

A person wearing a grey hooded cloak sits on the grass under a large, leafy tree. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow that filters through the trees. The person is holding a long, thin staff or spear. The overall scene is peaceful and contemplative.

A Heart Like  
God's

Part 13: Thriving in the Wilderness

We know that we have  
poured out our heart to  
the Lord when:

We feel connected to the  
Lord, and we feel hope  
arise.

5 How blessed is the man whose strength is in You, *In whose heart are the highways to Zion!*

Psalm 84:5–7

NASB95

6 Passing through the valley of  
Baca (“tears”) *they make it a spring;*  
The early rain also covers it with  
blessings.

7 They go from *strength to strength*,  
*Every one of them* appears before  
God in Zion.

The heart of God loves to  
make wilderness places into  
fruitful, life-giving spaces  
for others to inhabit.

If we wish to lead others  
out of their wilderness we  
must first learn, not only  
to survive in our  
wilderness, but how to  
thrive in it.

Our divine purpose and destiny is to convert all the "wilderness" places of the world into the Garden of Eden.



Maskil of David, when he was in the  
cave. A Prayer.

Psalm 142

NASB95

I *I cry aloud with my voice* to the  
LORD; *I make supplication with my*  
*voice* to the LORD.

2 I *pour out my complaint* before  
Him; I *declare my trouble* before  
Him.









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3 *When my spirit was overwhelmed  
within me, You knew my path. In the  
way where I walk They have hidden  
a trap for me.*

Psalm 142

NASB95



The great illusion of leadership is to think that man can be led out of the desert by someone who has never been there.

— *Henri Nouwen* —

AZ QUOTES

4 Look to the right and see; For  
*there is no one who regards me;* There  
is no escape for me; *No one cares for*  
*my soul.*

Psalm 142

NASB95

The wilderness is a great place to overcome the lie that we are all alone.



When we feel deserted by those we usually depend on, it is often because:

1. We are not accepting their help.
2. They don't know how to help.

Often, God will allow us to **feel** all alone in our wilderness so that we will learn to walk with Him, not on a **second hand faith**, but a faith of our own.

5 I cried out to You, O LORD; I  
said, “You are *my refuge*, *My portion*  
in the land of the living.

Psalm 142

NASB95

6 “Give heed to my cry, For I am brought very low; Deliver me from my persecutors, For they are too strong for me.

7 “Bring my soul out of prison, So  
that I may give thanks to Your  
name; *The righteous will surround me,*  
For *You will deal bountifully with*  
*me.*”