

SCCC – TROUBLES BRING US CLOSE TO GOD

S - Scriptures

“I am under vows to you, my God; I will present my thank offerings to you.” Psalm 56: 12

C – Consideration

In the following verse, David described the reason why he was under an oath. He wrote, “For you have delivered me from death and my feet from stumbling, that I may walk before God in the light of life.” He thanked the Lord Who had looked after him in his times of troubles, “In God, whose word I praise, in the LORD, whose word I praise— in God, I trust and am not afraid. What can man do to me?” Hannah, the barren wife of Elkanah, in her sorrows and distress ended up doing the same thing. She vowed that if God would give her a son, she would offer him to the Lord for his entire life. Hannah gave birth to Samuel, who became one of the greatest prophets of Israel. She sang in gratitude, “There is no one holy like the Lord; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.”

C – Commitment

About thirty years ago, I was in a hospital facing the reality of death. As a young adult, I didn't know what the future would be, as the massive heart attack knocked me badly, and a huge clot was blocking my heart's artery. The chief cardiologist called my family, without any good news about my conditions. Minutes later, I watched my folks, one by one coming into my room, crying and trying to comfort me during that difficult situation. I had never read Psalm fifty-six, but the same Spirit that spoke to David and Hannah spoke to me as well. I made a vow to the Lord, that if he would spare my life, I would surrender all my years to serve Him. A few days after, I walked out of the hospital, with a strong heart and the artery unblocked. Since that day, I always remind myself that I am under a vow. However, after my trial, I asked a question: why would we have to be in trouble to surrender something to the Lord? God put David in great danger, made Hannah infertile, and allowed me to suffer a heart attack. Looking for an answer to my enquiry, I found how much God loves us, even in our selfishness and stubbornness. He just lets us know how fragile we are, how helpless we are, and how much we need Him. Probably this was the reason why Jesus called just the ones who are weary and burdened to give them rest. The carefree and tougher would not hear his call.

C – Call

My God, thank You for all these years You have given me. Like David I praise You, and like Hannah, I sing that there is no one besides You. Lord, with Your help I will always fulfill the vow that my lips spoke in the days of my troubles. Blessed be the name of the Lord! In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen!