

March 24, 2022

## When Troubles Rise Like a Flood

### [Psalm 32](#)

*“Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found; surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them. You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.” (Psalm 32:6-7)*

It was July of 2007, and torrential rain pushed many of West Virginia’s rivers and their tributaries several feet above normal flow. The TV news showed footage of a trailer floating down what used to be a road.

Newspaper articles would later paint pictures of loss and survival — one from a White Sulphur Springs man who saved neighbors’ lives but lost his wife, others about people who may have drowned had boats not rescued them from their rooftops, some about residents and businesses who weren’t as fortunate.

Those of us in the Mountain State know all too well the devastation of a flood. We’ve watched helplessly as rising waters from streams and rivers transform almost instantly from breathtaking beauty to breath-stealing horror.

Imagine now that what is rising so quickly, what is threatening to drown us, is not the swelling of a river’s water, but a flood of sin. As it rises, it smothers us with guilt, weakening us, sapping our strength, wasting away our bones, as the Psalmist wrote.

But we have no need to climb onto a roof to escape it. All we need to do is connect with God. He forgives our sin, lifts away the heaviness of guilt. And just as quickly as that torrent of trouble rose, it shrinks back down, forever washed away by a simple confession.

Those of us who trust God enough to simply connect with Him in prayer and admit our sin are delivered from drowning in guilt. We are not only forgiven, we are embraced with and protected by an unfailing love. And that is something worth singing about.

***Prayer:** Heavenly Father, thank you for surrounding us with your love, for protecting us from floods of trouble. Help us to connect with you in prayer more often, remembering that our confessions bring relief. For that, we rejoice! Amen.*

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