, even from good; and my sorrow was stirred. 3My heart was hot within me, while I was musing the fire burned: then spake I with my tongue,*

David says as he stood there in silence as one with a dumb tongue not even speaking of good things that the turmoil just grew to a boiling point. He said my thoughts grew hot within me and “ignited a blaze of fiery words”. I wonder have you ever been there before like David.

You promised yourself that you weren’t going to use certain words anymore. But when the emotions burned inside of you the boiling point was reached and language poured out of you like a flooded titanic about to sank to the bottom. Here’s what I’m trying to say, “You promised yourself you were going to quit smoking this past year but when things got tough and you needed some relief and out came the cigarettes. Well so much for the resolution.”

You promised yourself you were going to be controlled by the Spirit this year but when you were wronged by that person you forgot all about longsuffering and patience and the flesh took over again. No wonder it’s easy for us to identify with David! “So what do we next?” Do we just decide to live a defeated life? Do we just abandon our outer being and hide our heads in the sand and pretend everything is fine? Or do we face the facts as David did and learn that there is hope no matter what kind of year you had.

1. **David’s Comprehended Reality**

(Psalm 39:4 KJV)

*Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is: that I may know how frail I am.*

David knew that life isn’t long enough for him to get it right by himself. David goes off into this well known discourse that is so often read at funerals. In fact it is probably more appropriate for you and I on a New Year’s Eve Celebration than at a funeral.