David's trouble intensifies into 'distress' (4:1). He is on the run from his son Absalom. David is the rightful king. 'When you are copping flack, you are over the target'.

## 'Faith is born of self-despair and expresses itself in prayer.'

(John Stott)

Psalms 3 and 4 are morning and evening psalms (3:5, 4:8) God the Creator of our days and nights — all seasons God. David will move from 'in distress' (4:1) to 'in peace' (4:8).

Answer me when I call, O God of my <u>righteousness</u>! You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer! God of Abraham (Genesis 15:6)

God of Moses (see Exodus 33:19)\

O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame? How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?

But know that the Lord has set apart the godly for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him.

David 'doesn't think about himself. He talks to himself. 'Self, listen to me!' In the matter of spiritual living, we need to know how to handle our self, question our self, preach to our self – reminding our self who God is, and what God has done, and what God has promised...Do not listen to him! Remind him of what you know!' (Jones)

David knows the source of Significance! David knows the blessing of Brokenness! 'The Lord has set apart the godly for himself.' 'Offer right sacrifices. Put your trust in the Lord'

4 Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent.5 Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord.

To be angry at injustice is right since God is angry at sin and against all that is evil. What sacrifices? 'a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise' (Ps 51:17).

There are **many** who say, "Who will show us some **good**? Lift up the light of your face upon us, O Lord!" You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound In peace, I will both lie down and sleep, For You alone, O Lord, make me to dwell in safety.

His enemies rejoice in **what they have**. David's joy comes from **who he knows**. 'You have put more joy in my heart than they have!' (see 1 Peter 1:8)

Mention of wine recalls the wedding in Cana (John 2:3) New wine meant the age of To have no wine was humiliating and embarrassing! **Messiah had come** (Jer 31:12).

'Joy is distinctly a Christian word. Happiness is the result of what happens of an agreeable sort. Joy has its springs deep down inside. And that spring never runs dry, no matter what happens. Jesus gives that joy. He had joy, singing its music within, even under the shadow of the cross.'

Fill, the jar up to the brim Leave the miracle to him.