"But God . . ." Christianity's Most Important Conjunction

Psalm 31

Community Bible Church, Sunday, September 4, 2022

"There is a crack, a crack in everything That's how the light gets in"

-- Leonard Cohen

"I find deep comfort in this thought, that Jesus is perfect Man, no less than perfect God. He in whom I am told by Scripture to trust is not only a great High Priest, but a feeling High Priest. He is not only a powerful Savior, but an empathizing Savior. He is not only the Son of God, mighty to save, but the Son of man, able to feel."

David's Lament

God's Character

- > let me never be put to shame (x2)
- > the net they have hidden for me
- > I hate those who pay regard to worthless idols
- > affliction
- > distress of my soul
- ➤ I am in distress;

 my eye is wasted from grief

 my soul and my body also.

 For my life is spent with sorrow

 and my years with sighing;

 my strength fails because of my iniquity
 and my bones waste away.
- ➤ I have become a reproach . . . object of dread . . . [people] flee from me . . . forgotten like one who is dead . . . a broken vessel . . . terror on every side . . . they scheme together . . . plot to take my life
- I had said in alarm, 'I am cut off from your sight.'"

- > righteousness
- rock of refuge
- rock
- > fortress
- lead
- > guide
- > you take me out of the net
- > refuge
- you have redeemed me
- \triangleright steadfast love (x3)
- > you have seen my affliction
- > you have known the distress of my soul
- > you have not delivered me into the hand of the enemy
- > you have set my feet in a broad place
- how abundant is your goodness
- those who take refuge in you . . . In the cover of your presence you hide them . . . you store them in your shelter
- > you heard my pleas for mercy
- ➤ The Lord preserves the faithful

LAW: If you are really honest with God about all the awful things in your heart, you might be rejected.

GRACE: God already knows your heart – stop carrying the burden yourself and accept the Grace of Christ's salvation.