



NINE BEATS



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NINE BREAKS







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BEAT TWO  
THE WAY OF LAMENT

LINE BEATS

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God's work in the world, according to Scripture, has a linear trajectory and a final goal, the restoration of creation itself and the establishment of a redeemed and a re-formed humanity in a paradisaical state of flourishing.

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This is not yet the situation, however. The Christian experience is one of waiting, longing and preparing for God's return to the earth in Christ's second coming.

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Because the end has not yet come,  
human flourishing will only be  
experienced  
in a paradoxical way that combines  
loss, longing, suffering and persecution  
with true happiness, joy, satisfaction  
and peace.

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The Beatitudes establish and explicate this experiential enigma by emphasizing that *makarios*-ness (flourishing) is experienced now through moments of need, loss, brokenness, poverty, and even outright persecution, and ultimately when God reestablishes his kingdom.

Jonathan Pennington  
The Sermon on the Mount and Human Flourishing.

NINE BEATITUDES

## Psalm 13

How long, Lord?  
Will you forget me forever?  
How long will you hide your face from  
me?

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## Psalm 13

How long must I wrestle with my  
thoughts  
and day after day have sorrow in my  
heart?  
How long will enemy triumph over me?

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## Psalm 13

Look on me and answer, Lord my God.  
Give light to my eyes,  
or I will sleep in death,  
and my enemy will say,  
“I have overcome him,”  
and my foes will rejoice when I fall.

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“... all true prayer pursued for long  
enough  
will become praise.  
It does not always get there quickly,  
it does not always get there easily....  
  
But in the end is always praise.”

Eugene Peterson

The

Pastor's Workshop

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## Psalm 13

But I trust in your unfailing love;  
my heart rejoices in your salvation.  
I will sing to the Lord's praise,  
for he has been good to me.

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