

SEND FORTH YOUR LIGHT TO LEAD MEⁱⁱ

1. Don't go, come near and plead my cause, O God. Become for me a just and gentle judge Against a people whom you do not know, but who practice great deceit and every treachery.
2. You, O God, alone have been my strength. So why am I rejected now? Why am I oppressed and undefended from these foes?
3. Send forth your light, your truth, and these will lead me back again into your dwelling place, and to the summit of your holy hill.
4. Then I shall come before your alter there, and praise you once again with song and music of the harp, I'll sing to you, my God of joy and gladness.
5. Why then are you so troubled, O my soul? Why this great despondency, this deep despair?
6. Await God's grace, God's help in hope, a time of praise shall surely come and bring you to the presence of the One who is your saving Lord.

ⁱⁱ NOTES:

1. Clearly this Psalm and Psalm 42 are meant to stand together, for the questions that are raised in the human heart as a result of the circumstances of life described in Psalm 42 continues here.
2. The first verse speaks of "faithless" people. The question is why are they faithless? The answer could be that either they do not know God, or God does not know them. In either case it is the lack of relationship (which is the true, human form of knowing) that is missing. The result is descent into human decadence.

MEDITATION

- A. In the normal flow of life and in our relationships with other human beings there are rhythms of closeness and distance. The psalmist feels this experience and prays out of these rhythms. Notice that the same patterns occur in the divine-human relationship.
- B. How do divine light and truth lead you to God? What is the "holy hill" of God as the summit in your journey?

This translation, these notes and meditations were taken from "*Ancient Songs Sung Anew: the psalms as poetry*" by Lynn Bauman