

**Psalms**  
**Book 3**  
**Ps 73 - 89**

<u>Book of Psalms</u>	<u>Book of Moses</u>	<u>Theme</u>
1 (Ps 1-41)	Genesis	mankind – fallen depraved redeemed
2 (Ps 42-72)	Exodus	redemption
<b>3 (Ps 73-89)</b>	<b>Leviticus</b>	<b>worship God's</b> <b>sovereignty</b> <b>faithfulness</b> <b>holiness</b>
4 (Ps 90-106)	Numbers	wandering
5 (Ps 107-150)	Deuteronomy	Word of God

**Ps 73**

Author: Asaph

Type of Psalm: Song of Transformation

v1 God is good to

- those “governed by God”
- those with pure hearts (Matt 5:8)

this is not meant to be an all-inclusive list...

- He sends rain to the just and the unjust...
- **Eccl 9:2**

Asaph is stating the conclusion/answer at the beginning of the problem

v2 “I almost went astray. I almost fell.”

“My heart was not clean... I was not governed by God.”

v3 “I was jealous of the wicked.”

Life is hard. Life is not fair.

Asaph noticed that the wicked were

- healthy
- wealthy
- happy

and he got jealous...which did not help!

jealousy in the heart of man is a very ugly thing...

it darkens our spirit...

it is fueled by self-centeredness and self-pity.

What is Asaph jealous about...what are his observations about the wicked?

v4 “They have an easy life...and are always well-fed.

They live long lives...and die in their sleep.”

**Eccl 7:15**

v5 “For them, life is good. They have no problems. They are care-free.”

- v6 “They get all puffed up and wear their blessings like 14-karat jewelry...”self-made” men  
They are all about ‘taking care of #1’, stepping on people to get whatever they want.”
- v7 “Their eyes bulge with abundance...more than anybody could ever need.  
They have the biggest houses, the coolest cars, the most stuff, the nicest clothes.  
They get whatever they see and want.”
- v8 “They worship their possessions!  
They oppress the less fortunate to get even more possessions...  
and say some of the most incredible things, boasting in their wealth.”
- v9 “They blaspheme God...Who
- inhabits eternity
  - placed the sun, moon, and stars in their places
  - owns the earth and the fullness thereof
  - is the Giver of every good and perfect gift
- v10 “They have it all! They have life by the tail!”
- v11 “They say that God doesn’t know or see or care.  
They think they are ‘getting away with it.’”
- v12 “Their lives are ungodly...yet they live on Easy Street.  
And they just keep getting wealthier and wealthier!”
- v13-14 Asaph is upset by the perceived unfairness.  
He is confused...and second-guessing his chosen course of life.
- “Being holy has profited me nothing.  
My cleanness...my lifestyle...has left me poor and empty-handed.  
Every day of my life is hard.  
Nobody knows the troubles I gots.”

v15-16 “But if I were to think the way the wicked think, I would betray the people of God.

This problem is just too heavy for me to understand.”

v17 Until...

- his eyes are shifted away from the world and onto God
- he removes himself from the place of the wicked and enters into the holy place of God

there, in the presence of God

- terms are redefined: “poor”, “riches”, “health”
- his deepest needs are supplied to overflowing: forgiveness, eternal life, joy, peace, contentment,
- the end of the wicked is understood
- he is reminded of his “end”

v18-20 Their health is only physical...and it is fleeting

Their wealth is only physical...and it is even more fleeting

Their happiness is circumstantial...and is the most fleeting of all

They are not care-free...that are care-full...owned by all that they own

They are not free...they are in bondage...and blind

They seem to have the world by the tail...when, in fact, the world has them by the nose  
(nose ring used to lead captives into captivity)

When their time has run out and when their health/wealth/happiness fail, they will know that God does know and see and care...and that they are getting away with nothing!

At that time, our longsuffering God will act suddenly...in the blinking of the eye... and hurl them into hell and eternal torment.

In hell, they will have no comforts, no luxuries, no peace.

v21-22 As the Lord corrects his perspective, Asaph is convicted...by his sin and wickedness

- for longing after temporal wealth and ease of the world
- for losing sight of all his eternal blessings of God
- for being self-centered
- for walking in the flesh and not in the Spirit

- v23-24 Even while he was off in his sin, God
- continued to hold Asaph's hand  
when we walk across a busy street with our children, we hold their hands...they do not hold ours!  
As we walk with God, He holds our hand, we don't hold His.  
He never lets go...we would
  - guided him by His Word...because the Truth sets us free
  - is faithful to take him into His glory

v25 "Who needs the stuff the world has to offer?  
I have everything God in heaven has to offer!  
True health and wealth and happiness is to be in Christ Jesus.  
It is Him a desire to please...it is Him I long for."

v26 This body will fail...but God is my inheritance forever.  
Rom 7:24 – 8:1  
1 Cor 15:55-58  
2 Cor 5:1

v27 but the wicked...  
who seem to prosper  
who long for the things of the world...  
will be destroyed forever.

v28 it is better to draw close to the Lord Jesus Christ...it is better to trust in the Lord.  
He is the better choice!

Ecc1 8:10-13  
Ecc1 9:5-6

Why do the wicked prosper?

- This life is as good as it gets for them
- God spares no attempt to bring them to repentance...that they might live  
2 Cor 7:10

a good psalm to read when you need a “waaa-imbalance”

- Life ain’t fair!
- Why do the wicked prosper...and I am suffering!

**Ps 74**

Author: a descendent of Asaph

Type of Psalm: A cry to a silent God

This psalm was written after the fall of Jerusalem in 586 BC at the hands of Neb.

Last week...Why do the wicked prosper?

This week...Have You forgotten what the wicked have done?  
...Have you forgotten me/us?

- v1 why hast thou cast off forever...anger smoke:  
the psalmist feels like God has
- pushed Israel aside...
  - rejected them...and
  - forgotten them.

Something wrong here!

- v2 Remember thy congregation:  
“Remember us, Your people...
- whom You purchased...“created” (Is 43:1)
  - whom You redeemed...“purchased” or “married”
  - who live on this mountain You have chosen (Ps 68:15-16)

- v3 Lift up thy feet:  
“Please stand up...please go to the ruins of our Temple.  
See the damage done by this enemy.”

- v4-8 Thine enemies:  
“Your enemies have defiled Your sanctuary.  
Chopped down all our meeting places...as if they were chopping down trees for  
firewood.  
They tore down the dwelling place of Your name...the Temple...and raised their  
banners/flag over it.”

(a military signal for conquest)

v9-10 We see not...knoweth how long:

“Our flag is desecrated.

Your prophets are silent also.

How long will this blasphemy continue before You speak and act?”

Q: What did Israel do to God’s prophets?

v11 Why withdraw...pluck out:

“This blasphemous enemy is no more to You than a snarling gnat is to a man...  
why won’t You squash this insect!”

v12 working salvation:

God is The King...the King of all and of all time.

The nation forgot that.

He delivers His people by awesome works!

They remember that now!

v13-17 Thou didst:

The Lord God their Creator has absolute control over His creation...  
over things man will never be able to control:

- the seas
- the sea monsters (large marine animals)
  
- the water cycle
  
- the rotation of the earth upon its axis around the sun  
(the flow of “day and night” and the flow of the seasons)
  
- the boundaries of land and sea...  
and of the nations/kingdoms

v18 Remember this:

“You remember to keep the earth in its orbit...remember how the enemy insulted  
and mocked You!?”

v19 O deliver not:  
turtle dove...a harmless and innocent creature  
...this was a term of endearment

forget not:  
“Do not forget Your humble and needy people!”

v20 Have respect unto:  
“Remember Your promises to us...assigned in this time to this violent earth,  
where evil abounds, in every nook and cranny.”

John 1:18-21  
Prov 27:20

v21 O let not...let:  
“Don’t let the wicked get away with it!  
Remember their evil deeds.  
Remember us...let us praise Your name!”

v22-23 Arise:  
“We cannot defend ourselves.  
We cannot defend Your glory and honor.  
We are Yours...defend us!  
Defend Your holy name!”

remember how the foolish...forget not:  
“Remember the insults of the fools.  
Do not forget the sound of their voices.  
The ire of Your enemies rises continually.”

To the wicked...a silent God does not see or care

To the righteous...a silent God...might forget?

- the ways and rewards of the wicked?  
(v10, 18, 22-23)
- the plight of the righteous?  
(v2, 19-20)

the problem...in the context of the history of Israel...was that THEY were the wicked  
and that Neb. was God's instrument of judgment...  
God was silent because they did not listen to Him

to both the wishful wicked and the wondering righteous...  
to His people Israel...God says,

- "I will remember"

wicked: Jer 14:10-12  
Hosea 9:1, 9

righteous: Lev 26:40-45 and  
Ezk 16:59-60...

to a humbled Israel

- "I will not forget"

Deut 4:24-31  
Is 49:14-16

Do you feel like God has pushed you aside...  
let an enemy run all over you...  
and forgotten you in your plight?

Has His silence caused you to think that perhaps He was punishing you?

Is your walk with the Lord not, in fact, a walk at all?

Are you currently a backslider?

Perhaps your insults and mocking and silence to a beckoning God...  
has left Him silent and you beckoning.

Listen to the silent God

Joshua 24:15

1 K 18:21

A good psalm to read when you need to remember that  
God always remembers

**Ps 75**

Author: Asaph

Type of Psalm: A warning to the wicked...before being served a Cup of Wine

v1 Al-taschith:

“Thou must not destroy”

thy name is near:

I AM is near...His coming is on the horizon

the sign of the times declare that Jesus is coming back soon...in holy wrath

v2 When I shall receive the congregation:

When I shall “take” “the people”...the snatching away of the righteous before  
pouring out His wrath on the wicked  
ala Lot out of Sodom and Gomorrah

Note: all other translations say, “When I select an appointed time”

v3 “Creation...the earth and its inhabitants...will melt...but I will steady it.”

v4-5 Lift not:

an advance warning to the wicked aka proud fools

- Do not be stupid...like a brute beast
- Do not rise up to fight your Creator
- Do not be proud and boast against heaven
- Do not be arrogant and stubborn

A stiff neck was a brute beast that refused to bow to take the Master’s yoke  
(Matt 11:28-30)

v6-7 For promotion:

Exaltation comes not from an earthly source...but from God.  
He and He alone humbles the proud and exalts the humble

v8 a cup...and the wine is red:  
The Lord is going to serve the wicked a cup of wine...of His fury

Is 51:15-23

Is 63:6

Rev 14:9-10

Rev 16:17-19

v9 the wicked shout curses...the righteous sing praises

v10 All the horns:

Every man will receive from the Lord according to his own works

the proud, stubborn wicked will receive destruction...

for they have sown destruction

the humble, uncompromising righteous will receive exaltation...

joint-heirs and glorified with Jesus Christ

they way has been prepared by the Lord for every man to make a choice for all  
eternity

James 4:4-4-10

it's a matter of faith (Hab 2:4)

a good psalm to read when you've been done wrong

Look at the big picture...and weep for those who choose to do  
wrong

**Ps 76**

Author: Asaph

Type of Psalm: Praise to the Victor

in reference to God's wrath falling on the taunting Assyrians in siege around Jerusalem  
([2 K 19:14-37](#) and [Is 37:21-38](#))

a surprise attack...a shadow...

v1-3 The Lord God is faithful to protect His city & people from

- warriors...even giant enemies ([Eph 6:12](#))
- weapons of war ([2 Cor 10:3-5](#))
- battlegrounds of war ([1 Sam 17:45-47](#))  
...another surprise attack

He broke the power of the enemy and the power of death in Jerusalem...  
with the surprise attack on the Cross

your battle belongs to the Lord, the God of peace

[Ps 24:8](#) King of glory, Lord mighty in battle

[Phil 4:9](#)

v4 “You are more majestic and more powerful than 185,000 on the mountains round about  
Jerusalem...and all the principalities and powers of the kingdoms of the world!”

v5-6 the arrogant, strong-willed enemy of God

- were completely wiped out
- their hands were asleep...  
unable to lift a hand  
unable to fight  
unable to hold onto bow, shield, or sword

v7-9 no one can stand in the presence of God when He is angry

[Nahum 1:2-6](#)

Hezekiah humbled himself before the Lord...and the Lord intervened to save the Jews  
and destroy their enemies

v10 God's wrath upon His enemies was not fully unleashed...  
but someday, at the end of His longsuffering when "Enough is finally enough",  
it will not be diluted

[Rev 15:1-4](#)

v11 [Is 2:2](#)

v12 [Rev 6:15-17](#)

2 K 19 was a shadow of [Is 24:17-23](#)  
in the Day of the Lord

a good psalm to read to remember Who wins...  
so you are not surprised!

**Ps 77**

Author: Asaph

Type of Psalm: A cry of distress turned into praise to the Victor

v1 he cried...God listened

God hears my voice when I cry out in distress.

(But He also wants to hear my voice when I am not in crisis and just want to talk to Him.

My voice is precious to my Father.)

v2-4 the psalmist is in great distress...  
his hand was lifted all night in prayer

completely overwhelmed by the magnitude of the trouble,  
(a downward spiral) he is unable to sleep or speak...  
all he can do is reach out and complain to God

v5-6 the psalmist looks back in history...  
personal and national...  
searching for instances of God's mercy and deliverance to comfort him

**Phil 4:6-9**

v7-9 while searching for such an instance, he wonders...

- Has God rejected me forever?
- Am I never able to please Him again?
- Are His mercies not new every morning any more?
- Is this the end of His promises?
- Is He so fed up with me that He will no longer be longsuffering and gracious and compassionate to me?
- Did He bring me to this place to abandon me or kill me?

v10-12 the afflicted psalmist determines to look thru his affliction to remember what God has done in the past...to bring into memory God's

- track record of faithfulness
- miraculous help in other situations
- work...things only He could do

he is determined to stop, meditate, and re-focus...

- from the temporary to the eternal...
- from self to God

we get out of that miserable funk by remembering

- our Father
- what He has done for us in the past.

in the knowledge of his love is comfort for misery and despair

v13-15 Who...or what...is greater than our God!?

You have shown Yourself mighty in our midst...  
when You snatched us out of Egypt, for example

v16-20 the waters of the Red Sea were moved to places only the  
One, True, Living God of AI&J...the Creator...the God of *bara*...  
could place them...piled up and stayed

the deliverance from Egypt was not done on a beautiful spring afternoon...  
but in the midst of violent weather and a raging creation  
(this is not recorded by Moses)

He led His people thru the stack of water...and they could not be followed by Pharaoh

a good psalm to read when you are miserable, stressed out

Is your trouble more stressful than that of  
2.5M disorderly slaves  
trapped between  
death by the sword (Pharaoh) and  
death by drowning (Red Sea)?

No trouble is bigger than God!

You think nobody knows the troubles you got?  
The Lord God Almighty does!  
The God of wonders does!

Do you trust Him to deliver you?  
If you do...sweet dreams.

**Ps 78**

Author: Asaph

Type of Psalm: When are we going to learn?

a history lesson...because history is important

v1-4 Learn from the past...don't re-live it!

Give ear...I will utter:

“Listen and obey my instruction.

I will tell you a story...a true story with a very tough lessons

“We all know the story is true...we all know the story of the words of God and the works of God!

None of us have an excuse...”

We will not hide:

“We must teach the next generation this story.”

Every generation is obligated to the next generation to teach them the words and works of God

v5-8 there was a Divine purpose for no break in the cycle of generation-to-generation instruction...so that all

- would put their faith in God
- not forget...from lack of attention...  
the works of God to protect and preserve them
- would obey His word and prosper
- NOT be like their fore-fathers...stiff-necked mules that were not fixed on...  
right with...  
faithful to a faithful God

**Deut 6**

v9-11 the children of Ephraim:

the history lesson starts with the blessing of the first born, given to Joseph before Jacob/Israel died

they

- did not have their father's faith
- trusted in their own strength and courage rather than in the Lord
- refused the shelter of God's "safe boundaries" and rebelled
- forgot what God had done...His works and His wonders

Let's examine the problem

Symptoms: rebellion and forgetfulness

v12-16 the "Cliff Notes" of the forgotten history – God's supernatural work of deliverance from Egypt

- way of escape
- 24x7 guidance
- provision...water is life...given as a bottomless well

v17-20 Israel's response to God's love:

1. continued to sin
  - in the face of such awesome power!
  - not having learned from history...even recent history
2. deliberate test of the Almighty God
  - lustfully demanding food
  - "Well, that escape from Egypt was pretty good! But can God feed us here in the desert?"
  - daring, challenging, taunting...doubting the power or the heart of God

We are getting closer to the real problem...

v21-33 the Lord God Almighty was furious with Israel's response to His work of deliverance

now...God's supernatural work of deliverance...from their problem

1. rained down bread from the doors of heaven...manna
  - corn of heaven
  - angel's food
  - more than enough to feed them
  
2. gathered up and delivered meat...quail
  - gathered with the east wind...delivered by the south wind
  
  - quail do not fly with the south wind because it is too moist and heavy...
  
  - they fell in and around the camp of Israel, unable to stay airborne...
  
  - 3 feet deep...until would come out their nostrils  
(Num 11:20, 31)
  
3. slew the strongest and best of the men...
  - upon whose strength Israel depended instead of His strength

what is the basic problem? Unbelief

v22, 32

they refused to learn from history...chose to believe contrary to history  
the day of slaughter was when they were fat with the lusts of the flesh.

Sounds like USA today.

If His small still voice does not get my attention, God will thunder

E.G. Matthew running out in front of a car this week

I thundered. "Matthew!!! What are you doing?"

He was very upset that I yelled at him

"You could have been hurt or killed!"

"I forgot."

v34-35 He slew...they sought:

Israel's initial and superficial response:

- to seek God
- to turn from their backsliding and "come home"
- to ask for God's help
- to remember that God is their refuge and redeemer

Why do men not listen to a loving God until they are facing death?

Even then...are they really listening?

v36-37 Nevertheless they did flatter:

Israel's real and sustained response:

- insincere devotion
- lying thru their teeth...
- saying what they thought God wanted to hear
- unfaithful foolishness

v38-40 But He:

God's work of supernatural love:

- loving the unlovely
- being kind to the unkind
- forgiving the law breakers
- restraining His holy wrath
- remembering the frailty of "the mighty"  
(dirt clods and vapor)  
Ps 103:14 James 4:14
- suffering long those who 10 times broke His heart  
Num 14:22

v41-51 they turned back and tempted...limited:

Israel's response to God's supernatural love:

- rebelled
- deliberately tested
- forgot His power and strength to deliver

BUT the fundamental problem was...unbelief  
(John 5:39-47)

- which led to rebellion, testing, and forgetting history
- "limiting" God..."boxing" Him is a very subtle yet crippling form of unbelief
- comes from walking by sight in the world

how many of us "believe in Jesus"...yet put Him in a box?

Do you REALLY believe...or do you doubt?

v52-55 But made...guided...led...brought...divided:

Consider the history of God's work of deliverance and His keeping His promises

- shepherded His people out of Egypt and in the wilderness
- kept them safe while destroying their enemies
- brought them to Zion
- appointed them their inheritance in the land

v56-58 Yet they:

Israel's response...is like a broken record

the cycle of refusing to learn from history repeats as they

- deliberately tested
- stubbornly rejected God's protection (so illogical!)
- unfaithfully backsliding again
- predictably unreliable
- made God jealous with their idolatry

v59-64 When God heard:

God's work...of cleansing to remove the basic problem...not just the symptoms

- with fury He spurned His people (they pushed the God who is slow to anger beyond "the limits")
- departed His dwelling place
- let His enemies capture the Ark
- allowed His enemies to smite His people

v65-66 Then the Lord awaked:

God's work...against His enemies

judgment begins at the house of God...but He will also spank His enemies

v67-72 He chose David:

God's work...of shepherding His lambs

He chose a bondservant...a shepherd with

- a tender heart to feed His people
- integrity of heart (faithful) to rule with wisdom

a good psalm to read when you think your going in circles

a man after God's own heart

- does not limit God
- believes
- is not staggered by the promises of God  
Rom 4:16-22, 2 Tim 1:12, Heb 11:13
- is obedient by faith (Ps 61:1-4)
- learns from history

How many times must you make the same mistake (unbelief, limiting God) before you learn?

How many times must you "go around that mountain"?

Limiting God...unbelief...leads to

- Rebellion (my will be done, my timing)
- Forgetfulness (what if God forgot us? Poof!)

so...from a history lesson, learn the lesson of history

**Ps 79**

Author: Asaph

Type of Psalm:

speaking of the destruction of Jerusalem by Neb.

v1-4 terrible calamity has befallen Israel!

The Babylonians have

- invaded Israel
- destroyed the Temple
- reduced Jerusalem to rubble
- slaughtered the Jews.....God's creation sends a sanitation corp
- spilled their blood all over town
- made the Jews a disgrace, a laughingstock, an object of ridicule

noteworthy is the reference to Israel as..."thy servants"

Not so.

This was precisely the problem...they refused to be God's servants and desired to be their own masters

The Lord repeatedly told them thru the prophets this would lead to "cleansing"

**Jer 16:1-13**

**Jer 25:8-12**

v5 Key questions by Asaph

1. How long, LORD...the self-existent Jehovah...the God of the promises to AI&J?
2. Will You be enraged forever?
3. Will Your jealousy burn like fire...until there is no more fuel...no more Jews?

v6-7 Asaph is beseeching the Lord to re-direct His righteous fury...upon people that have not known Him personally and have rejected Him for idols

problem: Israel became worse than the surrounding heathen

**2 Chron 33:1-11**

v8-9a Asaph's wail

- Forgive us!
- And forget our sins!
- Let Your compassions flow before us!
- Protect us!
- Rescue us!
- Cleanse us of our sins!

Will be heard again in the future (Hosea 6:1-3)

v9b-10 Why should God do those things?

- For His name's sake
- So the heathen would know that He is God

And God would...for His name's sake and so the heathen would know that He is God

It's the only reason Israel made it thru 40 years of wilderness wandering and into the Promised Land

It's why Israel lasted in the land as long as they did before being purged out of the land...and re-gathered (twice!)

It's why Israel exists today...in unbelief

It's why Jesus set aside His glory, took on the form of a servant, humbled Himself, was obedient even unto death on a cross

It's why He is going to return to the earth to rescue Israel and destroy His enemies

Note: This cry for vengeance will be echoed by the Tribulation saints in Rev 6:9-11

v11-12 Hear the cry of the prisoner!

We are Yours. Our disgrace and mocking is Yours...take vengeance!

v13 God doesn't make deals with man

But...what are the answers to the questions raised in v5?

1. How long, LORD...

the self-existent Jehovah...the God of the promises to AI&J?

A: 70 years...just like He said.

Daniel realized it when he was reading Jeremiah (Dan 9)

He asked the same question...and was told "70 Weeks"

2. Will You be enraged forever?

3. Will Your jealousy burn like fire...until there is no more fuel...no more Jews?

A. Is 54:4-10 (more purging in the future)

Jer 31:1-6, 31-40

a good psalm to read when you doubt the Word of God

God means what He says and says what He means

**Ps 80**

Author: Asaph

Type of Psalm: Cry for salvation

made 3 times: v3, 7, 19

1. Restore us
2. shine Your face upon us
3. We will be saved

v1-3 Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel...that dwellest...saved:  
The Shepherd Savior...  
The Lord of hosts...  
The Lord God of Israel

Shepherd of Israel:

Ps 23

John 10:14-15

1. that dwells between the cherubim:

Ex 25:17-22

2. that shines His face upon them

John 8:12

3. The Savior of Israel

Is 43:3, 11

Who lives between the cherubim?

The Lord of hosts

The Lord God of Israel

The Shepherd Savior

The Light of the world

Jesus Christ

v4-7 their quarrels with their neighbors endure to this day...until the Prince of Peace comes

tears...perhaps no nation has shed more tears than Israel...

their Shepherd Savior knows precisely how many...

He has them all in a bottle (Ps 56:8)

v8-13 God's vineyard pulled up out of Egypt:

Is 5:1-7a

Why trashed by

- wild pigs (unclean)
- wild beasts (Dan 2, 7)?

Because they bore wild grapes...bad fruit

They were not true...but there is a True Vine:

John 15:1-5

v14-16 visit this vine: oversee this vine...be the vinedresser

v17-19 Is God done with Israel?

No!

the Son of David, the Son of man, will reign from the throne of David for  
1000 years

the natural branches get grafted back in...after rebuke...revival and rescue

read Rom 11

a good psalm to read when you read or hear news out of Israel...  
pray for them!

**Ps 81**

Author: Asaph

Type of Psalm: A Song of Choices

v1-3 Sing aloud...make a joyful noise:

“shout” to the Lord!

Make a melodious noise?

Or a talented or gifted noise?

Real men sing real loud!

Take a psalm...timbrel:

Lift up a song!

Strike the tambourine!

Strum the harp and the “guitar”!

Note: imagine what worship will sound like in the Throne Room of God!

New moon...time appointed...feast day:

very interesting...and a “plug” for KJV

In every other translation

(NKJV, NASB, NIV, CSB)

says “new moon, at the full moon...”or something similar

Absolutely wrong!

A New Moon and a Full Moon are NOT the same thing!

Only KJV interprets correctly

Cycle of the moon

- New moon: un-illuminated...concealed
- Waxing: “increasing” sliver/thumb nail
- Full: fully illuminated
- Waning: “decreasing” sliver
- New moon...

**Num 10:10**

The Jewish calendar is a lunar calendar

The New Moon was to serve as a reminder of their relationship with the Lord

Moon has no light...reflects the light of the Sun

And the cycle of the moon “reflects” the Life of a believer (**Col 2:16-17**)

- New moon: un-illuminated...an unbeliever
- Waxing: justification (John 3:3)...and sanctification... reflecting more and more light (John 3:30)
- Full: total reflection of Sun...at the Day of Redemption (Eph 4:30, v2 trumpets of silver)

**Num 28:1-2, 11-15**

A monthly feast in addition to the 7 Feasts

A time to worship the Lord God Almighty

v4 a statute...a law:

this monthly feast was an “appointment” for Israel...a mandatory appointment

Israel’s choice: to obey or not

v5-7 This He ordained in Joseph:

Hebrew poetry...the expression in the beauty of the thought...  
in repetition or contrast

this is repetition:

in v4: Israel and Jacob

in v5: Joseph

all speaking of Israel

when he:

when Israel “escaped” Egypt, a land where God did not recognize/acknowledge the language...

God ripped the yoke of bondage off the shoulders of His people and relieved them from having to carry the baskets filled with bricks

Israel cried out in distress...God answered

He led them out, protecting them with thunder... and later testing their faith in Him at Meribah

God's Law was given to His people after He delivered them out of "the world" – God saved them/us, the Law didn't/can't

Abraham had faith before Moses had the Law – the Law did not yield faith  
God instructed His people how to live after He separated them from the world

Israel's choice: to believe or not

v8-10 Hear...I will testify:

"Hear Me, My people! I warn you...listen!

- No "adulterous" god is to be with you
- No "foreign" (different Heb. word) either
- I AM the LORD...the Self-existent, eternal God...that freed you from the bondage in Egypt"

Egypt = the world  
bondage = sin/death

Israel's choice: to heed the warning or not

open thy mouth wide, I will fill it:

...with praise and worship for Me alone

v11-12 But:

Israel choose

1. to not remember their relationship
2. to not obey
3. to not believe
4. to not heed the warning
5. to walk in their own ways

I gave them up:

So the all-knowing, sovereign God established/settled their choices  
And those of all men too! (Rom 1:18-25)

God will give your heart's desire so be very careful as to what that is!  
God ultimately gives man what he wants.  
The wise man considers the end of the matter before deciding.

Let's consider the end of the matter...

v13-14 Oh that My people had hearkened:

God laments Israel's choices.

Had they chosen His ways, He would have humiliated and spanked their enemies

Is 48:17-19

v15-16 the haters of the LORD should have submitted:

pretended to submit...and their doom is forever

once again, Heb. poetry

in v13: my people, Israel

in v15: haters of the LORD

to not remember your relationship with the Lord...

to not obey the Lord...

to not believe the Lord...

to not heed the warning of the Lord...

to pretend those things...

is to despise/hate Him!

He should have fed...satisfied thee:

Had Israel remembered, obeyed, believed, heeded...  
they would have been satisfied

How hard is it to be satisfied/content?

It's a choice...

- To remember
- To obey
- To believe
- To heed the warning of God's Word

God wants to bless us more than we want to be blessed!

By our choices we inhibit God from blessing our lives as abundantly as He wants to!

And given Rom 8:28, why do we make those simple choices so difficult?

Why is trusting Him so hard?

- Pride
- Self-will
- Self-centeredness

If only we had the faith of a child, God would cover us with His blessings....

Why be a "new moon" when we can choose to be a "full moon"?

Can you see how irrational and ugly the pride and self-will and self-centeredness of man are?!

God's way is always better than our way...

The narrow path is always better than the wide road...

The Lord's yoke is easy...

What is your choice today?

Prov 13:1

John 14:6

a good psalm to read when

- facing a choice
- feeling convicted about a choice

**Ps 82**

Author: Asaph

Type of Psalm: God's declaration against injustice

v1 congregation of the mighty:  
the Rich and Famous...  
the Powerbrokers...  
the Movers and Shakers of society

He judges among the gods:  
God judges among the magistrates/judges/rulers...all mortal men

v2 How long will ye:  
1. judge unjustly:  
what is right is not the basis for judgment  
2. accept the persons of the wicked:  
play favorites with the unholy...who may have wealth and position but  
not Right-ness

v3-4 Defend...Deliver:  
God calls upon the magistrates/judges to do right...to judge righteously!

- Defend...do what is right on behalf of...the poor, the defenseless, and the lowly
- Snatch the poor and needy out of the clutches of their oppressors

The weak are fodder for the wicked...  
God is the Defender of the weak!

- v5 They know not...walk:  
The unjust judges
- think they are so smart and “in the know”...when in fact they have no understanding of justice...established in God’s Law
  - walk in darkness...they ways of man...vs the Light...the ways of God

foundations...out of course:  
the result of injustice:

- Right is not right...Wickedness carries the day
- the people do not have a solid rock upon which they can stand
- Their world is slipping and sliding and shaking...  
nothing is stable and true

- v6-7 Ye are gods...shall die like men:  
You are magistrates/judges...  
leaders...  
powerful among men...  
but death is the Great Equalizer
- all men...regardless of position on earth...die
- Your ways cheat the people...but they cannot cheat death

- v8 Arise, O God, judge the earth:  
man is incapable...and disinclined...to judge justly
- incomplete knowledge (cannot know motives, thoughts, etc)
  - trapped in creation (space and time)
  - burdened with a sin nature
  - not governed by God

God alone can judge with perfect justice...  
He is holy, righteous, just, not a respecter of persons

Injustice is a very serious issue to a just God

Is 5:20

Book of Amos

Prov 29:27

Prov 29:7

Prov 28:8

Prov 28:15

Prov 29:2

a good psalm to read when been on the receiving end of injustice.

Hold on! The Righteous Judge will soon arise!

**Ps 83**

Author: Asaph...the last one

Type of Psalm: The proud shall be humbled

v1-4 Keep not thou silence...peace...still:

The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion, slow to anger, and of great mercy  
(Ps 145:8).

Asaph obviously prefers **Nahum 1:3**

Thine enemies make a tumult:

in stark contrast to a quiet God are His enemies...

- very loud
- make great commotion
- in an uproar

have lifted up the head:

And in stark contrast to the Lord Who is meek and lowly in heart (Matt 11:29)  
are His enemies...

- proud
- aggressive
- have exalted themselves

They have:

the enemies of God and His treasured people have

1. conspired with great cunning and subtlety on deceitful schemes
2. vowed to destroy Israel...to “drive them into the sea”...  
to wipe Israel off the map

was true then...is true to this day

the Mission Statement of the PLO and every Islamic nation

v5-8 one consent...confederate:

this "league of hatred" has one heart and mind: to destroy Israel

1. Esau: cousins from Idumea (south of Dead Sea)
2. Ishmaelites: cousins from father Abraham and Hagar
3. Moab: incestuous descendents of Lot from east of the Dead Sea
4. Hagarenes: Hagarites...of Hagar but not Abraham from east of the Jordan River
5. Gebal: Phoenicians from the northern coastal plain
6. Ammon: incestuous descendents of Lot from east of the Jordan River
7. Amelek: descendents of Esau from southwest of the Dead Sea
8. Philistines: from the southern coastal Plain
9. Tyre: in Phoenicia, modern day Lebanon
10. Assur: Assyrians

Moab and Ammon are the ring-leaders

v9-10 Do unto them as:

Asaph cries out for God to act against this evil alliance...to "waste" them... as He did against the Midianites (using Gideon) and the Canaanite king Jabin and his general Sisera (who "went down" near Meggido)

they don't appreciate Who they are messing with!

v11-12 Make their nobles like:

Midianite princes slain by Gideon...

proud, arrogant fools who thought they could rip off the Shepherd of Israel of His pastures

v13-17 make them...persecute them...let them:

a plea by Asaph for the Lord to act

- roll the enemies away like a wheel...like a tumbleweed in the wind
- blow them away...like the dead, dry stubble in a whirlwind
- chase after them with Your “hurricane” like fire chases after the forest...until nothing is left to burn

(CA and AZ know what forest fires mean...  
FL knows all about hurricanes)

- disappoint and shame them...humble them
- leave them with no way of escape

Why?

v18 That men may know:

that they may

- seek thy name
- know You are THE God...  
Supreme over all the earth and all men

that they will learn that Jesus Christ is the One and Only, True and Living God

God will use their evil and resulting shame to draw men unto Himself

a good psalm to read when

**Ps 84**

Author: David

Type of Psalm: Doorkeepers Hymn

probably written by David...it sounds like his heart!

For the sons of Korah:

11 psalms are so written

7 in the 40s (Ps 42, 44-49)

4 here in the 80s (Ps 84, 85, 87, 88)

these are descendents of Korah...

who led the rebellion against Moses and Aaron in Num 16...

which resulted in

- he and his family being swallowed alive by the earth
- fire devouring another 250 others

however...his entire family was not consumed

Num 26:11 Notwithstanding the children of Korah died not

the sons of Korah became David's gatekeepers...some became singers

v1 How amiable are thy tabernacles:

How lovely...beloved...are Your dwelling places

...regardless of circumstantial surroundings

the loveliness of the presence of God transcends the trials and tribulations  
of this life

v2 My soul longeth, yea even fainteth for the courts:  
Ps 42:1 As the deer pants for the water so my soul pants after thee, O God

longeth: to yearn for above all else

fainteth: (in the absence of) to expire, to come to an end...even unto death

the “Way of Worship” in the Tabernacle

1. Gate: thanksgiving
2. Courts: praise
3. Brass altar: confession
4. Brass laver: wash in the water of the Word
5. Table of showbread: my needs
6. Candlestick: The Light going forth
7. Altar of Incense: intercession
8. Holy of Holies: worship

My heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God:  
my entire 3D being shouts for joy for the God of the living

God is Spirit...for a man to be living, a living spirit is required

Is my walk with Jesus such that I yearn, faint, cry out for His presence?

v3 sparrow...swallow:  
David had a splendid house...but home was in the House of God

all creatures, even the least significant, have a home provided by their Creator...  
yet when the Creator came into His creation, He had no place to lay His head

v4 Blessed are they that dwell in thy house:  
oh how happy are they that abide in the House of God

1 K 8:22-27

John 15:1-9

John 14:1-3

Still praising thee:

they will continually be celebrating and praising the God Who is worthy of all praise

It is a blessing to praise the Lord...

- it comforts, encourages, strengthens us
- it adjusts our perspective...upward  
from me to my God  
from my weakness to His strength  
from my inabilities to His almighty power  
from my circumstances to His glory  
from "Woe is me" to "PTL!"

v5-7 Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee:

oh how happy is the man that knows

- he is weak and God is strong
- he is not able but God is able

2 Cor 12:9-10

for then...

- a man will walk in the ways of God  
(Is 55:8-9....above all circumstances and trials and afflictions)
- a man will walk with God rather than seek that which is right in his own eyes

valley of Baca make it a well:

will walk with God even in the valleys of life...the "depressions" of "weeping"

because God Who is strong and above all circumstances...

Rom 8:28

And if God be for us, who can be against us?

Only God can turn tears into blessings...when we walk with Him

v8-9 LORD God of hosts...God our shield:

God fights for us...God protects us!

And He looks upon us with pleasure and favor

v10 a day...is better than a thousand:  
it is better

- to abide with the Lord in the worst circumstances than to go it alone in the best circumstances
- to be in the presence of the Lord than anywhere else in the universe
- at the lowest point in heaven than the highest spot in hell.
- to deny myself than to indulge myself

if you are a backslider...the misery you feel is

- the broken fellowship with God
- Him telling your spirit that you have left the better for the worse

rather...doorkeeper...tents of the wicked:

it is better to be a mere doorkeeper in the house of the Lord than to live in the sumptuous pleasures of the wicked

Ps 37:16 A little that a righteous man has is better than the riches of many wicked

my hope is that this fits Dad!

How cool to be greeted at the door of heaven by my Dad!

2 houses

1. holiness...of their heavenly Father
2. wickedness...of their "earthly father" (Korah)

notice "rather"...signifying that every man has a choice as to which house he lives in

Deut 30:11-20

Joshua 24:15

v11 LORD God is a sun and shield:

Our living God is

- warming, nurturing, revealing Light
- covering Protector

Lord will give...no good thing will he withhold:

The Lord gives us what we need most – grace –

- that our broken fellowship could be restored
- that we could ever praise Him in His presence

He gives us everything we need...Matt 6:33

He will deny no good thing from those that walk

- in integrity and truth with Him
- in His ways
- by faith
- in obedience
- abiding in Him

James 1:17

Prov 11:4 Riches profit not in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.

v12 blessed is the man that trusteth in thee:

keyword: trusts

Cursed is the man that trusts in his bank account or in anything else.

Cursed is the man that trust in himself or in anyone else.

James 2:19 the devils also believe, and tremble

So what is the difference between that belief and David's trust?

Saving faith:

- active
- fruitful...has something to show for itself (James 2)
- finds refuge in...abides in...the Lord

Said faith:

- passive
- barren...spoken but not active (James 1:22)
- wanders around in what seems right in its own eyes

Active faith does not pretend...but

- surrenders
- submits
- obeys
- stands
- perseveres
- overcomes
- transcends all circumstances

a good psalm to read when

- overwhelmed by trying circumstances
- backslidden in misery
- your eyes are fixed on Jesus

**Ps 85**

Author: unknown

Type of Psalm: A Psalm of Hope

written after the return from Babylonian captivity

v1-3 the Lord has:

1. been favorable to HIS land (Ezk 38:16)...for His people mistreated His land
2. forgiven Israel's evil and offenses against Him
3. turned away His righteous fury

God is

- faithful
- forgiving (1 John 1:9)
- "forgetful" (Ps 103:8-14)

v4-7 Wilt thou be angry with us forever...grant us thy salvation:

Did the psalmist not just get done saying that God had forgiven their sins and ceased from His wrath?

Is God capricious...is He not faithful?

He most assuredly is...Israel is not...

they have turned again to their folly, in spite of very clear warning

Lev 26:14-28

Their confession and repentance was insincere...their lives unchanged

Lev 26:40-41

The faithfulness of God to Israel is unquestioned

Jer 25:8-12

Jer 29:10-14

Jer 23:5-8

Jer 30:1-11

Jer 31:3, 31-37

Rom 11:1-8, 11, 16-32

For which the Church and each of us individually should be eternally grateful...

for if God's promises to Israel are conditional upon their performance, His promises to us are also conditional upon our performance!

v8 the psalm takes on a Messianic flavor now...the psalmist proclaims their dire need for a Messiah

the Lord will speak...let them not turn again to folly:

Jer 26:13

Rom 10:9-10

James 1:22

John 15:14

Ps 51:10, 17

purpose of the Law: not a bar to jump over into the Kingdom of God, but a schoolmaster to lead to the Messiah

Rom 10:4

God always wanted a relationship based on love, not on the Law

v9 Surely His salvation is near:  
Indeed! Only 18 inches!

to fear/be in awe of/revere, one must come to a point of

- awareness of one's unworthiness
- awareness of God's boundless worthiness
- confession
- repentance/brokenness
- submission/obedience
- faith

then, truly salvation is near in fear

v10-11 Mercy and truth...righteousness and peace:

attributes of God...attributes of the Messiah

- the God of all comfort. kindness, compassion, gentleness
- the Way, the Truth, and the Life
- the Righteousness of God
- the Prince of Peace

have kissed:

embraced...tender fellowship and communion

a beautiful and tender expression of Jesus and His work on the cross.

Truly, God loves me!

Heaven and earth kissed on the cross!

v12-13 the Lord shall give good:

God's promises to Israel are "as good as gold"

- their land will be productive (3<sup>rd</sup> largest exporter of food)
- the Messiah, the Son of David will reign from Zion
- Israel will be exalted above all the nations during His kingdom

Another application is personal

Luke 15:10-24

Rom 6:1-2

Titus 2:11-12

a good psalm to read when a returning Prodigal...when your performance falls short of God's faithfulness

The Lord's mercies and new every morning

## Ps 86

Author: David

Type of Psalm: A Cry for Divine Help

like many of David's Psalms, it starts with prayer but ends with praise  
reads much like Ps 17

written while fleeing Saul...when the anointed, rightful king was a fugitive  
it is Messianic in tenor

v1-4 poor and needy...a humble and holy bondservant...  
David cries out to the Lord

- to hear his cry...to see his plight
- to protect and save him
- to be merciful to him
- to cheer him up

David gives us a demonstration of the proper way to approach God

- with sincere humility and holiness
- as a bondservant...who life and will is the Master's
- dependent upon the Lord
- boldly to the Throne of grace for mercy and help in a time of need (Heb 4:16)

v5 attributes of the God of David

1. good
2. ready to forgive
3. abundant in mercy for those who cry out to Him

God has an overflowing love for those that call upon Him and seek Him.  
Those that chose not to seek Him chose to ignore and turn from His love. (madness)

v6-7 Because David knows God...he trusts God  
trusting God starts with knowing Him (the Word)

David knows that God WILL answer him  
God WILL answer the prayer of humble, holy, dependent bondservants

The Lord is David's first line of defense.

Questions:

1. Do you know God?
2. Do you trust God?
3. Do you approach God with humility, holiness, and dependence?
4. Is the Lord your first line of defense...or your last?

v8 this is an absolute truth that must never be compromised by our flesh, the world, or the devil:

the Lord God Almighty is unique

- in attributes/character
- in works/power

there is only One

- Creator
- LORD...self-existent, eternal God
- Deliverer...divider of the Red Sea
- Savior and Redeemer

THAT is the God that David knows and trusts...His faith is well-placed!

v9-10 some day David will have a lot of company before the  
Throne of his Lord...the Son of David

When will the nations come and worship Him?  
When the King of kings and Lord of lords establishes His kingdom

Where?  
On Mount Zion...the City of David...the City of God...Jerusalem

Why?  
Because He is (more attributes)  
4. great...mighty  
5. wonderful in deed and word  
6. unique...apart from ALL pretender gods

v11-12 not desiring to be unstable in all his ways...  
not desiring to be paralyzed between two opinions...

David pleads  
• for an undivided heart (whole and holy)  
• to be a doer of the Word, not a hearer only

the Holy Spirit is our teacher (1 John 2:27, John 14:26)...  
the Word of God is our Counselor (Ps 119:24, 32)

we must be coach-able and obedient...disciples

v13 David has not died and gone to hell...

this is distinctly Messianic...God's anointed is greatly loved and is snatched out of the  
depths of hell

v14 David and Saul with his ungodly gang of wicked men...are shadows of Jesus Christ and  
the devil with his lackeys

God's anointed is a fugitive...until the appointed day His reign starts

v15 as a stark contrast to the proud wicked is the God of AI&J...&D... Who is

7. full of compassion/gentleness
8. gracious
9. slow to anger
10. abundant in mercy and truth

v16-17 David cries out for salvation...

as humble and holy bondservant, the son of a bondservant

another shadow of

the Messiah (Phil 2:5-8)

Mary, blessed among women (Luke 1:28, 46-55)

“Let my enemies know that they are picking a fight with You, for You are my strength and my righteousness...and You have surrounded me and comforted me.”

When Jesus Christ returns to establish His kingdom, His enemies will be ashamed... and greatly discomfited (Rev 6:15-17)

a good psalm to read when  
at the end of yourself  
afflicted and persecuted

**Ps 87**

Author: unknown

Type of Psalm: A song about Jerusalem

v1-2 Jerusalem is the city that God chose for Himself...

- currently being downtrodden by the Gentiles
- a place worthy of a pilgrimage

v3 the Word of God calls Jerusalem:

- the City of God (here)
- the City of David (many places)
- the City of the Great King (Ps 48:1-2)
- the City of Truth (Zech 8:3)
- the Holy City (many times)
- Salem ("peace", Gen 14:18)
- The Perfection of Beauty, the Joy of the whole earth (Lam 2:15)

We are to rejoice with her (Is 66:10)...

for "the Lord is there" (Jehovah-Shammah...Ezk 48:35)

v4-6 ...as opposed to Egypt and Babylon!

was born there:

mentioned in each of the three verses...

NOT a reference to the Messiah...for He was born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)

But a reference to the regenerate by grace thru faith in the Messiah...  
who are purchased and become the Temple of the Holy Spirit of God

v7 in Jerusalem shall be much rejoicing and worship

in Jerusalem are the fountains of God's

- grace
- joy
- peace
- salvation

a good psalm to read to remind us to "Pray for the peace of  
Jerusalem...they shall prosper that love thee." (Ps 122:6)

**Ps 88**

Author: Herman the Ezrahite

Type of Psalm: a psalm of despair...unique thus far...

this psalm is unlike any psalm we have studied thus far like many, it starts with the sound of despair...but it ends the same way!

the psalm starts in the mire...and stays in the mire

Either the psalmist

1. is fearful...bummed out...stressed...even desperate...yet
  - still focused on self
  - not able to shake the fear/stress by focusing on God, Who is waiting for him to come to end of himself
2. has no hope...no praise...no change of perspective...a broken fellowship with God... because God is not listening

or the psalmist is giving

3. a prophetic utterance of the lament of Jesus Christ that accompanies [Matt 27:45-46](#)

listen again...

v1 cried day and night:  
the time is about 3pm

the setting is on the Cross  
where Jesus has been since 9 am  
after an "all-nighter" of agony in the Garden of Gethsemane...

v2-3 My soul is full of troubles:  
whose troubles?  
mine and yours

2 Cor 5:21

v4-6 Free among the dead:

the Holy, pure, Source of Life...is

- pierced and polluted...and
- cut off (Dan 9:26a)

the Son of God...the Messiah...is

- forsaken by the Father
- counted among the dead
- left to the place of the dead

Enduring unimaginable torment, Jesus was

- pierced, defiled, slain...for me
- forsaken...so I would not be
- laid in hell...instead of me

v7 Thy wrath lieth hard upon me:

wave after wave of the holy and righteous wrath of God the Father bears heavily upon Him who knew no sin...

so it would not bear heavily upon me and you

the wrath of Satan is but a small thing compared to the wrath of God!

God can defend man against the wrath of a created being...

but who can defend man against the wrath of the Creator?

v8 put away mine acquaintance:

the Son is

- abandoned by His friends...  
(do you know the pain of betrayal?)
- separated from the Father for 1<sup>st</sup> time...  
(do you know the emptiness of complete rejection by everyone you love?)

all because of my sins

made me an abomination:

Gal 3:13...my sins are an abomination to God

shut up, and I cannot come forth:

He cannot escape death and hell and spiritual separation from God...no way out

v9-12 show wonders to the dead...destruction...forgetfulness:  
questions...but no answers from God are forthcoming...  
God is not listening

Q: "Will You show miracles to those dead in their sins in Hades/oblivion?"

No (Heb 9:27)

Q: "Will the dead know your mercy?  
Will you deliver them?"

No. Mercy and deliverance was offered...and rejected by the dead.  
They made their choice.

Q: "Will the dead arise and praise You?"

The dead in spirit shall never rise from hell.

The dead in body will...but not until Jesus Himself does...  
because Jesus is ALWAYS first

v13 in the morning:  
Jesus yearns for restoration of fellowship with the Father...  
when the "new day" comes

there is a restoration to God and a new day...by faith in Jesus Christ

v14-16 castest off my soul:  
so mine would not be

afflicted and ready to die from my youth up:  
this is why Jesus came!  
He did not come to be born...but to die!

Thy fierce wrath...thy terrors:  
God is a consuming fire...  
Jesus took the burning anger of God for me!

v17 like water:  
drowning in God's wrath...to rescue me  
  
the drowned is rescued and resuscitated...the Rescuer drowns

v18 put far from me:  
then...only darkness

John 19:30a            It is finished!  
Luke 23:44-46

the Light of the World...was expelled into the darkness that I deserve

for Jesus hanging/dying on the Cross...fearful...no hope?

Is 53:10            it pleased the Lord to bruise him,  
He has put him to grief...make his soul  
an offering for sin

Acts 2:24            God has raised him up, having loosed the  
pains of death, because it was not possible  
that he should be held by it

John 10:17-18 I lay my life down that I might take it  
again...I have power to lay it down and I  
have power to take it again.

Heb 12:2            for the joy that was set before him endured  
the cross, despising the shame

Rev 1:18            holds the keys to death and hell

a good psalm to read when

- feeling depressed...will help put things in perspective
- see no way out...The Way is the way out...for He chose to take no way out
- when feel like are drowning in trouble...help to see the Life Raft  
and  
to rejoice because He has fixed the only real trouble you had

He who had no escape is our escape

1 Cor 10:13

Eph 2:1-9

But...

if you despise Jesus Christ and reject the help He offers...  
you will die in your sins...  
and these words will become your words, this agony your agony

**Ps 89**

Author: Ethan the Ezrahite

Type of Psalm: PTL!

a psalm about the breath-taking mercy and faithfulness of our God  
Praise Him!

v1-2 God is...

- merciful (not giving us what we deserve)  
...FOREVER
- faithful (in spite of our unfaithfulness)  
...to ALL generations

and we will sing about it

v3-4 found in 2 Sam 7, think about it...

- David: murderer and adulterer
- Solomon: self-absorbed apostate
- Rehoboam: numb-skull
- etc etc etc: band of idolaters with occasional good king
- ...all the way to Forever...Son of David, King of kings and Lord of lords

v5-8 the Lord God is unlike any other,  
absolutely unique...and worthy of all praise and honor and glory

Note: ever notice how all false gods are angry and must be appeased?

v9-13 the Lord God is

- Creator...in complete control of His creation
- The Almighty Sovereign, Ruler of heaven and earth
- Victor over all His enemies

- v14 the foundation of God's holiness are
- justice...getting what we deserve...
  - judgment...for Law-breakers...

Mercy and truth proceed from Him

Ps 103:8-14

The Almighty Creator knows us...and is merciful to us

truth is absolute and binary...not relative

- v15 Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound:  
What sound?

The sound of God's mercy and forgiveness

Oh how happy are people who humble themselves before God to confess their  
sins and to seek His forgiveness (Ps 32:1)

they shall walk O LORD, in the light:

How is God's holiness (justice and judgment) satisfied by God's mercy?  
By His grace (giving us what we do not deserve)

By grace, the integrity of His holiness is intact...  
since His justice and judgment for our sins was meted out on the Cross,  
where His Son bore it in our stead (Ps 88)

- v16-17 In thy name shall they rejoice:  
we are drawn to God by His love, grace, mercy, and longsuffering...  
not by His justice and wrath

in thy righteousness shall they be exalted:

by grace thru faith in Jesus Christ,

- the humble are exalted
- we are made by God to be acceptable to God
- we are strong

v18 the LORD...the Holy One of Israel...our King...is our defense

Rev 12:9-11

We are guilty!

But our offenses have been paid-in-full...by our faithful and merciful Lord

v19-21 in context, speaking of David, so “holy one” is not capitalized

with our eyes on v3...

2 Sam 7:1-16

v22-35 a loving father

- disciplines, is attentive enough to see and correct their behavior
- does not turn a blind eye to the rebellion of his children

disobedient children will be chastised, but God will not

- take away His mercy
- be unfaithful

He will not allow His faithfulness to fail!

God’s Word is sure...the backing of His promises is His holiness

2 Tim 2:13 If we believe not, He abides faithful;  
He cannot deny Himself.

Note: explanation of terms...“firstborn” in v27

Heb. poetry: beauty of thought (repetition)  
firstborn = higher the kings of earth  
i.e. pre-eminence...NOT birth order

Scripture interprets Scripture

Col 1:15-18

v36-37 God’s promise to David is...  
as forever as the sun and the moon

v38-45 Jer 22:1-5, 24-30

v46 but followed by  
Jer 23:5-8  
Jer 25:8-12  
Jer 29:10-14

v47 life is a vapor, a mist (James 4:14)  
sometimes it takes a funeral to remind us of that  
  
only Jesus defeated death...  
only in Jesus can we be saved

v48-52 God's promise to David is as forever as the sun, moon,  
and stars...(Jer 31:35-36)  
which are still in the sky

but then He curses the line of David and destroys his kingdom

Is God's Word sure...or not?  
Is God faithful...or not?  
Is He merciful...or not?

A: Yes! Yes! Yes!  
This is why the Virgin birth!

Is 7:14

Is 9:6

Matt 1:6, 16 the Legal line of the Rightful King  
from David thru Solomon to Joseph...  
cursed

Luke 3:23, 31 the Blood line  
not cursed  
from David thru Nathan to Mary  
Joseph is the son-in-law of Heli

Therefore, v1

a good psalm to read whenever you think God has let you down

Rom 2:4