

SELECTED PSALMS PHASE 2
PSALM 42/43
Answers for Review Questions

1. **Answer:**

- (a) "Book 2 of the Psalms", consists of Psalms 42-72.
 (b) Some lessons taught in "Book 2 of the Psalms" are:
 (1) It teaches about the fears people face and the path they take to seek help.
 (2) It teaches about true and false reasons for hope in an uncertain world.
 (3) It teaches about Israel's ruin and their redemption in the latter days.
 (4) Etc.

See Page 1

2. **Answer:**

Although the occasion on which Psa. 42/43 was written is unknown, it is made clear that the author was suffering through a period of intense trials that were so severe that they plunged the psalmist into deep depression. Page 3

3. **Answer:**

Three strong indications why scholars regard Psalms 42 & 43 as one:

- (a) There is a common theme and continuity of both psalms.
 (b) Psalm 43 is also the only psalm in "Book 2 of the Psalms" without a title. The assertion by some scholars is that it is without a title because it is the conclusion of Psalm 42.
 (c) There is also the repetition of the theme noted in Psalm 42:5, 11 and 43:5.

For more information, see Page 4.

4. **Answer:**

- (a) The illustration given in Psa. 42:1 conveys the psalmist deepest desire. The phrase, "**As the deer pants,**" in the Hebrew and as used in Psa. 42:1 and Joel 1:20, application is being made to the beast of the field crying out in a time of dire thirst.
 (b) There was that thirst for water because its (the deer's) life depended on it.

For more information, see Page 5-6.

5. **Answer:**

Just like a dehydrated deer searching greatly for water in the wilderness, the psalmist's soul was yearning for the vitalizing resources found only in God, his hope, strength and joy! Being fully aware that he was emotionally and spiritually dehydrated, he earnestly cried out to God from the bottom of his heart. Page 6

6. **Answer:**

Item (c) . . . is our soul desire.

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7. **Answer:**

Overwhelmed by adversarial conditions the psalmist's painful experience resulted in continuous tears, plenteous and bitter tears and seemingly a lack of appetite, For more information, see Page 7-8.

8. **Answer:**

The devotional area of his life was aggravating; he was disheartened because he didn't see immediate solution that would turn around his heart-wrenching condition. See Page 8.

9. **Answer:**

"When I remember these things", referring to: These sorrows; this banishment from the house of God; these reproaches of my enemies.
Etc.
For more information, see Pages 8-9.

10. **Answer:**

Item (b) . . . God is sincerely honored and glorified.

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11. **Answer:**

- (a) ***"Why are you cast down?"***: The original is said to be ***"bowed down."***
 - (b) The Hebrew means, to bow down, to incline oneself, etc.
 - (c) It is an earnest rebuke that the psalmist addressed to his own soul, summoning himself to see if there is any reasonable cause for such excessive depression, or why was he acting as if he had cherished his grief improperly.
- For more information, see Page 10.

12. **Answer:**

- (a) religious (b) cheerful (c) submissive (d) affliction (e) active (f) health (g) prosperity (h) desponding.

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13. **Answer:**

- (a) ***"Hope in God"*** (Psa. 42:5c): this is summons to trust in God, with the expectation that he will interpose and be restored to the privileges and comforts that were experienced in the past.
 - (b) As exemplified by the psalmist, he sought to take authority of his emotions instead of allowing them to control him.
- For more information, see Pages 11-12.

14. **Answer:**

It is evidently clear that the soul of the psalmist was in anguish, although he had decided not to be cast down (v. 5); it cannot be denied that he was sad but not hopeless. For more information, see Pages 12-13.

15. **Answer:**

Item (d) . . . remember the God of our mercies.

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16. **Answer:**

“Deep calls unto deep” (Psa. 42:7a): This is implying that the psalmist was near some overflow of water, most likely some rapid river or waterfall, which appropriately illustrates the **waves of sorrow** that overwhelmed his soul.

For more information, see Pages 14-15.

17. **Answer:**

(a) mightier (b) noise (c) waters (d) strange (e) exercise (f) trials (g) thickly (h) knows (i) shortly.

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18. **Answer:**

The psalmist acknowledged that “By day the LORD will command His mercy;” that is, will order or direct His mercy or favor, etc.

Irrespective of any adverse, discouraging, prevailing circumstances, even in the dark night of the situation, he would glorify God.

Etc.

For more information, see Pages 16-17.

19. **Answer:**

The following compilation based on comments taken from Life in the Spirit Study Bible:

These are the words of the Israelites (as seen in Isaiah 49:14-17 . . . insert mine) who experienced great adversity and felt abandoned and forgotten by God.

A message to all believers in summary:

(a) His love for us is greater than the natural affections of a loving mother for her children; it is therefore unthinkable that He will ever forget us under any circumstances.

(b) His compassion for us will never fail regardless of any circumstances, He watches over us with great tenderness and love.

(c) The evidence of God’s great love is that he has engraved us on the psalms of His own hands, so that He can never forget us; the scars in His hands are ever before His eyes as a reminder of the great love He has showered on us and desire to care for us.

20. **Answer:**

(a) The persecution of the enemy felt like he was literally been slaughtered; it was as if his life was on the line, starring at death in the face.

(b) The enemies reproached him as if he was forsaken by God, as on suffering justly under His displeasure. Their argument was, that if he was truly the friend of God, He would not leave him in such a state, and the fact of him being abandoned proved that he was not a friend of God.

For more information, see Pages 18-19.