

**Psalms
Book 4
Ps 90 - 106**

<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
3 (Ps 73-89)	Leviticus	worship God's sovereignty faithfulness holiness
4 (Ps 90-106)	Numbers	wandering
5 (Ps 107-150)	Deuteronomy	Word of God

Ps 90

Author: Moses

Type of Psalm: A cry for mercy (Ps 89...God is merciful)

v1 A Prayer of Moses the man of God:

Moses: “drawn out”, rescued”

called “the man of God” 5 times in Scripture...

a phrase usually used in reference to a prophet

37 times Moses is referred to as the “servant of the LORD” or “My servant”

thou hast been our dwelling place:

our “tabernacle”...tent...

a very familiar dwelling place for a nomad like Moses

40 years a shepherd +

40 years wandering in the wilderness

v2 from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God:

everlasting = “beyond the vanishing point” of comprehension of time and space

God is from eternity past to eternity future

God, Who inhabits eternity, is the Creator of heaven and earth...and time

v3 Thou turnest man to destruction:

this is NOT saying that God leads man to destruction...

but rather that God “recovers”, “rescues”, “Moses” man from destruction...

self-destruction

sayest, Return:

“Turn back! Repent!”

the message of

- every prophet
- John the Baptist
- Jesus Christ

v4 a thousand years...yesterday...watch:
quoted in 2 Peter 3:8

v5-6 grass:
James 4:14 life is a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes
James 1:17...so time is a gift...a precious gift

v7 consumed by thine anger:
What displeased the Lord? Why were they wandering?

- Israel's unbelief.
they did not take God at His Word...they doubted He could
"Moses" them from giant men
- Fear of man (Matt 10:28) vs fear of God

v8 our secret:
there are no secrets from the all-knowing and all-seeing God
We are naked before Him...there are no secret sins.

we deceive ourselves, blinded by pride

Deut 29:29
Num 32:23

all my sins will find me out...unless I first confess them to God.

v9-10 For all our days:

time spent in “wilderness wandering” is time wasted...barren...empty

a long life is 70-80 years...burdened by pride

what about Moses?

- 120 years (Deut 34:5-7)
- the meekest among men (Num 12:3)

Life in this fallen world is hard...as the curse of God said it would be

Life is better with Jesus (Matt 11:28-30)

Everything is better with Jesus...even death

v11 Who knoweth the power of thine anger:

What man has ever faced the unrestrained wrath of God?

man falls before God even “breaks a seat”...

But Jesus Christ endured the full, unrestrained wrath of God!

Jesus Christ “Moses” us!

Note: on Sunday (Revelation), the earth will bear the unrestrained fury of God’s wrath

v12 teach us to number our days:

teach us to weigh each day (Dan 5:25-28)

teach us to redeem the time (Joel 2:25)

teach us to be ready EVERY day

teach us to use our limited days to the greatest impact in a dying world and for

Your glory

mature us in Christ EVERY day

none of us are as mature in the Lord as we think

the Lord has given us a very valuable, non-renewable gift - time.

How are we to use our days wisely?

Give them all back to the Lord

How are you spending it?

We must give an accounting of our time...

that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom:

Prov 1:7

Prov 9:10

Heb 11:6

God's desire is...our hearts

When we give God our hearts...

He gives us the desire of our hearts...Himself

Ps 37:4-5

v13 how long...let it repent:

Moses cries for pity for the people

He knows God has not forsaken them...nor will He ever

So how long is the wandering experience?

Until Egypt is "worked out" of them

v14 Satisfy us early:

Oh, PTL! His mercies are new every morning

But Moses is praying for "sooner"...his timing vs God's timing

Pray for God's (perfect) timing, not your own (flawed) timing

v15-16 Make us glad according to...afflicted:

Rom 8:28, 31

1 Thes 5:16-18

2 Cor 1:3-4

James 1:2-6a

v17 establish thou the works of our hands:

1st thing we pray for before begin work on the building

God desires your heart and your hands...surrender them

Be useful in His hands to do His work and His will

Get in the back seat and enjoy the "ride"...trust His timing and His ways

a good psalm to read to meditate on "Moses" so you do not wander

Ps 91

Author: unknown

Type of Psalm: Proclamation of Protection

v1-2 He that dwells...shall abide:
the person who

- remains in the place covered by God
- settles in (in the marriage sense) with God

will live under His protection

All are invited...

Acts 17:23-31

make the Lord your residence of choice...the Almighty God revealed to us by

- creation
- The Word
- Jesus Christ

In him will I trust:

Those of us who choose to settle in the Lord do so because we trust Him.
We trust Him because He has...without fail...proven to be trustworthy.

He is a faithful and true shelter from the evil of this world...even the most evil
Dan 3:28

Rom 8:31

v3-4 Surely he shall deliver:

Without a doubt...God will rescue those who love Him from

- Satan's traps
- ruin...our self-destructive nature

Without a doubt...God will protect us...by faith
we can flee for protection to Him and be

- covered
- shielded

Prov 30:5

John 17:17

John 8:31-32, 36

v5-6 Thou shalt not be afraid:

Because God is for us, we need not fear

- sudden attack
- sustained attack
- disease and illness
- death...
- any evil...night or day

Is 41:10-13

2 Tim 1:7

His perfect love casts out fear

v7 a thousand shall fall...ten thousand:
nor need we fear our enemies

Eph 6:12

2 Cor 10:3-5

Jesus Christ is our

- victory over them...
1 Cor 2:5-8
- our security from them
Eph 1:13-14
Eph 4:30

v8-10 the reward of the wicked:

the wages of the wicked is

- terror
- destruction
- darkness
- death (separation from God)

those who love God will see the reward of the wicked...BUT
by grace thru faith we shall not experience it!

Rom 8:1

the Lord God abides in us...we abide in Him
there is no safer place...He is the ONLY safe place

Rom 5:9

1 Thes 5:9

v11-12 He shall give His angels charge over thee:

Heb 1:14

Heb 13:2

How many times should you have died by now for the things you have done?
God has protected me many times!

God protected many Christians during the tsunami...they were "lifted" above the
tidal waves

Bill Koenig (12/31/04):

"The Biblical proportions of this disaster become clearly apparent upon reports of miraculous Christian survival while nonbelievers were less fortunate. Christian persecution in these countries is some of the worst in the world. Eight of those nine countries—Malaysia, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Somalia, Maldives, Sri Lanka, India, and Indonesia are among the top 50 nations who persecute Christians. Depending on the list, "Open Door" or "International Christian Concern," Maldives, Myanmar and Indonesia rank among the top ten. "

"One pastor from India said that two churches where he was supposed to speak on Christmas and New Years were swept away into the ocean and thousands went with them, but the pastor at one of the churches reported that not one Christian was harmed. Instead, a fisherman, who lost his family, received salvation. Another report from the disaster area described buildings that had collapsed under the immense pressure of the waves and the only survivors were Christians. Still another report came from a ministry who has pastors and Bible students throughout the coastline of Southern India and not one Christian member of that ministry was scathed.

"God said in Isaiah 43:1, 2, "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; You are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you."

"A pastor who reported in said that he needed neither verse nor knowledge to prove that God is sparing His people. "I do not come to an idea that God provides PROTECTION TO BELIEVERS BY READING SOME VERSE OR BY LISTENING TO SOME INTELLIGENT ARGUMENTS. I HAVE EXPERIENCED AND I AM EXPERIENCING THIS...GOD PROVIDES US A GREAT PROTECTION IN THE TIMES OF TROUBLE!"

In addition, the US Naval base on Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean...where 4000 US military personnel are stationed...was spared by the geography of the earth. A deep trench nearby absorbed the wave of the tsunami.

Note: half the death toll were children...I believe it's the mercy of God taking home the innocents before they lost their innocence/(spiritual purity)

Also, sparing them from the thriving child sex industry in Thailand...one reason the place is a vacation spot!

This earthquake and tsunami were no coincidence...any more than the Northridge earthquake coincidentally destroyed the porn film capital

This is the passage of Scripture perverted and twisted by the father of lies and used to tempt Jesus in the wilderness (Matt 4:5-7)
Why would the devil twist this passage?

v13 tread...adder...dragon shalt thou trample:
Because it "leads" to his destruction...as promised in Gen 3:15

Satan as a roaring lion and a poisonous serpent...gets trampled by the Lord,
protecting those who abide in Him

God starts speaking in the 1st person...to those who love Him and settle in Him
(in a marriage sense)

v14-16 Because he hath set his love upon Me:

“I will

- deliver him...give him a way of escape
1 Cor 10:13...our Ark
- lift him up...exalt the humble
- hear him when he calls to Me
- be right there with him in adversity (Ps 23)
- present him and glorify him
Jude 24-25
Rom 8:28-30
- satisfy him...with eternal life
Phil 4:11-13, 19
Phil 3:8-11
1 Tim 6:6 godliness with contentment is great gain
- give him salvation...from death, sin, hell

When we delight in the Lord, He gives us the desires of our heart.

When we trust Him and commit our ways to Him, He WILL bring it to pass

a good psalm to read when feel “exposed”...in need of protection

Ps 92

Author: unknown

Type of Psalm: of the assembly

v1-3 Song for the Sabbath day:

a very special song...for the day God gave to man...a day of

- physical rest and refreshment
- peace and quiet...to better hear His voice
- perspective correction and attitude adjustment

it is good to:

give that day back to the Lord...to

1. give thanks...it is ALWAYS good to give thanks to the Lord...
in ALL things

20 times in Psalms we are instructed to “give thanks”

Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing.

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ
Jesus concerning you. (1 Thes 5:16-18)

2. sing praises to the Lord God Most High
3. testify of His lovingkindness...mercy...compassion...in the morning

Lam 3:22-23

4. testify of His faithfulness at night
(PTL! You saw me through another day, another week!”)

We gather as a family on Sunday mornings and Thursday nights to

- sing praises
- worship with reverence and honor
(service starts with 1st song!)
- pray
- hear testimony of the goodness of God...through the study of His
Word
- meditate on the presence and power, the love and grace of God
- have our perspectives corrected...our attitudes adjusted...
beings refreshed

...because life is often a

- grating noise, not a sweet melody
- heavy burden that wears us out

v4 made me glad through thy work:

When our tired bodies and minds and spirits are quiet and at rest, we can see and hear things we otherwise cannot.

“By the things You do, You have cheered me up...
You have given me a reason to rejoice!
I can see Your fingerprints all over my life.”

I will triumph in the works of your hands:

“I will shout about Your work in my life!”

- Salvation
Phil 2:12-13
- Working ALL things for my good
Rom 8:28
- Conforming me into the image of Jesus
Rom 8:29-30
Mt 16:24, 26:39
- Being transformed by the renewing of my mind
Rom 12:1-2
- Making me into the vessel He has in mind
Is 64:8

If you are married

- He is teaching you to love Him as He loves you...
by loving your spouse as He does
- He is teaching you to obey Him by giving you children

If you are single and desire to be married

- He is preparing a spouse for you
- He is preparing you for that spouse

v5-6 great are thy works...thy thoughts are very deep:
God's plan, unfolding every day, is very profound...
breath-taking
incredible...
personal...down to the smallest detail

Is 55:8-9

brutish man...fool:

a man who chooses to

- not see God's transcending presence and power
- not "observe everything with intelligence" in order to recognize God's fingerprints
- not give thanks to God
- not consider God's thoughts

is

- foolish
- stupid
- silly
- 2D...like a beast of burden

v7-9 the wicked...workers of iniquity...enemies:

the wicked

- blossom
- flourish
- prosper

But...this life is as good as it gets for them

The eternal God...in the perfect timing of His perfect plan...will

- destroy His enemies
- sever them from life
- cast them from His presence

v10-11 exalt...anointed:

however...the righteous will

- be exalted
James 4:10
- be anointed with “new” oil...the Spirit of God beyond the sealing?
- look down upon their enemies...and
- hear witness against them

v12-14 in contrast to the wicked, the righteous

- shall flourish like a palm tree
palm tree is associated with victory and Feast of
Tabernacles/Thanksgiving
- are “transplanted” into the “family” of God and will bear fruit independent of
age (vs withering up and dying)

Col 1:12-14

Eph 2:1-7

- shall be rich and prosperous
Eph 1:3,7 riches of His grace

2 Cor 8:9

Phil 4:19

Ps 1:1-3

bearing fruit...when old...being fat...
this verse is for me!

v15 to show that the Lord is upright:

God does those things for the righteous (v4) to testify

- He is righteous
- there is no evil in Him
- He is my trustworthy refuge against wickedness

This life is hard, and walking with God is vigorously resisted

During the week we lose our perspective...that the days are also precious...
and being used for God's glory and our eternal good

There is no peace for the wicked (Is 57:21)...but after our appointed days...
glory!

Rom 8:18

a good psalm to read when

- life is beating you down
- life sounds like a scratchy, broken record

Ps 93

Author: unknown

Type of Psalm: The Lord is mighty

- v1 the Lord reigns:
The majestic Lord God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, is on His throne!
Always has been...always will be

Meditate on that truth...and hold onto it!

the world is established that it cannot be moved:
...unless He moves it!
- v2 throne is established of old...from everlasting:
eternity...the vanishing point of time
Micah 5:2
- v3 floods have lifted up:
all the floods...are local...
(water or mud)
because of God's promise to Noah
- v4 the Lord is mightier...the mighty waves:

CNN's tsunami report

v5 testimonies are very sure:
The Word of God...
His promises...
His covenants...

are certain
e.g. John 14:1-3

holiness becometh:
His holiness “beautifies” the house of the Lord

Ps 27:4

Ps 29:1-2

a good psalm to read when the waves are crashing

Ps 94

Author: Moses or David

Type of Psalm: a cry for God's holy judgment and protection against evil

v1 O LORD God to whom vengeance belongs:
when someone does us wrong, our flesh says,
"I will get even...plus some punitive damages..."

Jesus said, "Turn the other cheek...give your cloke and your coat...walk the extra mile." (Matt 5:38-41)

the flesh is not fair...Jesus' teaching doesn't seem fair...
but we have incomplete information

revenge belongs with complete knowledge
given Jer 17:9, that leaves man out.

Vengeance belongs ONLY to the all-knowing God.

Deut 32:41-43

Rom 12:19

Heb 10:30

show thyself:
"shine"
God is light..."Shine and drive away the darkness."

v2 Lift up thyself:
"Arise and judge the proud."

Offense justly calls for vengeance...judgment
(David's adultery and murder in Ps 51:4)
judgment is like vengeance...
it belongs with complete knowledge...which leaves man out (Matt 7:1-5)

reward to the proud:
with Prov 6:16-19 in mind, what does pride deserve?
Justice...destruction

v3 how long shall the wicked triumph?
the cry of Ps 73...Jer 12:1...Rev 6:9-10

the cry of the righteous throughout history:
Why do the wicked prosper?
When will evil get what it deserves?

v4 speak hard things...boast themselves:
“How much longer will they continue to speak grievous, arrogant things and promote themselves?”

born-again Christians are not immune from pride...
it shows itself in self-righteousness and legalism

v5-6 break in pieces...slay:
“How long will they afflict Your people and violently destroy the defenseless and the vulnerable?”

the psalmist knows God has a very soft place in His heart for both His people and for the defenseless

v7 Yet they say:
the wicked know they are wrong...their conscience tells them that they are in violation of God’s Law...
but they are deceived by their pride when God’s judgment is not immediate.

Not understanding spiritual things...that the all-knowing and all-seeing God is longsuffering, slow to anger, kind, and gracious...
they convince themselves that He does not see, does not know, perhaps does not even care

v8 Understand, ye brutish...fools...be wise:
But it is the fool who does not see, does not know, does not even care

Prov 1:7

1 Cor 2:11-14

1 Cor 3:18-20

God most certainly does (Num 32:23, Ezk 18:4)

v9-10 planted the ear...formed the eye...chastens the heathen:

God designed and placed the ear on your head...how can He not hear?!

He designed you're the eyes in your head

(go into the optometrist's office and carefully examine the intricate and awesome design of the eye).

How can He not see?

All knowledge comes by the revelation of God...so how can He not know?!

Use your head! God gave you a mind and expects you to use it

(Is 1:18)

v11 the LORD knows the thoughts of man:

Not only does God hear everything and see everything, He knows the heart of man (Jer 17:9-10)

- motives
- plans
- imaginations

the thoughts of the proud are empty and worthless...self-serving
their minds are corrupt

Jesus knew the thoughts of men...Jesus Christ is LORD, Jehovah God

v12-13 Blessed is the man whom thou chasten:

“Oh how happy” is the man given boundaries of safety...
and correction when those boundaries are breached

the Word of God defines the boundaries within which we are safe and prosper...
death and destruction lie outside those boundaries

The Holy Spirit is the Teacher...showing us the lines and convicting us when we
cross over them

Deut 8:5 ...as a man chastens his son, so the Lord chastens you.

Prov 13:24 He that spares his rod hates his son, but he that loves him chastens him.

Heb 12:6-7

Rev 3:19 “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten.”

When we step “out of bounds” the Lord corrects us
(the Word of God is bittersweet when we “push the envelope”)
But the bitterness turns to sweetness with obedience
(Ps 37:7-11)...

in God’s Word we find rest during this time that evil is allowed to run its course,
until the bottomless pit is opened for the wicked (Rev 20)

so be grateful for God’s discipline...it means you are an adopted child!

v14 LORD will not cast off...forsake:

Deut 32:9 Israel is the Lord’s inheritance

Ps 33:12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom He
has chosen for His own inheritance

The Lord’s inheritance is His people...

the chosen...those saved by grace thru faith, not by works so no man can
boast to Him

Matt 28:19-20

Heb 13:5

the history of Israel...pictured in Hosea...shows this truth

v15 But judgment shall return:

God’s judgment is based on perfect knowledge so it is always right and just

man’s judgment is based on imperfect knowledge and flawed emotions

v16-17 Who will rise up for me:

a rhetorical question

unless the Lord...dwelt in silence:

“Why do the wicked prosper?

Why are they not immediately judged?

Who will protect me from them?”

the answer to the first two questions is Ezk 18:32 and 2 Peter 3:9

the answer to the third question is the Lord Himself

v18-19 thy mercy...thy comforts:

in the midst of affliction in this wicked world, God's help and compassion bring joy and delight to our troubled souls

2 Cor 1:3-4 the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort

so when you are afflicted by proud, wicked people, think not on them and their words/deeds but think on the Word of God...the promises of God
Ps 1:1-3

v20-21 shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship:

2 Cor 6:14-18

the Word of God reveals sin and lawlessness...it does not hang out with it

v22-23 the Lord is my defense...refuge:

this is the 4th of 4 times this truth is expressed in the Psalms (31:2, 62:2, 62:6)

shall bring upon them their own iniquity:

justice will be served, judgment is certain (Rom 2:2-9)

Ps 37:23-24, 28-29, 34-40

so the reasonable thing to do is to repent and receive the grace of God
God sends no man to hell...men choose to go there rather than into His arms

A good psalm to read when it seems like the bad guys are winning...

- to look at the end of the matter...
- to help wait for our longsuffering and gracious God to do what only He can do

Ps 95

Anybody have a restless night's sleep recently because of worry

- finances
- a relationship
- a job situation
- an upsetting or “depressing” circumstance

Author: unknown here...but David per **Heb 4:6-7**

Type of Psalm: Song of Encouragement, Strength, and Comfort...a lesson in walking with God

v1-2 Come:

“walk”

let us:

1. sing unto the LORD
2. make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation
out of which flows Living Water...
1 Cor 10:1-4
3. meet before His presence
How? With thanksgiving. Not whining or complaining
4. make a joyful noise
repeated

when we are worried...like I was Monday night...
why should we sing, make a joyful noise?

v3 For the LORD...King:

Because our God is a great God, a great King!!!!
Because Jesus Christ, my Lord, is the Great God...
King of kings and LORD of lords

Key truth: our identity

We are monarchists...not of any political party

We are citizens of Heaven...before we are citizens of any nation

We are children of God...regardless of our demographics
(gender, social, racial, economic, etc)

We are purchased by the blood of our great God and great King...
not insignificant in any way but precious

Our identity is in Jesus Christ...our great God and great King

Monday night...I was worried

- about the future...but it doesn't belong to me
- about something "impossible"...but nothing is to God
- "What can I do?"...taking matters into my own hands

what is worry and fear? Unbelief in our great God

v4-5 deep places...dry land:

Our great God and great King is the Creator of this planet...and Ps 24:1

He walked on both the land and on the sea...to encourage us to walk with Him

v:6-7a let us:

1. worship...=
2. bow down...=
3. kneel...submit to

before the LORD our maker:
our great God and great King...is OUR Creator

we are His people...His flock
He is the Good Shepherd

John 10:1-5

- He calls us...by name
- He goes...before us
- we follow...His voice

we are formed by His hand...we are in His hand

John 10:27-30

v7b-8a Today if we will hear His voice, harden not your heart:
Walking with our great God and great King...

When?

Today. It is the only time we are given.

This exhortation never expires...it is new every morning along with His mercies.

How?

Hear = listen + obey

What?

His voice...The Word of God...and the still small voice of the Holy Spirit

How?

By faith...believing what God says in His Word and by His still small voice

John 6:29

Fear not...but believe

Do not worry...but believe and seek ye first the kingdom of God

Heb 11:6

2 Cor 5:7...part of a message that says:

- His love constrains us
- new creature...all things are new
- reconciliation made possible
- ambassadors for Christ

v8b-11 instruction by contradiction...ie

“how to walk” instruction by “how NOT to walk”

contra-example: The Provocation...

the 40 years of wilderness wandering by the nation Israel because they received not the report of Joshua and Caleb but received the report of the 10 “grasshopper” spies...

40 years throughout which they whined and complained to Moses... and God faithfully provided

Israel did not believe God could/would do what He said he would...

- go before them
- defeat their enemies
- give them rest in the land He promised them

Israel walked by sight and not by faith...they

- erred in their heart...”vacillated, strayed, wandered”...
- walked in their ways and not the LORD’s

generation: this is a very important point

generation does not mean “forty years”...but “the nation of Israel”

Matt 24:34

Luke 11:50-51

misinterpretation contributes to Replacement Theology

Read this psalm to learn from the nation of Israel...and be grateful/thankful for the lesson!

1 Cor 10:5-11

things that kept Israel out of the Promised Land and God's rest

- idolatry
- immorality...particularly sexual immorality
- testing God, based on unbelief (fear, worry)
- whining and complaining...

not trusting, not believing, that God will do what He said He will do...
lead them to the Promised Land, their inheritance

walking with God to our inheritance requires 2 baptisms...2 walks of faith

1. water: Red Sea...deliverance from bondage and from the power of the enemy
2. Holy Spirit: Jordan River...empowered to conquer the Promised Land, the inheritance

1. water: Red Sea...deliverance from bondage and from the power of the enemy

Ex 14

- v1-4 God puts Israel right where He wants them
Pharaoh: "They're lost! They're trapped! They're mine!"
God also has Pharaoh right where He wants him
In this humanly impossible situation God will glorify Himself
- v5-12 the most powerful army in the world is going against a rag-tag assembly
of slaves
"Why couldn't you just leave us alone in our oppression and bondage?!"
(irrational)
- v13-14 Fear not...believe
Be still...calm down, be at peace
See the Lord's rescue!
The LORD will fight for you...the world's greatest army has no chance!

God's calling Israel out of Egypt into the Promised Land required them walking with Him by faith
They were not able...God is able

God's calling us out of the world into our inheritance requires that you walk with Him by faith
We are not able...God is able

God's calling UPON the nation of Israel was to be His witness to the nations
They needed to submit...by faith in Him, not to fear of man

God's calling UPON our lives (marriage, family, job, church)
is be salt and light...witnesses of Jesus Christ everywhere we go
We need to submit...by faith in Him, not to fear of men

fear and worry in our lives are a result of our not

- hearing (L + O) the voice of God speaking to us
- walking by faith in some aspect of our life

Without the test...there is no testimony

v1-3, 7b-8a

Ps 96

Author: unknown

Type of Psalm: Proclamation of Good News

v1-2 O sing unto the LORD:

- a new song (9 times...Psalms = 7, Is = 1, Rev = 2)
- all the earth (Is 55:12)
- bless His name: PTL

show forth His salvation:

“preach” the Good News of salvation

in all circumstances, we are ambassadors of

1 Cor 15:1-4

Rom 1:16-17

Eph 2:8-9

Rom 5:9

v3 Declare His glory to the heathen:

Proclaim...

in deeds, countenance, and words...

in all circumstances...

the love and grace of God to the unsaved

Do not “horde” the truth that has been revealed to you...pass it on!

Act and talk like you have been saved!

v4-5 For the LORD is great:

For Who He is and what He has done...He is to be vehemently and passionately
praised and revered

gods of the nations:

alternate choices for the placement of one’s faith are...life-less images.

Such a choice instead of the Source of Life is foolhardy

Note: idol worshippers are really worshipping themselves...putting themselves
higher than the God of heaven

v6 Honor and majesty...strength and beauty:
for He is the God of all power, all strength, all beauty...worthy of highest esteem

v7-8 Give unto the LORD:
Give Him His due...all glory...and give it to none others

bring an offering:

don't just come to get from the LORD...

come with a willing heart to give unto the LORD

- time
- talents
- resources

issues: ownership, stewardship, faith

v9 the beauty of holiness:
bow down and prostrate yourself in sold-out devotion...holiness

we live in a society "hooked" on beauty

there is nothing more beautiful than a godly woman...

a woman of purity and holiness

fear before Him:

"dance" before Him

worship is consummate...body, soul, and spirit

v10 Say among the heathen...reigneth...shall judge:
We are ambassadors of

1. The glorious King...the God Who is love, light, and life

2. the Righteous Judge...Who will judge and destroy His enemies

if the Church is to be a faithful witness of Jesus Christ, she must be balanced...
not distorted

- Loving Savior...but not the holy and righteous Judge
- Angry Judge...but not the loving and gracious Abba Father

v11-13 Let the heavens...earth...sea...field...trees rejoice before:

Rom 8:19-23

Titus 2:13 our blessed hope...appearing

Rev 11:15, 18

He cometh to judge:

1. the world (Satan's world system) with righteousness
2. the people with His Truth (John 17:17)

a good psalm to read when circumstances are rough...

Ps 97

Author:

Type of Psalm: Hail the King!

v1-6 the LORD reigneth:

God on His Throne

- along with honor, majesty, strength, and beauty (Ps 96)...
clouds, darkness, righteousness, and judgment are fixtures
- fire (Deut 4:24, Heb 12:29) and lightnings and earthquakes
(as on Mount Sinai)
- rocks are like wax in His presence

...all proclaimed by the heavens for all men to see

(Rom 1:19-20)

v7 confounded...serve graven images...boast themselves:

those who, in the face of such glory of the One True and Living God, worship
idols will be ashamed

behind every idol is a demon (1 Cor 10:20)

the bondservants of demons shall suffer their folly

v8-9 Zion...Judah rejoiced because of thy judgments:

“lightnings” in v4 could also mean “flashing sword”

The Lord’s sword is His Word...Ps 119:105

The Word is my encouragement and strength and guide

v10 Ye that love the LORD hate evil:

Ps 139:21-22

the children of God love what the Father loves and hate what the Father hates

God hates evil...Jesus cleansed the Temple with righteous anger
God hates sin and the results of sin...but not the deceived sinner.
So should we

2 Cor 4:3-4 they are deceived

Eph 6:12

He preserveth the souls of His saints...delivereth:

Jude 24-25

God "snatches" those who believe

1. away from the devil (Col 1:13)

2. out of this wicked place (1 Thes 4:12-17)

We are saved by God's grace...and stay saved by God's grace

v11-12 Light is sown:

The flashing Sword of God is sown in our hearts...
seeds of Light open the eyes of men born blind

God reveals Himself to us in His Word...and we rejoice!

Hail the Holy King Who reigns now and forever!

a good psalm to read when circumstances are rough...lest we forget

Ps 98

Author: unknown

Type of Psalm: Victory Song

v1 a new song, for he has done marvelous things:
a new song...for a new thing?

A song for things only He can do...for His victory

- over sin
- over death
- over hell
- over the devil

A song for justifiably restoring the unjust...
by NOT a new thing – grace thru faith

v2 made known His salvation...openly showed:
Prov 10:2 righteousness delivers from death

How was God's righteousness...salvation...His victory...
openly shown?

John 1:1, 14

1 John 1:1-5

Acts 1:1-3

infallible proofs before eyewitnesses...

1 Cor 15:1-8

1 Cor 2:7-8

Col 2:8-15

v3 remembered...Israel: all the ends of the earth have seen:

Acts 1:8

Acts 2:14-27

the early Church was strictly Jewish...

this witness of the "wild branches" continues to this day

in the future, by the testimony of

- the 2 Witnesses
- the 144,000 Apostle Pauls
- their fruit

v4 make a joyful noise...all the earth:
because every man, woman, and child is a “whosoever”
John 3:16

v5-9 Sing unto the LORD:
sing...like you have been saved!

the ending of this psalm sounds a great deal like the ending of Ps 96

the Gospel:

- Jesus Christ, the Holy Son of God,
set aside His glory...
humbled himself...
became a servant and was obedient...
even unto death...
- to redeem His beloved creatures by becoming a curse...by becoming sin.
- He died, was buried, rose again on the 3rd day
- 40 days later He ascended to the right hand of God the Father in heaven
- 10 days later He sent God the Holy Spirit to empower His witnesses
- in the fullness of time, He will return in glory to judge men with righteousness and truth...
- and to establish His kingdom on earth.

Rejoice!

a good psalm to read when you have not had any “Good News” in a while

Ps 99

Author: unknown

Type of Psalm: the LORD is holy (v3, 5, 9)

v1 the LORD reigns...between the cherubim:
in the Tabernacle/Temple, God dwelt “between the cherubim” on the Ark of the
Covenant...

v2 the LORD is great in Zion:
Jerusalem is the city God chose for Himself

the Lord will reign on earth for 1000 years...from the Throne of David in
Jerusalem

v3 it is holy:
1. the LORD’s name is holy
pure...apart...unique...a point of division

v4 loves judgment...establish equity:
the LORD loves justice...
• doing the right thing
• being fair and impartial
• correcting error

justice is based on the truth...the LORD loves truth

only the holy LORD can judge...for any corruption of the truth is unfair

v5 worship at His footstool:
lift up the name of the LORD and bow down before Him...
or be UNDER His footstool (Ps 110:1)

why?

for He is holy:
2. the LORD is holy
pure...apart...unique...a point of division

v6-7 Moses and Aaron...Samuel:

1. Deliverer
2. High Priest
3. Prophet

kept his testimonies:

they are noteworthy because of their obedience to the Word of God...

stemming from submission...that stems from love and faith

“His will be done...because
I love Him.
I trust Him.
I believe His Word.”

v8 forgave them...vengeance of their inventions:

the times when they were not obedient (Rom 3:10, 23), God, by His grace,
forgave them

but God did not ignore their sin...he “punished” their works
(when they fleshed-out)

they were not judged like their sin because of the LORD’s grace

without compromising God’s holiness,
justice and forgiveness meet in God’s grace
Eph 2:8-9

Justice + our works = death
Justice + His work = life
Rom 6:23

v9 the LORD our God is holy:
the bottom line...the last word

3. our LORD God is holy

...and the “crowning” truth
the making of the Tabernacle is recorded in fine detail in Ex 36-39...
the work is “capped off” by the crown of the high priest
“Holiness to the LORD”

Ex 39:30

a good psalm to read when to help you pursue righteousness
(do they right thing)

Ps 100

Author: unknown

Type of Psalm: PTL!

v1 Psalm of praise. Make a joyful noise:
no qualifiers...in ALL things

v2 Serve the Lord with gladness:
because it is a joy!

J: Jesus first
O: others next
Y: yourself last

Col 3:23-24

Context:

v12-13	be gracious
v16	be edifying
v17	whatsoever
v18	wives
v19	husbands
v20	children
v21	fathers
v22	employees

v3 Know that the Lord is God:
the Lord is God...whether you know it or not...whether you believe it or not

it is absolutely essential to know this!

know: discern...understand...accept as true...submit to the truth

You can get by in this life by not knowing many things

(EE...how to read Fin Stmts...history)

but you CANNOT get by in the next life without knowing that the LORD is God

that is the theme of 1 John

(read it again tonight)

and the Lord has given us more than enough evidence so we can know...
not just hope/wish

has made us and not we ourselves:

[Acts 17:24-28a](#)

[Ps 139:13-16](#)

[Jer 1:4-5](#)

v4 with thanksgiving:
that being true...be thankful
how do you feel about ingratitude?
That's how God feels when we whine and complain

Instead, [1 Thes 5:16-18](#)
In ALL things..."Thank you!" and "PTL!"

v5 the Lord is good:
not all things are good...but God is always good
and [Rom 8:28](#)
never: "Well, except that one thing. Sorry.
I couldn't do anything about that one."

His mercy is everlasting:
because [Heb 13:8](#)

His truth endures to all generations:
There is only one truth...His truth, not man's truth

- relative truth...traditions...philosophies
- which are all broken cisterns that cannot hold (Living) water but contain only death (water is life)

God's truth is eternal ([Matt 24:35](#)),
unchanging ([Heb 13:8](#)),
life-giving ([John 8:31-32](#))
available to all men ([John 3:16](#))

This is a psalm to know...a psalm to choose even when we do not feel like it
By knowing and choosing it instead of our feelings, God will bless our
obedience and reconcile our feelings

Ps 101

Author: David

Type of Psalm: God's nature

written by David, a man after God's own heart
thru David, we see God's heart...the nature of our God

v1 God's

- mercy...lovingkindness
- judgment...fairness

v2 God's

- wisdom
- perfection

David's heart (perfect heart):

- obedient
- submissive
- faithful
- self-less

v3 God's

- purity
- holiness
- righteousness
- shepherd's heart to drive away the beasts

v4 God's

- humility
- holiness (again)

v5 God's

- lovingkindness (again)
- humility (again)

- v6 God's
- faithfulness
 - desire for communion and fellowship
 - servant's heart

- v7 God's
- holiness (3rd)
 - truth

- v8 God's
- justice...He is just
 - sovereignty

from His nature, we can see how God works in us...from the inside out

satan, seeking our destruction, works from the outside in

this is a psalm of Christ-likeness

Phil 1:6

How can we be

- merciful
- fair
- wise
- perfect
- pure
- holy
- righteous
- humble
- faithful
- a servant?

I cannot do this, my dualing natures prevent it (Rom 7)

By

- John 15:5 with Phil 4:13 and 1 Thes 5:17
- having a heart like David's
 - obedient
 - submissive
 - faithful
 - self-less
- putting on our armor (Eph 6:10)
- being weak (2 Cor 12:9-10, Col 1:11)
- His Spirit, not our strength (Zech 4:6)
- grace, not by works
- decreasing, not increasing (John 3:30)
- being moist clay in the Potter's hands
- offering yourself as a living sacrifice...a "burnt offering" unto the Lord (Rom 12:1-2)

Moody's desire: to be "that man"...(2 Chron 16:9a)
Is that our desire?

Ps 102

Author: unknown

Type of Psalm: A prayer of endurance...interestingly enough this psalm is for me

v1 A prayer of the afflicted when:
the nature of the psalm and when to read it are clearly established right up front

a good psalm to read when overwhelmed by the difficulties and afflictions of
life...like I was Monday and yesterday

what are we to do in those times?
Pour out our hearts to the Lord...and was I ever!

Turn to the Lord...not to

- yourself
- an unbelieving friend
- a psychiatrist
- a Family Counselor

Turn to the Wonderful Counselor
Heb 4:16

In so doing, our perspective changes and comfort flows from heaven

Observe as we go thru the psalm

v2 me...I...me...I:
what is the psalmist's perspective?

Therefore, who is defining "speedily"?
one who does not own and cannot control the flow of time

"Speedily" must be left in the hands of God
in Dan 9, God answered before Daniel even finished his prayer
in Dan 11, God's answered came to Daniel (same man, beloved) after a
very hard fought three weeks

this was the perspective of my prayers Monday and yesterday...me, me, me
but, God answered speedily
a timely word...women's prayers...provision

- v3-7 the psalmist uses 7 metaphors to describe his anguish
1. days like smoke: easily dissipated and blown away forever
 2. bones burn like a hearth: his strength completely sapped
(Prov 17:22)
 3. heart withers like grass: dried up and lifeless...so upset that his appetite is lost (can you relate?)
 4. bones cleave to skin: emaciated, wasting away
 5. a pelican in the desert: an environment of death
 6. an owl in the desert: a loner with a woeful cry of sorrow
 7. a lone sparrow: forsaken by the others

v8-10 Mine enemies reproach:
laugh at, mock, deride, scorn, bristle at

Because of thine indignation:

Is the psalmist in his self-centeredness blaming God for his troubles?
I have learned that my flesh, the world, and the enemy are the source of all my problems

v11 my days are like a shadow that declines:
as darkness approaches and engulfs the shadows

very gloomy...like I was Monday and yesterday

I was as an owl in the desert...a lone sparrow...
all by myself pathetic little self, overwhelmed by the pressure to finish this project

v12 But thou, O LORD, shalt endure forever:
the critical point in the psalm...the turning point...a change of perspective

circumstances change, but the Lord never does
“This too shall pass” but the Lord never will

my turning point was at lunch yesterday...and the “unknowing” sentence spoken
by Mary
instantly, my gloominess was transformed into peace
(and 7 hours of sleep sure helped too!)

This morning, the Lord continued to minister to me

v13-14 Thou shalt arise...for the time...is come:
When will the Lord arise to help us in our affliction?
When we want Him to?
No, when we need Him to.

And He Who

- created time
- possesses time
- controls the flow of time

knows the perfect time to meet our need

Some of our prayers are answered immediately...
they are inspired by God and lifted up in faith and He answers according
to His will

Others are tests of endurance and builders of faith

Regarding my “hooting” in the desert this week...
the Lord answered immediately...
in the midst of this endurance test of faith

PTL! The Master is here in our midst!

Note: this is not to say my brooding was inspired...God acts in the
timing of His will, not by the pitch of my lament

We are awful – we take our sweet time answering Him but we
expect Him to answer us immediately. Face it...we are spoiled
brats!

have mercy upon Zion...take pleasure in her stones:
limestone called Jerusalem stone

- beautifully accented by various minerals
- easy to build with
- abundantly found
- ...and have voices if we are silent!
(Luke 19:40)

my desire is to paint the front wall of the sanctuary this way

v15-16 heathen shall fear...when the Lord shall build up Zion:
looking to the glorious appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ to Jerusalem to
establish His kingdom

Note: as it relates to our Sunday morning study...
Zion is being built up now!
Jews are secretly buying land on Zion...
we have been on that land, seen the place of Solomon's anointing at the
Gihon Spring beneath Zion

v17-18 He will regard the prayer of the destitute:
poor in spirit and poor in the world
God is the God of the poor, the Defender of the defenseless

written for generations to come:
the afflictions...and subsequent deliverances...
are recorded to comfort and encourage future generations which shall be
created

2 Cor 1:3-4

our afflictions have a Divine purpose...

- to comfort others as we are comforted by others
- so we can minister to others as we have been ministered to

“created” is same Heb. word that is used throughout Gen 1-2

Evolution is a lie...God created the universe.

Evolutionary creation is also a lie.

God did not begin the processes of life and then step back to watch where
it would go.

He is personally, intimately involved in His creation.

His hands are upon our formation and upon our lives.

v19-21 looked...hear...loose...declare:
God sees, hears, acts, speaks.
The Living God is involved...in control.

Foremost, God entered into His creation on a search-and-rescue mission to liberate His beloved from the prison of death, who were POWs

Rom 6:23
2 Tim 2:24-26
John 8:32, 36

The Lord came to

- seek and save the lost...will you be found?
- set the captives free...will you walk thru the open prison doors?
- heal the sick...will you come forward by faith?
- touch the afflicted...will you climb up into His lap?

v22 when the people are gathered together...to serve the Lord:
Acts 2:42
Heb 10:25

These are blessed times when the Lord ministers to our needs

v23-24 weakened my strength:
2 Cor 12:9-10

take not away in the midst of my days:
what on earth is better than being in the presence of God in heaven?

and the flip side of Rom 8:18 is also true

Lord, take me the instant you are done in me and thru me.
I don't want to be here a second longer.

v25-27 shalt endure:
Matt 24:35
Heb 13:8

v28 shall continue...be established:

God's children shall stand!

Prov 12:7 the house of the righteous will stand

How do we endure affliction and tribulation?

By clinging to Him who endures forever

This promise (shall stand) is shadowed by the

Year of Jubilee – the 50th year, the year after the 7th Sabbath Year,

when all is forgiven
restored
made new
made right

our Year of Jubilee is most assuredly coming

Note: e-Sword search (limitations: English, not exhaustive)

on the phrase “shall stand”

50 hits

1st: Lev 27:17...Year of Jubilee

49 hits in OT

50th: Rev 18:15...the fall of Babylon, the city of man

notice the change from anxiety to comfort when our perspective changes...
which is what the Word does

Ps 103

Author: David

Type of Psalm: Good Housekeeping

starts and ends with “Bless the Lord o my soul!”

v1-2 Bless the Lord:
“kneel down before”...an act of worship

and all that is within me:

Deut 6:4-5

His holy name:

His position, His authority, His character are all totally unique

forget not His benefits:

do not misplace anything He has done

in the building ,we are continually “losing” our tools because we lay them down
and move on...forgetting where we laid them down

we are in need of better housekeeping!

v3-5 What has the Lord done that we should not ever misplace?

1. forgiven us of our sin...we were guilty, but He gave us a pardon
(Ps 32:1).
Satan will try to rip you off and get you to lay this down and walk away
2. healed our diseases:
physical, emotional, spiritual.
The Healer cures our sicknesses and our wounds
3. redeemed our life from the pit:
purchased us from the slave market and made all things new
(1 Cor 6:19-20, 2 Cor 5:17).
Hold tightly onto this before you make a choice, so that you will choose
wisely, healthily

4. crowns us with lovingkindness and tender mercy:
“encircles for protection against attack” with mercy, favor, kindness,
compassion.
God has a soft heart toward us (vs a hard heart) and keeps us our hearts
soft toward Him with His kindness and compassion.

5. satisfies my desires with good things:
things good for me so I am renewed
James 1:17.
Contentment lies only in the Lord, not anywhere in the world.

5 = grace...unwarranted benefit

remember God's grace (2 Cor 12:9)...
Satan will never stop trying get you to put it down and walk away

v6 the Lord is a just Judge...honest and fair.
He cannot be bribed.
He stands up for those who have been

- wronged
- defrauded
- slandered

v7 God has revealed Himself...thru Moses and the nation of Israel

What is God like?

v8-9 The Lord is:

1. merciful:
compassionate...not giving us what we rightly deserve
2. gracious:
giving us what we do not deserve
3. slow to anger:
longsuffering

he wants us to know this...“the Lord is slow to anger” appears 7 times in Scripture

- Num 14:18
- Nahum 1:2-3
- Jonah 4:2
- Joel 2:13
- Neh 9:17
- Ps 103:8
- Ps 145:8

4. plenteous in mercy:
super-abundant in kindness and favor
5. forgiving:
He will not continue without end to rebuke for our mistakes...
He does not bear a grudge against us for the times when we hurt Him.
He is never bitter (2 Cor 2:10-11)

This is the character of God...holy, unique, worthy of all our worship

Oh how I want to be like Him!

Again...5 = grace

God's grace changes everything

v10-12 Because His character is what it is, the Lord does not relate to us from the position of our offense...but from the position of His character.

Our treatment does not befit our crime...and our treatment draws us close to Him!

Wait! If

- the Lord is a fair and honest Judge (v6)
- I have wronged Him (v3a)
- but He does not treat me according to what I deserve...my sins were removed from me and could not be any further from me than they are
(Micah 7:18-19)

Then

- He is not fair
yes He is...2 Cor 5:21, Rom 5:9, Rev 1:5
- it does not really matter
oh yes it does...Rom 6:1-2

the measure of “fear” (reverence, honor) is obedience...
from a new, soft, willing heart

the life changing grace of God:

- my sin and I will never see each other again
- the only things you bury at sea are the things you never want to see again
- God has deliberately chosen to forget my sin

v13-16 The nature of the relationship the Lord desires with each of us personally is “revealed” in the marriage relationship – intimate, “one-ness”

the love the Lord has for us is “revealed” in the parent-child relationship – unconditional, longsuffering, compassionate, gently loving

He KNOWS us...better than we know ourselves.
After all, He made us!

He knows we are weak and fragile...delicate, in spite of how we act or talk.

I cannot surprise or disappoint Him, I only surprise and disappoint myself.

In essence, God says, “After all, what can You expect of dirt?”

We are life-less without Him.

Our form has no purpose or meaning without His strong Potter’s hands.

v17-18 God's character (compassion and kindness) is as He is...eternal, infinite

his children respond to His love by

- seeking to please Him...thru faith and obedience
Heb 11:6
- walking with Him
Ps 119:105, 2 Cor 5:7
- desiring to "be like Daddy"
Rom 12:1-2

v19 God's position is also unique...as The Sovereign King of all creation
(nothing is outside His dominion)

v20-22 Bless...bow down before in worship

1. His angels...spiritual beings, ministering to the heirs of salvation...
who listen attentively to His voice and do as He says
2. His warriors...doing His pleasure
His will be done
3. His works...all that He has done in all the place He has done them
4. My soul...me, ALL of me
Manifested in my
 - surrender
 - submission
 - obedience
 - worship

a good psalm to read when you

- have misplaced your joy...been robbed of your joy
- have put down and walked away from God's grace
- have forgotten the benefits package of the children of God
- cannot find compassion and kindness

Ps 104

Author: Unknown

Type of Psalm: A praise to God's wonderful act of creation

In our first study after moving into this building built with hands, we stop to praise our Creator,
Who made the universe, this particular planet, life on this planet, and us

all creation is dependent upon the Lord (v27-30)

all creation shouts of the glory of its Creator (Rom 1:20)

v1 Bless the LORD...my God:
with every fiber of my being and in my spirit, bless

the pre-existent Sovereign,
the one, true, and Living God,

Who is

- almighty
- all-knowing
- all-seeing
- beautiful
- majestic
- glorious

v2-5 Who:

1. clothes Himself with light...all things are revealed in His presence
2. spread out the stars like a canopy
3. lays the floor of the sky on the water...no gaps
4. rides on the clouds...God is Spirit
vapors cannot support anything physical
5. walks on the (unseen by us) edges of the winds...
as a surfer rides a wave
6. makes the winds His messengers and flaming fire His servant
7. laid the foundation for the earth...
to keep it in place...until He wants to move it

v6-9 speaks of the Creator cleansing His creation in righteous judgment

covered it with the deep:

covered the earth with the seas such that even the tallest mountains were covered

Gen 7:17-24

At thy rebuke the fled:

the waters abated only when so commanded by God...

then they hurried away quickly (evidence: Grand Canyon)

Gen 8:1-3

Time for a new beginning

mountains...valleys:

He rose up the mountains and pushed down the valleys into the place appointed for them

set a bound...not again to cover:

the LORD set a boundary for the waters that they cannot cross...

because He promised Noah He would not again flood the entire earth.

God's promises are certain.

v10-12 He sendeth the springs into the valleys:

not there by happenstance but by design, the mountain streams flow into the valleys to care for His creatures

- give them life-sustaining water...and He gives abundantly (drink = "quaff" = to drink deeply)

the other night on Discovery Channel (preaches evolution but is displays the power and majesty of the Creator,

Rom 1:18-22):

elephant migrations in East Africa are followed by nomadic men and their herds

"We know there will be water where the elephants go."

How do the elephants know? God leads them.

- give homes in the tree branches to the birds

- v13 He waters the hills from His chambers:
 He sends rain upon a dry and thirsty land...and the land is satisfied
Job 38:25-27
- The hydrological cycle to give water to His creatures and to sustain physical life
 wind and ocean currents
 evaporation and condensation
- v14 causes grass to grow...herbs:
 He is the reason grass, fields, and crops grow...to feed His creatures
- v15 heart of man...face...strengthen:
 He causes the vine to produce fruit...to brighten the heart of the center of His
 creation...man
- He causes the olive tree to bear fruit...to provide oil to moisturize man's dry face
 (Dave Sylvester uses as an after shave)
- He causes crops to produce a yield...to feed man and refresh his strength
- v16 trees of the LORD are full:
 the trees of the LORD, the grand cedars of Lebanon, drink to their fill
- which He planted:
 how does a tiny seed become a grand cedar?
 thru death and resurrection...only by the power of God
- Mark 4:26-28
John 12:23-24
- v17 birds make their nests:
 God provides homes for every bird
- v18 wild goats...conies:
 the rock cliffs of En-Gedi is home for ibex and rock badgers

v19 moon...sun:

the moon was appointed a place and the sun given a path...for man, the center of God's creation

in fact, God placed every star in a specific, chosen place... that the heavens would shout of His glory...to man

v20-22 makest darkness and it is night:

darkness is more than just the absence of light, it is another aspect of God's creation

some of His creatures live at night while most of His creatures are being refreshed with sleep

the LORD

- feeds all of His creatures
- gives them water
- gives them sleep
- gives them homes....

He most certainly will do all of those things and more for you and me, the center of His creation

v23 man goes forth...until evening:

context: an agrarian society...living off the land

when the sun rises, man goes off to work

what was the work God gave to man?

- to tend His garden
- to have dominion over His creation
- to go forth and multiply and fill the earth

v24 O LORD, how manifold are thy works:
Your works are innumerable...
more than we can count
more than we see
more than we are even aware of

In Your works we see your wisdom.
The earth is full of Your creatures.

And how manifold are Your

- Mercies (Neh 9:27)
- Wisdom (Eph 3:6-10)
- Grace (1 Peter 4:7-10)

How good is God!?

v25-26 great and wide sea:
How vast and wide is the wonder of God?

The sea is but a hint

- teeming with life...from microscopic to gigantic
- a place with men at work and creatures at play

v27-30 These wait all upon thee:

ALL creatures depend on God...for

- food...that He faithfully provides right on time
- breath...He controls our involuntary muscles
- preservation...the Preserver of Species is the Giver and Taker of Life
- everything

v31-32 the glory of the LORD:

physical life does not last forever...dust returns to dust
BUT the glory of the eternal God does last forever

v33-35 I will sing:

what is the psalmist's response to the glorious work of God...and to God Himself?

1. I will sing praises as long as I live
(man is not just a physical creature, but can also by faith be a spiritual new creature)...forever
2. My contemplation of him and prayer to Him will be...SWEET... to Him!
3. I will be joy-full in Him
4. I desire His holiness...and a creation as pure
5. I will bless the LORD..."Hallelujah!"

Think of this psalm whenever you sit down to eat a meal

a good psalm to read whenever you see God's fingerprints

- on the earth
- in His creatures
- in your life

We are here

- as God's servants
- as ministers to the center of the Creator's creation...man
- to glorify the LORD

Who is

- able to see you thru every trial
- The Giver of Life
- desiring to bless you
- The Creator Who entered into His creation to save His most beloved creatures... you and me

Ps 105

Author: unknown...David?

Type of Psalm: Exhortation to Remember and Praise

Outline

1. proclamation (v1-7)
2. promise (v8-11)
3. proof: patriarchs (v12-15)

v1-15 is “cut and pasted” from 1 Chron 16:8-22

David rejoicing over the return of the Ark of the Covenant from Obed-edom to the Tabernacle in Jerusalem

He calls a huge celebration/BBQ and delivered that psalm to Asaph

4. proof: preservation and prosperity (v16-24)
5. proof: plagues and plundering (v25-38)
6. proof: provision and promise kept (v39-44)
7. purpose: passion and praise (v45)

v1-7 the Proclamation:

1. give thanks to the MASTER
2. call upon His name (power, authority)
3. witness to the people of His deeds among them (1st)
4. sing to Him
5. speak of His wonderful works (2nd)
6. give all the glory to His holy name
7. rejoice!
8. seek for (“frequent” or “follow”) the MASTER...His strength, His presence
9. remember all He has already done (3rd)

to the nation of Israel

- His servants
- His chosen people

The LORD, the MASTER, is

- our God...the One True and Living God
- the God of heaven and earth
- the all-knowing, all-powerful Creator of the universe
- the Judge of all the inhabitants of the earth

v8-11 the Promise: characterized as

- He has remembered (God cannot, will not, forget His promise)
- His (vs “ours”, “yours and Mine”)...unilateral

- forever
- to 1000 generations (poetic language)
- everlasting (eternal)

- the land of Canaan, Israel’s inheritance

therefore,

- the faithfulness of God is at stake...not Israel’s...
- the veracity of His Word is at stake, not Israel’s vows

God is faithful and true...even when Israel is not
Israel’s unfaithfulness cannot alter the promise of God given to them

Yet the Body of believers is corrupted with Replacement Theology

Belief:

- the promises of God to Israel have been forfeited by Israel because of their unfaithfulness...rejection of the promised Messiah
- those promises now belong to the Church...who accepted the promised Messiah
- God’s chosen people is now the Church...”Spiritual Israel”
- Israel was judged and ceased to exist at the 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ...in 70 AD and the destruction of Jerusalem
- The Church is the kingdom of God on earth...Israel has no place in the plan of God

Impact/Effect:

- blindness to the stark reality of the re-birth of the nation of Israel in 1948 (held to be illegitimate)
- proclaiming God to be unfaithful at best, a liar at worst...in spite of
Titus 1:2
Heb 6:18
Mal 3:6
- proclaiming God divorced and married another...in spite of Mal 2:16
- fueling many attempts to exterminate the Jews (by the Church and those influenced by the Church)
- anti-semitism (i.e. the bride hates the Groom's family, who are Jewish!)
- USA, EU, Russia, UN moving with determination to slice up, dissect, and give away God's land...Israel's promised inheritance...

in direct opposition to the MASTER/Judge
and in defiance of Gen 12:1-3

v12-15 Proof: the patriarchs

2 then 3 then 4 then 6 then 22 then 70...then millions

as God led them from Canaan to Egypt and then from Egypt thru heathen nations to the Promised Land

from the giving of the promise to Abraham to the entrance into their inheritance, God protected His people

- Abraham in Gen 20 in the land of Philistines

Abraham's fearful "She is my sister"

God: "Abimelech, you are a dead man!"

Abimelech: "Wait! He lied to me. I am innocent!"

God: "Only because I prevented you from sinning against **Me**...I would not let you touch her."

The pagan rebukes the believer, who excuses himself with a "white lie"

Abimelech restores Sarah and blesses Abraham with material wealth

Abraham intercedes for Abimelech because God had closed the wombs of his wife and maidservants

- Isaac in Gen 26, also in land of Philistines

wanted in the flesh to go to Egypt (due to famine), but not did not by faith (God told him to not go but to trust Him; 4 "I will"s)

a fearful "She is my sister"...like father, like son

was seen by Abimelech while he was "sporting with his wife"

the pagan rebukes this believer too, blesses him too, and sends him away too

- Nation in Num 22-24

Balak's hiring of Balaam, a Gentile prophet of God

he could not directly yet told Balak how to do it himself

Touch not mine anointed: a verse greatly prostituted by false teachers in order to escape scrutiny and accountability

Context: mine anointed =
nation of Israel + His prophets

(“Thus saith the Lord”, bearing Deut 18:20-22 in mind)

v16-24 Proof: preservation and prosperity

God then protected, preserved, blessed, and multiplied His people...
by sending a famine in “their” land to drive them to the haven of Goshen, the best
land in Egypt

v17-18 in ways that are not man’s ways (Gen 50:20),
He sent an “advance man” in Joseph (Gen 37)

- the son with a coat of many colors
- the favorite son of Jacob
- the firstborn of his beloved Rachael
- given the spiritual gifts of dreams and the interpretation of dreams
- hated by his brothers, preserved by God from death at their hands, sold into slavery (to Uncle Ishmael’s children)
- his feet whipped and bound in iron shackles
(details not in Genesis)

v19-24 When God had His faithful servant in place
(Gen 39-50), He is faithful to His promises to His people

- his interpretation of Pharaoh's dreams of cows and corn proved him to be faithful and true...like his God
- he is released from prison...
the ex-con is made Prime Minister, at the right hand of the Sovereign king of the land
- given authority and power over all the king has, possessions and princes
- the young man teaches wisdom to the old men
(more details not in the Genesis account)
- a glorious reunion is held as the nation of Israel
(Jacob +...a mere 70 at the time) becomes visitors and strangers in Egypt (land assigned to the son of Noah that dishonored his father by beholding the shame of his nakedness and having his son Canaan cursed by God as a result, Gen 9:20-27)
- the MASTER of Israel protects, isolates ("holy"), and abundantly blesses His chosen people

v25-38 Proof: plagues and plundering

v25 with a new administration, fear reigns in Egypt and the local begin to treat the Jews fraudulently and treacherously

standing on Replacement Theology, Church has done the very same thing

v26 their Protector stands up to judge their enemies and to lead the Jews into their promised inheritance

the Sovereign God again chooses...
Moses (deliverer) and
Aaron (high priest)...

shadows of the substance to come

Pharaoh's response: unbelief (Ex 5:1-2)
God's plan: Ex 6:1-8

v27-36 plagues sent upon the unbelievers/enemies

- #9...darkness...they worshipped the sun
(response: “Go!” followed by the LORD hardening Pharaoh’s heart)
- #1...water turned to blood and dead fish...they worshipped the Nile and Dagon, the fish god
- #2...frogs...were sacred so they could not kill them...
God killed all frogs
- #4...many kinds of flies (filthy and irritating)
- #3...lice...stinging sand flies
- #7...hail and fire
- #8...locusts and caterpillars
- #10...death of the firstborn

Notes:

- missing #5 (cattle disease) and #6 (boils)
- none of the plagues fell on Goshen...God’s people
- death of the firstborn did not touch those covered by the blood of the lamb (1 Cor 5:7)

v37-38 on their way out, God’s chosen people, unafflicted by the plagues, plundered the Egyptians, who were all to happy to see them leave (stuff became building materials)

Egypt was afraid of the God of AI&J...
but would not submit to His sovereignty over them...
they refused His LORDship

v29-44 Proof: provision and promise kept

v39 the glory of God protected and led them, day and night...24/7

v40-41 His people “demanded” meat, bread, & water...the gracious God supernaturally, superabundantly provided for all their needs

Note: not recorded here is Israel’s response to that provision...
ungrateful, complaining, unfaithful

v42-44 nonetheless, the faithful God of AI&J

- had not forgotten His promise
- brought them into His land, prepared before time by the sweat of His enemies, with joy and gladness!
- made good on His Good Word

v44 Purpose (I use this word reluctantly because it is being so widely prostituted in our day):
passion and praise

Why did God do all this for a multitude of unfaithful people?

- Rom 2:4
- His passion for them
- that their passion would be for Him...as demonstrated in obedience
- that their praise would be His

as it was true for Israel, it is true for us

- we have been given promises from our God, the God of AI&J
- rejoice in His faithfulness to make good on His Good Word by looking back on His history of faithfulness
- He is preserving us in this world until the appointed time when He will lead us into our inheritance
- He desires our passion for Him...as demonstrated by
 1. believing His promises
 2. obedience to His Word
 3. waiting for Him...while He, the MASTER, works on our behalf, His servants

the LORD want to draw us into His Word...closer to Himself

our flesh either resists altogether or puts in a token effort

2 Peter 3:18 requires Effort on our part...as it does in every relationship

without the effort, spiritual laziness and relational stagnation set in

as the Proclamation of Ps 105 exhorts us:

1. give thanks to the MASTER
2. call upon His name (power, authority)
3. witness to the people of His deeds among them (1st)
4. sing to Him
5. speak of His wonderful works (2nd)
6. give all the glory to His holy name
7. rejoice!
8. seek for (“frequent” or “follow”) the MASTER...
His strength, His presence
Seek His face sometimes?
Just when you are in trouble?
No! Always seek His face.
9. remember all He has already done (3rd)
labor in the Word...
and see what happens!

a good psalm to read when

- need to smooth the sharp edges of today’s trial...
by remembering the mighty works God has done for me
- a ungrateful child has forgotten how much his/her parents love him/her...
as demonstrated by all they have done for him/her
- don’t understand the work of God in your life....
to remember that God is setting things up in advance for what lies ahead...
He goes before us and prepares the place for us and prepares us for the place

Ps 106

Author: unknown
Type of Psalm: PTL

v1 psalm starts with “Hallelujah!”
And ends the same way

the psalmist leads us in two things

1. praise the Lord
2. giving thanks to the Lord

because:

1. He is good...”gracious, kind, loving” (v2-5)
2. His mercy is forever (v6-46)

v2 Who can speak of and understand just how good He is?

v3 oh how happy we would be if

1. we observed...guarded...protected...His judgments/Word/Law
2. we obeyed Him at all times

but we do not...cannot...so we need His enduring mercy
and we cry out...

v4-5 Remember me...with the favor...thy people:

Jer 29:10-14a

Jer 30:18 – 31:3

that is how He loves us...He drew us unto Himself with that love

chosen...nation...inheritance:

the nation Israel...but we wild branches are grafted into the olive tree of Israel by
grace and mercy

we, too, are

- chosen (John 15:15-16, 1 Peter 2:4-5)
- a people (1 Peter 2:6-10)
- an inheritance (John 17:6, 24)

the Lord will have favor on Israel and us...even though...

v6-7 sinned:

we have all

- sinned: missed the mark (of perfection)
- committed iniquity: acted perversely
- done wickedly: done wrongly

Israel held the patriarchs so highly...on pedestals...yet they

1. did not understand what God was doing with the 10 plagues of Egypt
2. did not remember how merciful He was to them at the Red Sea when Pharaoh was bearing down on them...but fearfully complained about their circumstances

Israel whined and complained from the “get go” and kept it up for 40 years in the wilderness until the unbelievers...who had no faith that God would/could do what He said He would...had all died

Per the testimony of the Spirit-filled Stephen, Israel rejected the plan of God at every step in their history (Acts 7)

When was the last time you whined and complained about the circumstances of your life?

To complain about our circumstances...allowed by a Sovereign God... is to complain against the Lord

v8-11 Nevertheless:

how refreshing of a word is that!?

In spite of their unbelief, God did not give Israel what they deserved

1. Saved them from their enemies...
 - For His name's sake
 - To show the world His mighty power...showing Himself to be trust-worthy
2. Parted the Red Sea...making a way of escape (1 Cor 10:13)
3. Led them out of the land of their bondage thru the Sea on dry ground!
4. Returned the waters...drowning the enemy

You see...mighty things are but little things for our God...
Who is good and merciful, giving us help we do not deserve...
and not for our sakes, but for His name's sake!!!!

since God is faithful to Israel, He will also be faithful to the Church and to you
and me

v12 led by Moses and Miriam, Moses' big sister, the nation burst into song and dance,
proclaiming His awesome power and their trust in Him

v13-14 but...they

1. soon forgot
2. became impatient
3. lusted in their flesh for the things of the world from which they had been delivered
4. severely tried the longsuffering of God with their behavior

...the human condition

Can you relate?

1. How is your memory of the goodness and mercy of the Lord?
Do you forget the instant a trial comes?
2. Would you call yourself a patient person?
Would your spouse or children or co-workers or brothers/sisters in the Lord?
3. Do you ever long for "the good ole days" before you wee a born-again Christian?
4. Do you ever test the Lord's patience?

v15 Father knows best.
Father tells us what is best.
If we argue and have a tantrum, He will let us have our way...
so we will learn that Father knows best.

v16 Israel...led by Korah...

1. lusted for power and position
2. rebelled against God's ordained order by turning on Moses by claiming he "took too much upon himself"
3. was jealous of another man's ministry (Aaron)
4. wanted to be more than what God had called him to be

this happens with tragic frequency in churches, too
Youth Pastor or Assistant Pastor...
with their own spheres of influence in a congregation...
rebel against God's ordained order...
thinking they can do a better job, forgetting

- God is able...none of us are
- God's calling on the life of the Pastor...
it's not a function of who is "better" but
a function of who God has called

Results in church splits and injured sheep

It happened in a church we know while we were at Family Camp...

very sad when the flesh destroys the work of the Spirit
...and it really upsets the Lord too!

do not be jealous of another man's ministry, what God has called another man to
do.

Be faithful to your own calling.
God is the Conductor, no man is!

v17-18 in dramatic fashion with awesome power, God opened up the earth to swallow the
rebels and sent fire among the wicked

lust and jealousy are very ugly...and God mercifully cleansed His people

v19-22 in spite of God's mercy toward them, Israel fell again...into the folly of idolatry

after seeing the One, True, and Living God part the Red Sea, etc, to think a golden calf fashioned with their own hands was their god is mind-bending...

yet how many of us, in spite of a mighty work God has done on our behalf, have a burning passion for something other than Him?

How does that happen?

We focus our eyes on ourselves rather than on God...self-centeredness

idolatry is as ugly an offense to God as lust and jealousy

v23 The Lord was going to destroy them had Moses not interceded.

Is that correct?

No...He is good and has enduring mercy, loving them/us with an everlasting love

Rather...he was

1. developing Moses into the Pastor He wanted Him to be
2. casting a shadow of the Substance to come

v24-25 when it was time to enter the Promised Land...

Israel failed again

1. despised the land: embraced the fear of the 10 spies and rejected the faith of the 2 spies
2. did not believe God was bigger than the giants in the land
3. complained "in the privacy of their own homes"... as if God could not hear them
4. disobeyed the command of the MASTER

Does this make you uncomfortable too?

1. Have you "turned your nose up" at the blessing of God because of fear?
2. Have you ever faced a giant (circumstance, trial) you believed to be bigger than God?
3. Do you complain in the privacy of your home, thinking no one hears?
4. Have you ever dug your heels in and refused to do what God has called you to do?

v26-27 God hates whining and complaining...
stubbornness and disobedience
(1 Sam 15:23)

God mercifully cleansed (vs destroyed) His people again...
leaving the unbelievers dead in the wilderness before taking their children into
His land

v28-31 while they were wandering in the wilderness, Israel went whoring again with the gods
of the pagans...as Balaam said they would and so advised Balak

yet at that time, a zealous, uncompromising man stood up for God and His Word...and

1. God mercifully halted a plague of judgment
2. He was counted righteous for his faith
3. His name is forever preserved in the Word of God

Our zealous devotion is to be for our good and merciful God...
not for our wretched selves

v32-33 next, in their tattered history, Israel again displeased the Lord with their complaining.
And this time, Moses had had it with them.
He “fleshed out”, striking the rock rather than speaking to it as God had instructed him to.

In so doing, the Pastor misrepresented God to the sheep...and he “lost” the Promised
Land

v34-39 sadly...yet by this time not surprisingly...they were not any
more holy once they entered their inheritance

1. were not faithful to their calling to be God’s instrument of judgment on the
pagan nations inhabiting the land
2. as a result, were seduced by their gods and their vile worship practices
3. worshipped idols (demons)
4. sacrificed their children to devils...shedding much innocent blood
5. they played the harlot...
6. defiling themselves and God’s land

At least the Church is not like that, right?

1. Is the church/us influencing and changing society...
or is society influencing and changing the church/us?
2. Is the church/us blown around by the winds of false doctrine or have unholy relationships??
3. Do we express devotion for people or things instead of God?
Do we tolerate evil vs hate it?
4. How is abortion any different from sacrificing children to devils?
The amount of innocent blood is staggering and revolting!
5. Does the church/us “play around” with the religions of man and philosophies of the world?
6. From our perspective, what do you suppose the condition of the Bride’s wedding dress is?

v40-43 how frightening are these words:
“God abhorred His own people?”

the Book of Judges records 7 cycles...a downward spiral
resulting in a society

- governed by humanism and relativism...
- having no room for God

Is that book about Israel or USA?

v44-46 But PTL! There is that super-refreshing word again!

“Nevertheless...”

1. God had mercy upon His people in their self-inflicted misery
2. God was faithful...in spite of their unfaithfulness
3. God touched them with a light hand instead of a heavy hand
4. God changed the hearts of their oppressors

v47-48 What can we say?

1. Save us, Lord!
Save us, again!
Save us from our enemies...
save us from ourselves!
2. You are the blessed Lord God...now and forever!
3. Amen!
4. Hallelujah! (ends as it begins)

a good psalm to read when you are being haunted by your past

everybody has a past...a regrettable past (far or near)
our enemy likes to beat us with it as if it were a club in order to generate doubt in our
minds about God's love for us by turning the focus to ourselves

the issue is not us...it is God
and He is good and merciful!
and He has paid our past, present, and future failures
He has chosen to forget our past, removing it as far as the east is from the west
from us

Ps 103:8-14

1 John 1:9

Lam 3:22-23

so stop looking over your shoulder...
you cannot plow a straight line that way
no one is chasing you...march forward in victory!

God blesses us

1. NOT because we are good
2. But because He is good
3. NOT because we are faithful
4. But because He is merciful

The blessing of God are not our wages...they are gifts from a God who delights in
blessing His kids

PTL for His goodness and mercy!