Ps 42:9-11 I will say to God my rock, "Why have You forgotten me? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?" ¹⁰As a shattering of my bones, my adversaries revile me, While they say to me all day long, "Where is your God?" ¹¹ Why are you in despair, O my soul? And why have you become disturbed within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God.

Meditation

Lord, the torment of depression and despair and doubt. Judas suffered this and took control of his own fate—"BETTER had he never been born!" It would have been BEST had he been born again! Jesus cried, "My God, why have you left me?" Judas cried "I have left God!" The blackness of Friday. But Sunday! What Glory! That is my hope. "Hope in God and I will yet Praise HIM!" Jesus was abandoned. He took my place. I will never be abandoned again! If Judas had only waited ...



1 Cor 15:6-9 Then He appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.
Then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles.
Last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared also to me.

For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the Church of God. Like Paul, James came to faith because of the appearance of the resurrected Christ.

Paul considered himself abnormally born because he lacked the "gestation" period of having been with Christ during His earthly ministry. This is true of James.

It seems that The Apostles were a wider body than the previously mentioned Twelve, but all were distinguished by having seen the resurrected Christ, which made Paul the last of their company.

Bible Knowledge Commentary, Walvoord and Zuck, Eds. "1 Corinthians" David Lowery, p.542

Isa 9:1-2 ... In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he made glorious ... the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Those who lived in a land of deep darkness,

on them a light shone.

Mat 4:13-17 ... leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum, by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— the people living in darkness have seen a great light, and for those living in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned."

From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

