

PSALMS LESSON 51

We will begin this lesson by giving the 51st Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 51

- Verse 1 "Lord, to me compassion show, As thy tender mercies flow; In thy vast and boundless grace, My transgressions all erase; Wash me wholly from my; sins, Cleanse me from my guilty stains."
- Verse 2 "For my transgression lies Ever present to my eyes; I have sinned' against thee alone, In thy sight this evil done; That thy judgment may be clear, And thy speaking just appear.
- Verse 3 "Lo, conceived was I in sin, Born unholy and unclean; Yet thou dost desire to find Truth sincere within the mind, And thou wilt within my heart Wisdom unto me impart."
- Verse 4 "Wash from every guilty stain, Cleanse with hyssop, make me clean; Then from all pollution free, Whiter than the snow I'll be. Let me hear joy's cheering tones, Making glad these broken bones."
- Verse 5 "From my sins hide thou thy face, Blot them out in thy rich grace; Free my heart, O God, from sin, Spirit right renew within. Cast me not away from thee, Nor thy spirit take from me."
- Verse 6 "Give salvation's joy again, Let thy spirit me sustain, Then shall sinners, fought by me, Learn thy ways and turn to thee. Free me from the guilt of blood, God, of my salvation God."
- Verse 7 "Freed from guilt, my tongue shall raise songs thy righteousness to praise; Open thou my lips, O Lord, Then my mouth shall praise accord; Sacrifice thou wilt not take, Else would I the off'ring make.
- Verse 8 "Sacrifice, or burnt-off'ring Can to thee no pleasure bring; But a spirit crushed for sin, Contrite, broken heart Within, Thine accepted sacrifice, Thou, O God, wilt not despise.
- Verse 9 "Zion favor in thy grace, Yea, Jerus'lem's ramparts raise; Then shall sacrifice right, Whole burnt-off'ring thee delight; So shall men, their vows to pay, Victims on thine altar lay."

We will begin now in the verse by verse study of the 51st Psalm. Psalms 51:1 "{To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet came unto him, after he had gone in to Bath-sheba.} Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions."

The prayer of every person who ever came to God is spoken in the verse above. Have mercy, on me a sinner. We know that the Bible says, all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Then we are classed as sinners. Some of us sinners have been to the fountain, and been washed in His precious spotless blood, and made righteous in the sight of God. This is definitely David speaking here. Notice, David comes not in his own righteousness. He pleads for the mercy of God. David comes empty handed,

just as we do. David, at this point, has nothing to offer God, but a broken spirit full of repentance. These requests are made according to God's lovingkindness. David is like many of us who have sinned. He knows God is full of love, and kindness, and mercy. The sin that David committed here is carved into his heart. David's heart is breaking. How many times have we done some terrible thing and wished that God would just completely blot it off the record? David does not want this sin covered up, he wants it completely blotted out.

Psalms 51:2 "Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin."

Sin causes a person, who is at all conscious of God, to feel dirty. In David's case here, he feels dirty from within as well as outside. The word thoroughly, above, is a different word than thoroughly. Thoroughly indicates a cleansing from within, as well as an outward washing. The sins that hurt the worst are the sins that the world is not aware of. Just as it helps a child to get over doing something wrong when his parent spanks him, David would feel better if this sin is brought to light where he could be punished for it. We must not overlook the prophetic message, here, as well. Wash me with your unstained blood, O Lord, and I shall be white as snow. The only way to be clean, within and without, is to be washed in this precious blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalms 51:3 "For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin [is] ever before me."

Sin, that has not been forgiven by the washing of the blood of the Lamb, is constantly on your mind. David admits he has sinned, and that is the first step to being forgiven.

Psalms 51:4 "Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done [this] evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, [and] be clear when thou judgest."

This sin is devastating David. He feels so guilty, because he was the chosen of God. He had even been anointed with oil by the prophet of God, and yet he committed this sin. David is saying, here, God I sinned against heaven and You and whatever punishment You see fit to do, I deserve it. David knows that whatever judgment God makes on this matter, it will be fully deserved.

Psalms 51:5 "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me."

David is saying that he was born in sin. He is blaming his sin on the fact that he was a flesh man.

Psalms 51:6 "Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden [part] thou shalt make me to know wisdom."

I have been saying, all along that God looks at the inside of man. He looks at the heart and examines the condition of the heart. David's heart was always stayed upon God. It was the desire of David's heart to do what was right in God's sight. David fell prey to the desires of his flesh, when he sinned with Bathsheba. I have said, over and over, that we must let our

spirit rule over our flesh. The flesh of mankind must be crucified with Christ that we might live victorious lives.

Psalms 51:7 "Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."

Hyssop was used to apply the blood of the Lamb. David knows that only the blood of the precious Lamb of God can wash him and make him white as snow. Purge, in the verse above, is speaking of purifying his inward man. He is saying, Lord, you burn out all the evil within me, and wash me with your blood, and make me white as snow. This is a white that is so white no fuller on earth can compare with it. This is not David washing, this is God washing David. This is the white that we all receive from the Lord, when He washes us in the blood of the Lamb.

Psalms 51:8 "Make me to hear joy and gladness; [that] the bones [which] thou hast broken may rejoice."

David is speaking of his bones even aching from the sin he has committed against God. All joy and gladness had been missing from his life. One of the side benefits from being forgiven and knowing you are forgiven, is the overwhelming joy that comes from the forgiveness.

Psalms 51:9 "Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities."

It is so beautiful when we are living the life we believe will be pleasing to God. Then we want Him to look at us. When we feel as if we have disappointed God, we want to hide from Him. The sad thing is there is no place to hide from God.

Psalms 51:10 "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."

David is very wise. To get a clean heart, we must allow God to wash our old one in the blood of the Lamb. We must allow the old man to die that we can become a new creature in Christ Jesus. Spirit, in the verse above, has to do with breath. God breathed the breath of life into man when He first created him. I believe this breath {spirit}, here, means new life. David is saying, I want to be born again with a spirit stayed upon God.

Psalms 51:11 "Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy Holy Spirit from me."

The Holy Spirit of God had been with David ever since he had been anointed by Samuel in the house of his father. God's guiding Spirit had been with David when he killed the giant Goliath. God's protection had been continuously around David when he fled from Saul. David is very well aware that he deserves for God to turn away from him for this terrible sin he committed, which brought on more sins. David knows that the fault is not God, but himself. To have had the presence of the Spirit of God within us, and have it to leave would be horrible. David is praying that this will not happen.

Psalms 51:12 "Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me [with thy] free spirit."

This is a plea for God to forgive him, one more time. It appears that David is fearful that he has lost the salvation that he once had in the Lord. When God forgives, there is total restoration.

Psalms 51:13 "[Then] will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee."

David is promising, if God forgives him, he will tell all who commit sin that God forgives. He is actually promising to be a soul winner for God. Not only has David learned a lesson himself about committing sin, but he promises to pass on this knowledge to others that they might be saved, also. The best teacher in all the world is someone who has passed the same way before you. Experience is a great teacher.

Psalms 51:14 "Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: [and] my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness."

David had not only committed adultery with Bathsheba, but had her husband killed to get her for himself. This is what is meant by bloodguiltiness. Uriah had been faithful to David in his duties. David had him killed to get his wife for himself. David's only hope is in the fact that he has great faith in God. Those who have been forgiven much, love much. Though his sins were as scarlet, God will make him white as snow. Look, with me, in the following verse and see that those whom God has forgiven much, love Him the most. Luke 7:47 "Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, [the same] loveth little."

Psalms 51:15 "O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise."

David, up until God forgave him, had been very ashamed of what he had done. He had nothing to say in his defense, because he knew he was guilty as charged. God can open David's mouth by forgiving David. David will not cease to praise God for the forgiveness He has given him.

Psalms 51:16 "For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give [it]: thou delightest not in burnt offering."

David is aware that no sacrifice would be enough to satisfy God for the terrible sins he has committed. David is saying, if there were a sacrifice that could clear my conscience of these terrible sins, I would have already done them. No burnt offering or sacrifice would take care of this sin.

Psalms 51:17 "The sacrifices of God [are] a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise."

We see not only David in this, but everyone who has ever sinned and been truly sorry for their sin. Speaking of the broken spirit, is speaking of someone who realizes the terrible sin he has committed and knows there should not be forgiveness for such a terrible sin as this. A sin sick heart is the broken and contrite heart. True repentance begins in the spirit and heart of the sinner. The guilt from unconfessed sin can absolutely destroy you. You feel as if your heart will break in two. This is the only thing that will get forgiveness from God for sins as terrible as this. True repentance comes along with the broken heart.

Psalms 51:18 "Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem."

Nothing would have pleased David more than to have been the one to build the temple for the Arc of the Covenant. God would not allow David to build the temple, because he was a warring man, not a man of peace. As we have said throughout these lessons, Zion is a literal place, but also symbolizes the church. The church is built on the forgiveness of God toward His people. David loved Jerusalem. This Jerusalem, very well could be speaking of the building of the church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 51:19 "Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar."

This could be speaking of the time when the temple would be completed and the sacrifices would be made. We see in the fact that the entire bull was offered in sacrifice, the total humility of David in receiving forgiveness for his sins. The sacrifice of righteousness is when we receive the righteousness through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 51 Questions

1. What is the cry of everyone who ever came to God?
2. Who is this Psalm addressed to?
3. Who had David sinned with?
4. What sins had he committed?
5. What did David ask God to do to his transgressions?
6. David does not come in his own righteousness, but begs for the _____ of God.
7. What is the only thing David has to offer God, at this point?
8. In verse 1, we see David with a _____ heart.
9. What does sin cause a person to feel about himself?
10. What does the word thoroughly indicate in verse 2?
11. What helps a child get over doing something wrong?
12. What is the only way to be clean from without and within?
13. What is the first step toward being forgiven of your sin?
14. In verse 4, David says he has committed this sin against whom?
15. What is David assured of about any punishment God might see fit to inflict for this sin?
16. I was shapen in _____, and in _____ did my mother conceive me.
17. What was David blaming his sinful nature on?
18. What is God more interested in than in your flesh?
19. Why did David sin with Bathsheba?
20. What was hyssop used for?
21. What is purge, in verse 7, speaking of?
22. Did God really break David's bones?
23. What was meant by the breaking of his bones?
24. When do we want to hide from God?
25. In verse 10, David wants God to create in him a new _____.
26. What does the author believe Spirit, in verse 10, is speaking of ?
27. When had David received the Holy Spirit of God?
28. Restore unto me the _____ of my salvation.
29. What does the word Bloodguiltiness show us?
30. Why were David's lips closed?
31. Why has David not gone and sacrificed for the sin he committed?
32. Verse 17 says the sacrifices of God are what?
33. What is a broken spirit?
34. Why did God not allow David to build the temple?
35. What is Zion, besides a specific place?
36. What can we tell about David by the entire bull being sacrificed?

We will begin by giving this Psalm in metre to show how easily it could be sung.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 52

- Verse 1 "Why dost thou boast, O mighty of mischief and of ill? [man, The goodness of Almighty God Endureth ever still."
- Verse 2 "Thy tongue doth slanders mischievous Devise most cunningly, Like to a razor sharp to cut, It works deceitfully."
- Verse 3 "Ill more than good, and more than truth Thou lovest speaking wrong: Thou lovest all-devouring words, O thou deceitful tongue."
- Verse 4 "So God shall thee destroy for aye, Remove thee, pluck thee out Quite from thy house, and from the land of life he shall thee root."
- Verse 5 "The righteous shall it see, and fear, And laugh at him they shall: Lo, this the man is that did not Make God his strength at all."
- Verse 6 "But he in his abundant wealth His confidence did place; He also to himself took strength From his own wickedness."
- Verse 7 "But I within the house of God Am like an olive green; My confidence forever hath Upon God's mercy been."
- Verse 8 "And I forever will thee praise, Because thou hast done this; I on thy name will wait, for good before thy saints it is."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 52nd Psalm taken from the King James version of the Bible. Psalms 52:1 "{To the chief Musician, Maschil, [A Psalm] of David, when Doeg the Edomite came and told Saul, and said unto him, David is come to the house of Ahimelech.) Why boastest thou thyself in mischief, O mighty man? The goodness of God [endureth] continually."

David is saying that mischief should never be boasted about. We know that many in our day have called themselves great men, when in truth, all they know how to do is to tear down something someone else has built. I do not admire people who tear down. I admire the builders in our society. David is saying, you say you are this great man; show me the great things you have done. Goodness is in creation, not in destruction. The goodness of God lives on forever. We can look at the past and not learn anything. We must be able to apply these lessons David is teaching to our lifetime for it to be profitable to study this.

Psalms 52:2 "Thy tongue deviseth mischiefs; like a sharp razor, working deceitfully."

The untamed tongue is a deadly weapon. The comparison of the tongue to a razor is a good comparison. They can both cut you to pieces. Many a person has had their reputation destroyed by the lies of someone's tongue. Deceit indicates that the person whose tongue is doing all of this damage is a liar, as well. The truth is not in him.

Psalms 52:3 "Thou lovest evil more than good; [and] lying rather than to speak righteousness. Selah."

This is speaking of a person who is evil all the way through. He is of his father the devil. This is the person the Bible speaks of when it says, he loveth and maketh a lie. His heart is stayed upon evil all the time. He has chosen the devil as did the one third of the angels who followed Lucifer. Lucifer, Satan, the devil, or whatever you would like to call him, is evil and all of those who choose to follow him are evil, also. They are not interested in being righteous, they have chosen evil. Selah, means pause and think on these things.

Psalms 52:4 "Thou lovest all devouring words, O [thou] deceitful tongue."

The root cause of a deceitful tongue is a deceitful heart operating the tongue. Out of the issue of the heart, the tongue speaketh. Devour means to destroy. These devouring words are intended to destroy the person who listens to them.

Psalms 52:5 "God shall likewise destroy thee for ever, he shall take thee away, and pluck thee out of [thy] dwelling place, and root thee out of the land of the living. Selah."

The land of the living could be speaking of heaven where we will live forever. We know the parable of the fruit tree tells us that those who are not fruit bearers are to be plucked up by the root and burned. They are, also, the chaff in the parable of the wheat. The chaff is gathered up and burned. It is fit for nothing, but destruction. There is no good future in store at all for those who hate goodness. This pause Selah, means again, stop and think about this.

Psalms 52:6 "The righteous also shall see, and fear, and shall laugh at him:"

Those who laugh last, laugh best. Perhaps, this does not mean hilarious laughter, but more a knowing that there would come a time of payment by this evil one. Those in right standing with God, looking at the punishment of those who hate God, would be a very sobering and fearful thing. When Moses came down the mountain and God destroyed some of the revilers, it was a frightening thing to those left. It is the wisest thing you ever did to fear God.

Psalms 52:7 "Lo, [this is] the man [that] made not God his strength; but trusted in the abundance of his riches, [and] strengthened himself in his wickedness."

Earthly riches and fame are soon gone, for death of the flesh comes to us all. The sad thing is that, wicked people have no future worth living for beyond the grave. Their eternal life is spent in continual torment. Riches may buy you a big car, and a big house, and fine clothes in the earth, but someone else will benefit from them when you die. No amount of money or fame can purchase eternal life for you.

Psalms 52:8 "But I [am] like a green olive tree in the house of God: I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever."

I am told that olive trees live for thousands of years. To be a green tree, would show that the life was still in the tree. Possibly, this tree was mentioned here to show that life with God is forever. His mercy endureth for ever. I have placed my trust in God who will never fail me, and I shall live with Him forever.

Psalms 52:9 "I will praise thee for ever, because thou hast done [it]: and I will wait on thy name; for [it is] good before thy saints."

There is no other way the Christian can show God how pleased we are over what He has done for us. I will lift up the name of Jesus all the days of my life, for He has done mighty things in my behalf. Not the least of which is , He saved me by His grace. Hebrews 13:15 "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of [our] lips giving thanks to his name."

We will continue this lesson by giving the 53rd Psalm in metre.
Chapter 53

- Verse 1 "That there is not a God, Fools in their heart conclude;
Corrupt they are, their works are vile, Not one of them doeth good.
- Verse 2 "Upon the sons of men God looked from heaven abroad, To see
if any understood, If any sought for God.
- Verse 3 "Together all are vile, They all aside are gone; And there is
none that doeth good, No, not so much as one.
- Verse 4 "These men of wicked works, Do they not know at all? My
people they devour like bread, on God they do not call.
- Verse 5 "Great terror on them came, And they were much dismayed,
Although there was no cause why they should be at all afraid.
- Verse 6 "His bones who thee besieged God hath dispersed abroad: Thou
hast them put to shame, because They were despised of God.
- Verse 7 "From Zion, Lord, give help, and back thy captives bring;
Then Jacob shall exult with joy, And Israel shall sing.

We will begin this portion of the study with the verse to verse study of the 53rd chapter of Psalms. Psalms 53:1 "{To the chief Musician upon Mahalath, Maschil, [A Psalm] of David.} The fool hath said in his heart, [There is] no God. Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity: [there is] none that doeth good."

As we have said so many times, a man is what his heart is. Only a fool could look around himself and conclude there is no God. An atheist is not an atheist on his dying bed. This suddenly changes when he is faced with something he cannot control himself. Death is one of the surest reasons to believe in God. Only a fool would decide that this world and everything in it just happened. Even science shows us that a far superior intelligence than mere man has set this all in order. It is much easier to believe that God created the universe and all that is in it, than to believe any of the far fetched theories that atheists have come up with. A person who does not believe in God is, of all men, most deceived.

Psalms 53:2 "God looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were [any] that did understand, that did seek God."

In our world today, He would probably find just a very few who do truly understand and truly seek God. We know that just before the great flood, God looked down at man, and He was grieved that He had made man. He looked and there was a man called Noah who sought God and understood. We know that God saved Noah and his family and destroyed all the others who did not believe. We know, also, that God looked at Sodom and Gomorrah and could not even find 10 righteous men. I greatly wonder just how many He would find today who love Him and serve Him. A few, understand and seek God, but as a whole, I am afraid most of the dwellers on earth do not understand and seek God.

Psalms 53:3 "Every one of them is gone back: they are altogether become filthy; [there is] none that doeth good, no, not one."

The secret of there not being one, lies in verse 2 above. Children of men are those who have not been adopted in to the family of God and made sons of God. The sons of God stop being children of men when they give themselves entirely to the Lord. Worldly people {children of men} are all living in sin, as this Scripture says. Christians, look at the blessedness of being sons of God. I John 3:1 "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not." I John 3:2 "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." There is a special name that only the sons of God can call Him. Romans 8:15 "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father." Can you call the Father Abba?

Psalms 53:4 "Have the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people [as] they eat bread: they have not called upon God."

The answer to their problem is before them here. They have not called on the name of God. When they do evil to the people of God, they are actually attacking God. It is as if they are blind and deaf to the things of God. They have eyes to see, but they do not see and ears to hear, but they do not hear. To deny there is God is the most insane thing anyone could do.

Psalms 53:5 "There were they in great fear, [where] no fear was: for God hath scattered the bones of him that encampeth [against] thee: thou hast put [them] to shame, because God hath despised them."

We see, with David, that the people of the world, who deny God have no future to look to. Their fate is hell. Luke 21:26 "Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken." Those who do not trust in God have terror overcoming them in our day, because they can see how man can destroy the earth and everyone in it. The only people who can feel peace in this is those who have heaven to look forward to. God Himself will destroy the wicked.

Psalms 53:6 "Oh that the salvation of Israel [were come] out of Zion! When God bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, [and] Israel shall be glad."

This is two-fold in its meaning. Israel being established as a nation, and the natural Jew coming back into the land is the first part of this. The

other meaning here is the church of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the second coming of Christ. There is a physical house of Israel, who are the natural Hebrews. They are Israelites by birth. Spiritual Israel is the Christians who are adopted into the family of God. Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." What rejoicing there will be when we see our King of kings and Lord of lords!

Psalms 52 Questions

1. Is the man David is speaking of in verse 1 really a mighty man?
2. The author does not admire men that _____.
3. Goodness is in _____, not in _____.
4. How can it be profitable for us to study about David?
5. What is the tongue compared to in verse 2?
6. Why is the comparison a good one?
7. What are some of the names of the devil?
8. Why is Selah used after verse 3?
9. What is the root cause of a deceitful tongue?
10. What does devour mean?
11. What is {land of the living} speaking of?
12. What 3 things do the righteous do in verse 6?
13. Those who laugh last laugh, _____.
14. What is the wisest thing you could do?
15. What does the evil man trust in?
16. What is the meaning of the green olive tree?
17. Quote Hebrews chapter 13 verse 15.
18. The fool hath said in his heart, _____.
19. When is an atheist not an atheist?
20. In verse 2 of chapter 53 of Psalms, God looked down to see if there were any that did what?
21. What city did God destroy, because He could not find 10 righteous men?
22. Where is the secret of there not being one found who sought God?
23. What are Christians called that shows God is our Father?
24. Quote 1 John chapter 3 verses 1, and 2.
25. What is a name that only the sons of God can call Him?
26. When an evil person attacks a believer, who is he really attacking?
27. They have eyes to see, but they do not _____.
28. Quote Luke chapter 21 verse 26.
29. Who are the only people in this world who know true peace?
30. Who is the physical house of Israel?
31. Who is the spiritual house of Israel?

We will begin this lesson by giving Chapter 54 in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 54

- Verse 1 "Save by thy name, O Lord, In power my judge appear; MY
earnest prayer do thou regard, And to my voice give ear.
Verse 2 "For foes against me rise, Oppressors seek my soul; They set
not God before their eyes, Nor own his just control."
Verse 3 "My helper is the Lord, With those who me defend; With ill he
shall my foes reward, on them destruction send."
Verse 4 "I'll free-will of'rings bring, And sacrifice with joy. Thy
name is good; its praise to sing my tongue I will employ."
Verse 5 "Because from all my woes The Lord hath set me free; And he
the ruin of my foes Hath made my eyes to see."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of Psalms chapter 54. Psalms 54:1 "{To the chief Musician on Neginoth, Maschil, [A Psalm] of David, when the Ziphims came and said to Saul, Doth not David hide himself with us?} Save me, O God, by thy name, and judge me by thy strength."

It's all in the name of Jesus. Even the name means Saviour. Jesus is the Saviour of all mankind, especially those that believe. This cry of David to God to save him is our cry, as well. It is not by our strength or might that we are saved, but by the power in His name.

Psalms 54:2 "Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth."

I may pray all night long, but I need to know that my prayer has been heard and received of God. As long as we know that God has His ear turned to us, we continue to pray and believe.

Psalms 54:3 "For strangers are risen up against me, and oppressors seek after my soul: they have not set God before them. Selah."

This is a strange statement, but it is so true. So many times, those who do not even know us rise up against us and say terrible things about us. David is saying, here, that these are people who do not know God coming against him. The sad thing, in our time, is that brothers and sisters in other denominations say cruel things about your ministry, when they have no idea what you believe. Notice what Jesus said about other groups who do good in Jesus name. Luke 9:50 " And Jesus said unto him, Forbid [him] not: for he that is not against us is for us." All believers in the Lord Jesus Christ should be pulling together to try to get the lost world saved. There is no time for fighting.

Psalms 54:4 "Behold, God [is] mine helper: the Lord [is] with them that uphold my soul."

On my own I can do nothing, but with God's help I can turn the world upside down for Jesus. Possibly a more accurate statement would be {I am God's helper}. I can not fail as long as He remains my Lord. Just as God was with David, He also was with those who were on David's side.

Psalms 54:5 "He shall reward evil unto mine enemies: cut them off in thy truth."

We should not even take time to think bad thoughts about our enemies. God fights the battles of the believers for them. Romans 12:19 "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but [rather] give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance [is] mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." The following Scripture goes a little more in detail, what God will do to your enemies. Romans 12:20 "Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head."

Psalms 54:6 "I will freely sacrifice unto thee: I will praise thy name, O LORD; for [it is] good."

David is speaking of the sacrificing of animals, as was the method under the law. The sacrifice of the believer is praise. Hebrews 13:15 "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of [our] lips giving thanks to his name." Notice, the word, freely, in verse 6 above. This means that he will sacrifice, even when it is not expected. This means the sacrifice is of love, and not of obligation.

Psalms 54:7 "For he hath delivered me out of all trouble: and mine eye hath seen [his desire] upon mine enemies."

Then, this sacrifice above is of thanksgiving, because He has done such marvellous things in behalf of David. We have even more to thank Him for than David did. We are under grace, and not under the law. Our Sacrifice was one time in the person of Jesus Christ. There is no more need for sacrifice, Jesus paid it all. Now there is only room for praise and thanksgiving.

We will continue this lesson by giving the 55th chapter of Psalms in metre.

Chapter 55

- Verse 1 "O God, my prayer hear, nor hide From my entreating voice.
Attend and hear, in my complaint I mourn and make a noise:
- Verse 2 "For voice of foes, for wicked men in their oppression great;
Who on me cast iniquity, and who in wrath me hate.
- Verse 3 "Sore pained within me is my heart, Death's terrors seize my
soul; Great trembling, fearfulness, and dread Like waters
o'er me roll."
- Verse 4 "O that I, like a dove, had wings, Said I, then would I flee
Far hence, that I might find a place Where I at rest might
be."
- Verse 5 "Lo, then far off I wander would, And in the desert stay;
From stormy wind and tempest I Would haste to flee away."
- Verse 6 "O Lord, on them destruction bring, Do thou their tongues
divide; For in the city violence And strife I have espied."
- Verse 7 "They day and night upon the walls Do go about it round:
Iniquity and sorrow there In midst of it are found."
- Verse 8 "Abundant wickedness there is within her inward part; And
from her streets deceitfulness And guile do not depart."
- Verse 9 "He was no foe that me reproached, For that endure I could;

- No hater boasting over me, For bide from him I would."
- Verse 10 "But thou, a man, my equal, guide, Who my acquaintance wast:
We joined sweet counsels, to God's house In company we
passed."
- Verse 11 "Death shall them seize, and to the grave Alive they shall go
down; For wickedness is in their homes, Among them sins
abound."
- Verse 12 "But as for me, I'll call on God, Jehovah shall me save.
He'll hear me when I cry aloud at morning, noon, and eve."
- Verse 13 "The Lord delivered hath my soul, That it in peace might be
From battle that against me was; For many were with me."
- Verse 14 "The Lord shall hear, and them afflict; Of old he hath abode:
Because they never changes have, They therefore fear not
God."
- Verse 15 "Against the men at peace with him He hath put forth his
hand; The covenant which he had made, By breaking he
profaned."
- Verse 16 "Than butter smoother were his words, While in his heart was
war; His speeches softer were than oil, And yet drawn swords
they are."
- Verse 17 "Cast thou thy burden on the Lord, And he shall thee sustain;
Yea, he shall cause that still unmoved the righteous shall
remain."
- Verse 18 "But thou, O God, in righteousness, Those men shalt
overthrow, And in destruction's dungeon dark At last shalt
lay them low."
- Verse 19 "Deceitful, bloody men shall die Ere half their days they
spend; But I with confidence on thee Will evermore depend."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of Psalms chapter 55. Psalms 55:1 "{To the chief Musician on Neginoth, Maschil, [A Psalm] of David.} Give ear to my prayer, O God; and hide not thyself from my supplication."

This is the desire of everyone who has ever prayed. Lord, hear me and do not turn the other way. Give me your undivided attention for a moment.

Psalms 55:2 "Attend unto me, and hear me: I mourn in my complaint, and make a noise;" Psalms 55:3 "Because of the voice of the enemy, because of the oppression of the wicked: for they cast iniquity upon me, and in wrath they hate me."

We do realize from the repetition of this prayer, that David is in earnest. Some would have us believe that we are not to pray more than once for a particular problem, but the fervent prayer of the righteous availeth much. Jesus even gave us an example of praying more than once. Mark 8:22 "And he cometh to Bethsaida; and they bring a blind man unto him, and besought him to touch him." Mark 8:23 "And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes, and put his hands upon him, he asked him if he saw ought." Mark 8:24 "And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking." Mark 8:25 "After that he put [his] hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly." You can see from this that there is nothing wrong with praying more than once for something you need from God.

Psalms 55:4 "My heart is sore pained within me: and the terrors of death are fallen upon me."

This is the same David that said, Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil. What is different then? David has a wounded spirit here. Sometimes the person, who has the greatest faith, has difficulty realizing that God is as near as their next prayer, because they have gotten down on themselves and think that God has stopped answering their prayers. David, at this point, has given up hope for help from on high. He feels all alone and forgotten. Perhaps, Jesus felt a little bit of this, when all His friends left Him. At one point in the crucifixion, even the Father turned away from Him. We have each, at some time in our life, travelled down this same road. We, perhaps, must get to the end of ourself, and then God takes up the battle for us.

Psalms 55:5 "Fearfulness and trembling are come upon me, and horror hath overwhelmed me."

The enemy has come against David so greatly, at this point, that he has begun to believe him. To feel that God is not near, protecting and keeping us from the enemy, would cause this type of panic to come upon any of us. The secret of not falling into this type of fear is in standing firmly on the solid Rock {Jesus Christ our Lord}.

Psalms 55:6 "And I said, Oh that I had wings like a dove! [for then] would I fly away, and be at rest."

When these fearful things come, O to have the wings of a dove and fly away with God. Just as David desired, here, to escape from all this trouble, we sometimes desire to fly away to the peace that only God can give. The eagle would be the course taken with power and might, but the dove is the way of peace.

Psalms 55:7 "Lo, [then] would I wander far off, [and] remain in the wilderness. Selah."

David is saying that he wants to be far removed and hidden from all the problems around him. Selah, in this particular instance, could be saying, what a wonderful thing to stop and think on. The wilderness spoken of would be a place of hiding from his problems.

Psalms 55:8 "I would hasten my escape from the windy storm [and] tempest."

No one, including David likes to stay in the midst of a storm. He is ready to go wherever there is safety from all of this trouble.

Psalms 55:9 "Destroy, O Lord, [and] divide their tongues: for I have seen violence and strife in the city."

David is asking God to stop all this bad talk about him. This is not a physical war that David is fighting. It is a fight where brother is against brother, and they are all taking sides. It seems all the sides are against David.

Psalms 55:10 "Day and night they go about it upon the walls thereof: mischief also and sorrow [are] in the midst of it."

Psalms 55:11 "Wickedness [is] in the midst thereof: deceit and guile depart not from her streets."

If I did not know better, I would think he was speaking of our cities in the United States. Day and night, the drugs are being sold and innocent lives are being taken. There seems to be no end to the mischief. Mischief brings sorrow to all who are involved. There is no solution to these problems, except through the Lord Jesus Christ. They needed a spiritual awakening, and our nation now needs a spiritual awakening, as well.

Psalms 55:12 "For [it was] not an enemy [that] reproached me; then I could have borne [it]: neither [was it] he that hated me [that] did magnify [himself] against me; then I would have hid myself from him:" Psalms 55:13 "But [it was] thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance." Psalms 55:14 "We took sweet counsel together, [and] walked unto the house of God in company."

This, that David is going through, sounds all too familiar. You will not let an enemy hurt you this much. His friend, who he thought to be a brother in the Lord, has done this terrible thing to him. Church people, look at this. What are we doing to the family of God? God does not want a divided house. If we are His children, we must learn to help each other, not tear each other down. What a disappointment to find that a brother or sister in Christ has turned against you. I believe it is, perhaps, one of the deepest hurts we can have.

Psalms 55:15 "Let death seize upon them, [and] let them go down quick into hell: for wickedness [is] in their dwellings, [and] among them."

David is expressing, here, the fact that if they have turned against David {a servant of God}, they have turned against God. Their fate is an eternity in hell. They have chosen wickedness over God. There is no more hope for them.

Psalms 55:16 "As for me, I will call upon God; and the LORD shall save me."

David has left his enemy in the capable hands of the Lord and he has turned to spend all his time worshipping God. He is giving us good advice here. Stop whining about those lost and go to the Lord. The Lord will not only save us, but will heal our memories of the traitors we once called friends.

Psalms 55:17 "Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice."

David, in a sense, is saying, I will pray without ceasing and God will hear and answer my prayer.

Psalms 55:18 "He hath delivered my soul in peace from the battle [that was] against me: for there were many with me."

Notice, the past tense here. He delivered his soul, long before David asked. Now David has stopped looking at those who fought him and started looking at those who are with him. This is, again, very good advice for us. Jesus saved us long before we asked Him to. Think of the brothers and sisters in Christ who have not gone away from God, and stop thinking so much of those who went astray.

Psalms 55:19 "God shall hear, and afflict them, even he that abideth of old. Selah. Because they have no changes, therefore they fear not God."

Some may profess belonging to God, but if they do not turn from their evil ways, they are not His. They do not fear God, so they do not obey God. They are lost.

Psalms 55:20 "He hath put forth his hands against such as be at peace with him: he hath broken his covenant."

God's covenant with man is conditional. We are blessed if we do His will, and we are cursed if we do not His will. Those rebellious ones have broken the covenant of God themselves.

Psalms 55:21 "[The words] of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war [was] in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet [were] they drawn swords."

This is saying the same thing that Jesus said. He told some who said they believed in Him, to get away, He never knew them. They said things with their mouth that were not really in their heart. God looks on the heart of man. God judges us by the things that are in our heart, not by the lies that come out of our mouth.

Psalms 55:22 "Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved."

This is probably some of the best advice in all of the Bible. Cast your cares upon the Lord, for He cares for you. With Christ dwelling in you, you shall not be moved by any false wind of doctrine, or by any problem that comes your way.

Psalms 55:23 "But thou, O God, shalt bring them down into the pit of destruction: bloody and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; but I will trust in thee."

David is expressing the downfall of those who are not living for God. We, who have read the Bible, know the terrible fate that awaits those who do not love God and serve Him. The pit, that is spoken of here, is possibly the lake of fire. David is wise in deciding that what comes or goes, he will serve the Lord. I can say with him, whatever comes or goes, I determine in my heart to serve the Lord.

Psalms 53 Questions

1. It is all in the name of _____.
2. Who is Jesus the Saviour of?
3. Why do we continue to pray and believe?
4. Who has come against David in verse 3?
5. Quote Luke chapter 9 verse 50.
6. Quote Romans chapter 12 verse 19.
7. If we feed our enemy, what will happen to the enemy?
8. What is the sacrifice the believer makes?
9. The sacrifice is of _____, and not of _____.
10. What shows us just how earnest David is in his prayer?
11. The _____ prayer of a righteous man availeth much.
12. Jesus lay His hands on the _____ twice to heal him.
13. What is wrong with David in verse 4 of chapter 55?
14. When did Jesus have this feeling of being all alone?
15. What would cause the type of panic that David is experiencing in verse 5?
16. Oh that I had wings of a _____!
17. What would David have done, if he had those wings?
18. What is the basic difference in an eagle and a dove?
19. What was David wanting to hide from?
20. What, in verses 10 and 11, reminds us of our time?
21. Who had caused all of this terrible pain to David?
22. If they have turned against David, who are they really against?
23. David has left his enemy in whose hands?
24. What has David done for himself?
25. How often did David decide to pray?
26. When did God deliver David's soul?
27. Are all who profess Christianity saved?
28. God's covenant with man is _____.
29. The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but _____ was in his heart.
30. Who brings the evil one down into the pit of destruction?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 56th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 56

- Verse 1 "Be Merciful to me O God, For man would me devour; He lights against me every day, oppressing by his power."
 Verse 2 "My watchful foes to swallow me are seeking day and night; For they are many, O Most High, That do against me flight."
 Verse 3 "When I'm afraid I'll trust in thee: In God I'll praise his word; I will not fear what flesh can do, my trust is in the Lord."
 Verse 4 "Each day they wrest my words; their thoughts Are all conceived in hate. They meet, they lurk, they mark my steps, While for my soul they wait."
 Verse 5 "But shall they by iniquity Escape thy judgments just? O God, in indignation down Do thou the people thrust."
 Verse 6 "Thou countest all my wanderings, Not one dost overlook: Within thy bottle put my tears; Are they not in thy book?"
 Verse 7 "My foes shall, when I cry, turn back; I know God is for me. In God his word I'll praise; his word praised in the Lord shall be."
 Verse 8 "I will not fear what man can do; For I on God rely. Thy vows upon me are, O God: To thee give praise will I."
 Verse 9 "From death thou hast me saved; my feet Do thou from falls keep free: So in the light of those who live I'll walk, O Lord, with thee."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of chapter 56 of Psalms. Psalms 56:1 "{To the chief Musician upon Jonath-elem-rechokim, Michtam of David, when the Philistines took him in Gath.} Be merciful unto me, O God: for man would swallow me up; he fighting daily oppresseth me."

This is yet another instance where David is in peril of his life. It appears that his enemy will never let up. He pursues him every day. If we were to look at this and seek a lesson to be learned, we would find that we must constantly be on guard. Our enemy the devil, is in constant pursuit of those he might deceive and get into his trap. It seems he never lets up. I Peter 5:8 "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:"

Psalms 56:2 "Mine enemies would daily swallow [me] up: for [they be] many that fight against me, O thou most High."

This never-ending battle, that David is fighting is the very same enemy that we fight. The characters may be a little different, but they are all sent on an evil mission by our adversary, the devil. Evil men of all ages are controlled by the devil. They cannot do good, because they are sold out to him. David mentions the only one that can help any of us in this same predicament; O thou Most High.

Psalms 56:3 "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee."

How can I fear? God is on my side. David saw the magnitude of the opposition, and it was enough to make the bravest of them all afraid. He did not panic, because he had put his trust in the Lord. It is reasonable to be cautious in the face of danger. We would not walk out in front of an oncoming truck to see if God would protect us. This would be testing God. We must use our own knowledge and ability to the best of our ability, and God will do the rest.

Psalms 56:4 "In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me."

David should know better than any of us that the statement he has made above is true. To look at the giant Goliath, was a very frightening thing. David did not let the size and power of Goliath stop him. He came against Goliath in the power and might of Almighty God. Flesh did not cause him great fear then, even though that flesh was several times as big as he was. The very worst this enemy of David's can do is destroy David's body. We see in the next Scripture that we are not to fear him who can destroy the body. Matthew 10:28 "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

Psalms 56:5 "Every day they wrest my words: all their thoughts [are] against me for evil."

Wrest, in the verse above, means to carve. This, then, would mean that they carve up the words of David. They destroy the things he has said by twisting them around and making things out of them that David had not said. They have evil thoughts about David constantly. This is not only a problem of David's, but it is a problem of all those who try to do the will of God.

Psalms 56:6 "They gather themselves together, they hide themselves, they mark my steps, when they wait for my soul."

If one demon can not destroy you, the devil just keeps on dispatching more, until it seems there is an army of them trying to make you foul up. They are everywhere we step trying to trip us up. This is the very thing the serpent did to Eve. He waited and caught her away from Adam, and at a weak moment and he deceived her. As I said, the devil never changes his tactics. He just colors them up a little and passes them by us, again, to see if he can catch us at a weak moment. This is the very thing happening to David here. David is the beloved of God. If the devil could trip him up, wouldn't that be a feather in his cap? If you are under constant attack of the devil, it probably means you are one of God's anointed.

Psalms 56:7 "Shall they escape by iniquity? in [thine] anger cast down the people, O God."

Sometimes it seems like those who are living sinful lives are the ones who are prospering in this life. David asks, are they going to get out of this with their evil ways? They may get away with it for a while, but the day of reckoning is coming when they will have to face the righteous Judge. David's request will come true at that day. God will cast them down into the pit.

Psalms 56:8 "Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: [are they] not in thy book?"

It was the custom in those days to catch the tears of the mourners in a bottle. God is so observant of us that every step we take, every word that we utter, every prayer that we pray, and everything that we do is recorded. God knows everything about you and me. We may deceive those around us, but we can not deceive God, He knows everything. Some day the book of our life will be opened. Will we be ashamed when He reads to us out of the book?

Psalms 56:9 "When I cry [unto thee], then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for God [is] for me."

David knows, as we should know, that when God hears his cry, the enemy better run. If God be for me, who can be against me? The answer would be only the very foolish.

Psalms 56:10 "In God will I praise [his] word: in the LORD will I praise [his] word."

God inhabits the praises of His people. I am not really sure about what this Scripture is saying. The best I can do with it, is to say that even our praise, has to be in Him. The Word of God {Christ} in us is actually what causes us to praise. The Word, Jesus Christ, Lord, God, are all involved in my praises, if I truly have Christ in me.

Psalms 56:11 "In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me."

As I said before, about all man can do is to kill our body. Our spirit will live on. If our trust is truly in God, we should have no fear of death. Death is just a release for our spirit, which has been encumbered by flesh. Paul goes into the fact that life after death is better than life in the flesh, in Philippians chapter 1 beginning with the 20th verse. I will give just one Scripture here, but read it all for yourself. Philippians 1:21 "For to me to live [is] Christ, and to die [is] gain."

Psalms 56:12 "Thy vows [are] upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee."

It is a dangerous thing to make a vow to God, and then not keep it. David is saying, here, that the vows he made to God, he would keep. He, also, says that he will never stop praising God. That is my desire, as well. As long as there is breath in my body, I want to use that breath praising God in some way.

Psalms 56:13 "For thou hast delivered my soul from death: [wilt] not [thou deliver] my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of the living?"

This is a very good request David is making. He wants God's Light to guide his steps, so that he will not stumble and fall. He is saying, Lord you saved me, help me stay saved. The only path that any of us should walk is the straight and narrow path that God has chosen for us. We can not see the way without the Light of Jesus to guide our every step. I John 1:7 "But

if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

Psalms Questions 54

1. What lesson can the modern Christian receive from verse 1?
2. Quote 1 Peter chapter 5 verse 8.
3. Evil men of all ages are controlled by the _____.
4. Who is the only One who can help David, or us?
5. Why did David not panic with such great odds?
6. In David's youth, what was the name of the giant he fought?
7. David came against the giant in the name of the _____.
8. What was the very worst the enemy could do to David?
9. Quote Matthew chapter 10 verse 28.
10. What does wrest, in verse 5, mean?
11. If one demon can not destroy you, what does the devil do?
12. What does the statement {they mark my steps} mean?
13. What does it probably mean, if you are under constant attack of the devil?
14. Who will cast the evil ones in the pit?
15. What is meant by, catching tears in a bottle?
16. Who can we not deceive?
17. Will we be ashamed when He reads to us out of the book?
18. If God be for me, _____ _ _ _____ _?
19. In ___ have I put my trust.
20. Quote Philipians chapter 1 verse 21.
21. It is a dangerous thing to make a vow to God, and not _____ _.
22. Quote 1 John chapter 1 verse 7.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 57th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 57

- Verse 1 "Be merciful to me, O God; Be merciful to me; Because my soul
in humble trust A refuge seeks in thee."
- Verse 2 "Yea, in the shadow of thy wings My confidence is placed,
Until these sad calamities Are wholly overpast."
- Verse 3 "My prayer shall ascend to him Who is the Lord Most High; To
God performing all for me I lift my earnest cry."
- Verse 4 "From heaven he shall send, and me From his reproach defend
Who would devour me: God his truth And mercy forth shall
send.
- Verse 5 "My soul among fierce lions is, I firebrands live among,
Men's sons, whose teeth are spears and darts,"
- Verse 6 "Be thou exalted very high above the heavens, O God; And let
thy glory be advanced O'er all the earth abroad."
- Verse 7 "My soul's bowed down; for they a net have laid, my steps to
snare: But in the pit which they have made for me, they
fallen are."
- Verse 8 "My heart, O God, is fixed, is fixed; To thee I'll sing, and
praise; Awake my glory, lute, and harp; Myself I'll early
raise."
- Verse 9 "I'll praise thee with the people, Lord, with nations sing
will I: for great to heaven thy mercy is, Thy truth is to
the sky."
- Verse 10 "Above the heavens high, O God, Do thou exalted be;; And let
thy glory be advanced Above both land and sea."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of chapter 57 of Psalms. Psalms 57:1 "{To the chief Musician, Al-taschith, Michtam of David, when he fled from Saul in the cave.} Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee: yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until [these] calamities be overpast."

David knew that he was not going against Saul to do him any harm. He would not even defend himself against Saul, because Saul was anointed of God. If David could not protect himself, his only chance is that God would protect him. The fact that David asks twice for God to be merciful unto him shows the urgency of the prayer. Notice, this prayer is joined with an announcement of the fact that David had faith in God. When we place our faith in God, He will not fail us. When the rain or storm is coming, the baby chickens run and get under the wings of the mother hen, and no rain falls on them. These outstretched wings of God that are protecting David, here, are available to all who will hide in the shadow of God's love. Psalms 17:8 "Keep me as the apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings," The enemy would not dare come near enough to God for His shadow to fall on them. You can easily see the protection provided by the shadow of God.

Psalms 57:2 "I will cry unto God most high; unto God that performeth [all things] for me."

David is recognizing in this that without the help of God, he is helpless. We all are helpless, without the hand of God doing all things well for us. God never failed him before when he cried out to him, and he will not fail him now. Sometimes we forget all the things God has already done for us. David is not just praying to God and thanking Him for the things He has done for him, but David is reminding himself, as well, that God has done wonderful things for him in the past.

Psalms 57:3 "He shall send from heaven, and save me [from] the reproach of him that would swallow me up. Selah. God shall send forth his mercy and his truth."

My help, your help, and David's help comes from the Lord of heaven. The world is the enemy of those who love God. Why should we find it strange that the world hates us? Look at what Jesus said about all of this. John 15:18 "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before [it hated] you." Matthew 10:25 "It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more [shall they call] them of his household?" Selah, above, means pause and think on these things. Just as God has done in the past, He will send mercy to save David and truth to inform all. Mercy and truth shall reign in the end.

Psalms 57:4 "My soul [is] among lions: [and] I lie [even among] them that are set on fire, [even] the sons of men, whose teeth [are] spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword."

These are not sons of God, they are sons of men. A natural lion, or a bear, was no problem to David. These lions are people who have a destructive nature. Even the words that come from their mouth are destructive {their tongue a sharp sword}. David had been hunted down like an animal. They had threatened his life, they had told lies on him, they had even tried to tear him to pieces, but God had protected David. They were so mad at David, it seemed as if they were on fire with hatred.

Psalms 57:5 "Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens; [let] thy glory [be] above all the earth."

In the very middle of all this terrible danger that David is in, he stops to praise God. In the verse above, David is saying that he agrees with the following verse in I Chronicles 29:11 "Thine, O LORD, [is] the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all [that is] in the heaven and in the earth [is thine]; thine [is] the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all."

Psalms 57:6 "They have prepared a net for my steps; my soul is bowed down: they have digged a pit before me, into the midst whereof they are fallen [themselves]. Selah."

David is saying, in this, They have set a trap for me, and they will be caught in their own trap. This is the very thing that happens to people today. They try to trap the believer, and they fall into their own trap. This has been speaking specifically about Saul and his men trying to catch David. David went into their camp, and did not destroy Saul. I Samuel 24:11 "Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand: for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see

that [there is] neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou huntest my soul to take it." David did not desire to kill Saul. Saul wanted to kill David.

Psalms 57:7 "My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise."

David has determined within his heart to worship God. Though the world be falling down around you, praise God. The battle is God's the victory is mine. We are soldiers in the battle, but it is God's war against Satan. No weapon formed against me shall prosper. Isaiah 54:17 "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue [that] shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This [is] the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness [is] of me, saith the LORD."

Psalms 57:8 "Awake up, my glory; awake, psaltery and harp: I [myself] will awake early."

David did most of his praising in song and with his instrument. Each of us have our own way of praising God. He loves the praises of His people. David is saying that he will begin his day by singing praises to God.

Psalms 57:9 "I will praise thee, O Lord, among the people: I will sing unto thee among the nations."

David is not ashamed of his God. He will sing praises to everyone who will listen, even to the other nations. He did just that when he wrote the Psalms. All nations of the world have read the Psalms and heard the praises of David.

Psalms 57:10 "For thy mercy [is] great unto the heavens, and thy truth unto the clouds." Psalms 57:11 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: [let] thy glory [be] above all the earth.

There is no limit to the mercy of God. Truth can not be destroyed, it will live on forever. The truth that we see in the clouds is the rainbow that God set in the clouds to remind us of His promise never to destroy the world again with water. Truth is one of the descriptions of God. Verse 11 is a repeat of verse 5. All I can say to verse 11 is, Amen.

Psalms 55 Questions

1. Who was after David, in verse one of this lesson?
2. Where did David say, he would take his refuge?
3. Why would David not fight Saul and try to kill him?
4. What does the fact that David asked God twice to be merciful show?
5. What earthly thing shows us the protection under the wings?
6. Quote Psalms chapter 17 verse 8.
7. Without the help of God, David is _____.
8. What is David doing, in verse 2, besides thanking God?
9. My help, your help, and David's help comes from where?
10. Quote John chapter 15 verse 18.
11. What are the Christians called in Matthew chapter 10 verse 25?
12. Who are the people after David in verse 4?
13. Their cruelty causes David to compare them with what animal?
14. What does the statement {their tongue a sharp sword} mean?
15. Quote 1 Chronicles chapter 29 verse 11.
16. Who will be caught in the trap they have set for David?
17. Where do we find the Scripture that tells of David cutting off Saul's skirt?
18. Quote Isaiah chapter 54 verse 17.
19. How did David do most of his praising?
20. How did David sing in the nations?
21. What do we see in the clouds, that reminds us of the covenant God made with man not to destroy the earth with water again?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 58th chapter of Psalms in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 58

- Verse 1 "O Congregation, is it so that ye speak righteousness? O ye that are the sons of men, Judge ye with uprightness?"
- Verse 2 "Yea, even in your very hearts Ye wickedness have done; And of your hands the violence Ye weigh the earth upon."
- Verse 3 "The wicked even from their birth Estranged are from the way; And speaking lies as soon as born, They wander far astray.
- Verse 4 "And as a serpent's poison too Their poison doth appear; Yea, they are like the adder deaf, Which closely stops her ear;"
- Verse 5 "That so she may not hear the voice of one that charm her would, No, not though he most cunning were, And charm most wisely could."
- Verse 6 "Their teeth, O God, within their mouth, Break thou in pieces small; The great teeth break thou out, O Lord, Of these young lions all."
- Verse 7 "Let them like waters melt away, Which downward ever flow; His arrows all in pieces cut When he shall bend his bow."
- Verse 8 "And like a snail that melts away, Let each of them be gone; that as a birth untimely they May never see the sun."
- Verse 9 "He shall them take away before Your pots the thorns can heat, Both living, and in dreadful wrath, As with a whirlwind great."
- Verse 10 "The righteous, when he vengeance sees, Shall be most joyful then; the righteous one shall wash his feet in blood of wicked men."
- Verse 11 "So men shall say, the righteous man Reward shall never miss: And verily upon the earth A God to judge there is.

We will now begin the verse by verse study of chapter 58 of Psalms. Psalms 58:1 "{To the chief Musician, Al-taschith, Michtam of David.} Do ye indeed speak righteousness, O congregation? do ye judge uprightly, O ye sons of men?"

The key word in this is congregation. Who were the congregation that David was speaking of here? The Israelites who received the law of God on the way to the promised land were spoken of as the congregation. This is not the world around then, but the descendents of these Israelites. These are people who profess God. They would be called sons of God, if they were living up to their high calling. Notice, though, that David speaks of them as sons of men. The only way to speak righteousness is to have Jesus Christ dwelling inside of you. David is saying to them that, they are pretending to be followers of God when, in fact, they are of the world. A person who is not righteous can not judge uprightly.

Psalms 58:2 "Yea, in heart ye work wickedness; ye weigh the violence of your hands in the earth."

We see not only people who are pretending to be believers and are not, but they have a very evil heart. In fact, they are so evil that they are

using their hands for evil purposes and not good. Even worse than that, they are proud of their evil deeds. To weigh violence in the earth is a way of saying, they are bragging about their evil.

Psalms 58:3 "The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies."

We know from the gospel teachings that, John the Baptist was baptized in the Holy Ghost while he was yet in his mothers womb. His entire life was dedicated to God. He even died a martyr at an early age. The person, in verse 3 above, is the opposite of John the baptist. The wicked, above, is estranged from God, even from his mothers womb. His entire life is spent doing evil. He is a liar as well. You would have to say the wicked, in verse 3 above, is a servant of the devil. This person has chosen the devil over God.

Psalms 58:4 "Their poison [is] like the poison of a serpent: [they are] like the deaf adder [that] stoppeth her ear;"

The poison under the tongue of the evil man can kill just as easily as the poison of a serpent. There is no chance of them being saved, because they have to hear and believe to be saved. Romans 10:14 "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?" We see, in the verse above, that they are as deaf as the serpent itself.

Psalms 58:5 "Which will not hearken to the voice of charmers, charming never so wisely."

You can talk to the evil people, this is talking about, all day long and it will not convince them. They are sold out to the devil. It seems nothing will reach them.

Psalms 58:6 "Break their teeth, O God, in their mouth: break out the great teeth of the young lions, O LORD."

David is asking God to render them harmless. If they will not open their ears and receive the Lord, then don't let them loose where they can harm the cause. The sad thing about all of this is, we have to go back to the word, congregation. In some churches, even today, there are those who are in the church to destroy it, and not to build it up. Even in the 12 apostles Jesus chose to help him, there was one whose father was the devil. Paul warned that the churches would have evil ones who would come in and try to destroy the church. Acts 20:28 "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood." Acts 20:29 "For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock." Acts 20:30 "Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them." It is no different now, than it was in Paul's day. Pray that God will give you discernment to know who are the destroyers. Pray God will lock their jaw, where they will not be able to destroy with their tongue.

Psalms 58:7 "Let them melt away as waters [which] run continually: [when] he bendeth [his bow to shoot] his arrows, let them be as cut in pieces."

If they are bound up where they can not perform their evil deeds, then they will soon leave this church and go to another that is a little more vulnerable. Again, he is just saying, render them harmless.

Psalms 58:8 "As a snail [which] melteth, let [every one of them] pass away: [like] the untimely birth of a woman, [that] they may not see the sun."

David has gone so far as to say, let them die early. Usually a baby that is born really early will not live, this is the comparison David has made here.

Psalms 58:9 "Before your pots can feel the thorns, he shall take them away as with a whirlwind, both living, and in [his] wrath."

This, perhaps, is speaking of their untimely death. The whirlwind will blow them away. It is, also, speaking prophetically of the end when the wrath of God will be poured out on the wicked. They have no security in this life, and surely have nothing to look forward to in the next.

Psalms 58:10 "The righteous shall rejoice when he seeth the vengeance: he shall wash his feet in the blood of the wicked."

Vengeance is the Lord's. Perhaps, this is speaking of the righteous rejoicing to know that God is a just God, and He does not allow the wicked to go on forever in their wickedness. The fact of the blood of the evil ones being on the feet of the righteous could, possibly, mean that at last they have been trodden under foot and defeated. Jesus is the one who defeated the evil one. Surely His enemies shall be trodden under His feet.

Psalms 58:11 "So that a man shall say, Verily [there is] a reward for the righteous: verily he is a God that judgeth in the earth."

There is a day coming when it will be very apparent that the righteous will be rewarded. Their greatest reward will be eternal life in heaven with Jesus. Matthew 16:27 "For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works." Colossians 3:24 "Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ." Not only in heaven is the reward for the righteous, but there is the reward of peace in your soul right here on this earth, when you receive the righteousness of Christ. As we have said over and over in these lessons, God blesses those who are His followers; those who have made Jesus Christ Lord of their lives. Those who have rejected the Lord have curses abundant waiting for them.

Psalms 56 Questions

1. Who is congregation speaking of in verse 1?
2. Why are these people, in verse 1, not called sons of God?
3. What are they called?
4. They are pretending to be whom?
5. The wickedness of the evil ones, in verse 2, is rooted where?
6. What is the saying, {to weigh violence of your hands in the earth} speaking of?
7. When was John the Baptist baptized in the Holy Ghost?
8. Who is the wicked person, in verse 3, a servant of?
9. The poison _____ of the evil man is just as deadly as the serpent bite.
10. Quote Romans chapter 10 verse 14.
11. What does charming mean, in verse 5?
12. In verse 6, what is David asking God to do when he says, break their teeth?
13. How can we apply the congregation, then, to our church now?
14. What did Paul warn of in Acts chapter 20, that would happen to the church?
15. What should we pray to keep this from happening to our church?
16. What will the evil ones do, if they are bound up where they can do no harm?
17. What comparison is David making in verse 8 of this lesson?
18. What is verse 9 speaking of prophetically?
19. Who does vengeance belong to?
20. Who defeated the evil one?
21. There is a reward for the _____.
22. What reward do the righteous receive in this life?
23. What do the evil have waiting for them?

We will begin this lesson by giving chapter 59 in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 59

- Verse 1 "My God, deliver me from those That are my enemies; And do thou me defend from those that up against me rise."
- Verse 2 "Do thou deliver me from them That work iniquity; And keep me safely from the men of bloody cruelty."
- Verse 3 "For, Lo, they for my soul lay wait: the mighty do combine Against me, Lord, not for my fault, nor any sin of mine."
- Verse 4 "They run, and without wrong in me, themselves they ready make: Awake to meet me with thy help, And do thou notice take."
- Verse 5 "Thou therefore, Lord, the God of hosts, The God of Israel, Awake to visit heathen all, nor spare those who rebel."
- Verse 6 "They at the evening time return, They make a howling sound, Even like a dog, and often walk about the city round."
- Verse 7 "Behold, they belch out with their mouth, And in their lips are words; For thus with confidence they say, Who now doth hear our words?"
- verse 8 "But thou, O lord, wilt laugh at them; And all the heathen mock. While he's in power I'll wait on thee; For God is my high rock.
- Verse 9 "The God of all my mercies will With speed give help to me; He my desire upon my foes Will cause my eyes to see."
- Verse 10 "O Lord our shield, destroy them not, My people would forget; But scatter thou, and humble them beneath thy power great.
- Verse 11 "For their mouth's sin, and for the Which from their lips do fly, words Let them be taken in their pride, Because they curse and lie.
- Verse 12 "In wrath consume them, them consume, That so they may not be; And that in Jacob God doth rule To earth's ends let them see.
- Verse 13 "Let them at evening time return, And make a howling sound, Even like a dog, and often walk about the city round."
- Verse 14 "And let them wander up and down In seeking food to eat; And let them grudge, when they shall not Be satisfied with meat."
- Verse 15 "But of thy power I'll sing; at morn Aloud thy mercy praise; For thou a tower and refuge wast To me in troublous days."
- Verse 16 "O God, thou art my strength, and I will praises sing to thee; For God is my defence, a God of mercy unto me."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of chapter 59 of Psalms. Psalms 59:1 "{To the chief Musician, Al-taschith, Michtam of David; when Saul sent, and they watched the house to kill him.} Deliver me from mine enemies, O my God: defend me from them that rise up against me."

These Psalms are like all the Bible, in that we must try to learn from them how better to live our life now. If we do not apply them to our present situation, then we are just reading history. There are prophetic messages pointing to the time of Jesus, and there are, also, messages for our day, as

well, in these lessons. Believers, throughout time, have needed to sound out this same cry to God. The enemies of the church are all around us. It is not a popular thing to be sold out to Jesus. Even nominal Christians think you have lost your mind, if you are seriously trying to accomplish something for God. Looking at David in this, he was in great danger. His life was threatened on every side. It was hard for him to know just who the enemy was. Couldn't we say this about our situation, too? Do we really know who is walking in agreement and who is not? One thing that really impresses me with David, is the fact that he says, my God. God is God of individuals. He is my God. Is He your God?

Psalms 59:2 "Deliver me from the workers of iniquity, and save me from bloody men."

In the last lesson, we found that there are people who plan to do evil. They have dedicated their hands to the work of the devil. They really enjoy destroying other people's lives. There are even some people who are so sold out to the devil that, they get their thrills shedding other people's blood. Perhaps, that is the type person mentioned here.

Psalms 59:3 "For, lo, they lie in wait for my soul: the mighty are gathered against me; not [for] my transgression, nor [for] my sin, O LORD."

The mighty, mentioned in this, are not the mighty as far as God is concerned, but mighty in the sight of the world. They are not there because of anything David has done. He has not sinned against them. They just want to destroy him. Perhaps, the reason they would like to destroy him is, because they do not want to lose their place of authority with the people. We do know that the very reason that the authorities in the temple in Jerusalem wanted to be rid of Jesus, was because they were afraid they would lose their authority over the people. He was a threat to them, because they could not do the miracles that Jesus did, and the people were beginning to follow Jesus, and leave them.

Psalms 59:4 "They run and prepare themselves without [my] fault: awake to help me, and behold."

This is the very thing they did with Jesus. They followed Him around to find something they could accuse Him of. They wanted to kill Him, even at the beginning, but God protected Jesus right in the middle of His enemies. David is saying, They are plotting to kill me, God you are my only hope. David is asking God to just take a look, and see the evil they are planning.

Psalms 59:5 "Thou therefore, O LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel, awake to visit all the heathen: be not merciful to any wicked transgressors. Selah."

We see that David, unlike Jesus, wants his enemies destroyed. Even, on the cross, Jesus said, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. When David uses the word hosts in the Scripture above, he is saying, God of the armies. David is saying, they have accused me unjustly, and I can not help myself, Lord. Bring your armies and fight my battle for me.

Psalms 59:6 "They return at evening: they make a noise like a dog, and go round about the city."

Have you ever noticed, dogs bark a whole lot more than they bite? They are trying to frighten him by the noise. This is really not doing harm to David, but is just to frighten him.

Psalms 59:7 "Behold, they belch out with their mouth: swords [are] in their lips: for who, [say they], doth hear?"

Their evil speech comes out of their mouth so regularly and so uncontrolled, that it is like when a man belches. Swords are in their lips means that their words are cutting words, bent on destroying David. They are saying that David's God is not even hearing, or caring what is happening to David.

Psalms 59:8 "But thou, O LORD, shalt laugh at them; thou shalt have all the heathen in derision."

David knows that just because God has not rushed in, does not mean that He will not punish them. God is longsuffering, hoping they will repent. The word translated derision, here, means laugh to scorn, or mock. This is saying that God will have the last laugh. It will be mocking their laugh, here. His laugh will be unanswerable.

Psalms 59:9 "[Because of] his strength will I wait upon thee: for God [is] my defence."

David realizes that his strength is not enough to come against his enemies. He, also, realizes that they may be taunting him, but God has not allowed them to hurt him. David knows, if he waits for God, God will take care of this. He, also, realizes that God has defended him until now, and will continue to defend him as long as he waits for God.

Psalms 59:10 "The God of my mercy shall prevent me: God shall let me see [my desire] upon mine enemies."

How many times have we had God keep us from doing something that would be harmful to us? That is what I see in this Scripture about David. God does not want him to jump out and get ahead of God's blessing. Though David is surrounded by the enemy, God will let David see the overthrow of his enemies. If David will just wait until the time is just right for God, David will experience victory. One of the hardest things to do is wait on the Lord.

Psalms 59:11 "Slay them not, lest my people forget: scatter them by thy power; and bring them down, O Lord our shield."

David is saying, here, that if they die, that will not be a good lesson for others looking on. He says scatter them, and the lesson will be learned by the ones in the places they are scattered to, as well as here. Strip them of their power and authority, but let them live. The word, translated shield, here, means protector. Notice, also, {our shield}. He is not just David's protector, but He is the protector of all who believe.

Psalms 59:12 "[For] the sin of their mouth [and] the words of their lips let them even be taken in their pride: and for cursing and lying [which] they speak."

Pride comes just before a fall. Notice in the next Scripture, where pride comes from. I John 2:16 "For all that [is] in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." Notice in the following Scripture, the terrible consequences of those who love to lie. Revelation 22:15 "For without [are] dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie." Lying is as bad a sin as murder then, because you wind up in the same place as a murderer.

Psalms 59:13 "Consume [them] in wrath, consume [them], that they [may] not [be]: and let them know that God ruleth in Jacob unto the ends of the earth. Selah."

The cursing and the lying have stirred David, until he is now saying, let your wrath arise and destroy these evil ones. Not only destroy them, but do it publicly, so that all the world will know what you do to the evil ones of the earth. Way back in another lesson we remember that, these are people who profess to know God. Remember, judgment begins at the house of God. He rightly says at the end of this, stop and think on these things.

Psalms 59:14 "And at evening let them return; [and] let them make a noise like a dog, and go round about the city."

Now David is saying, let them do all their bragging and threatening as loud as they want to. I know they are going to be taken care of by my God.

Psalms 59:15 "Let them wander up and down for meat, and grudge if they be not satisfied."

The dogs have lost their chance to devour David. Let them run around looking for someone else to tear to pieces. Lord, let them be angry when there is no one left to tear up.

Psalms 59:16 "But I will sing of thy power; yea, I will sing aloud of thy mercy in the morning: for thou hast been my defence and refuge in the day of my trouble."

David has seen help on its way. The time to shout and sing praises about the power of God is at the victory. The darkest hour is just before the dawn. Dawn has come for David. He begins his praise of God for protecting him through the dark night. Look at this, with me, and learn from this. Though the night be dark and it seems there is no way out, though our enemy surround us on every side and we are outnumbered, our help is in the Lord. He will build a fence around us and defend us. There is a dawn of a new day just around the corner. Place your trust and faith in God, and He will not let you down.

Psalms 59:17 "Unto thee, O my strength, will I sing: for God [is] my defence, [and] the God of my mercy."

Just as David speaks of the mercy of God, we must realize that it is only by the mercy of God that we are acceptable to Him. When we get to the end of our self, then God can take over and win the battle for us. Notice, that David is not taking any of the credit for the victory here. He just praises God in word and song for God's favor in this. That is what we must do, also. We are not saved by any of our great ability and power. Jesus

did it all for us. Our place is just to believe and praise Him for what He has done.

Psalms 57 Questions

1. If we do not learn to apply these lessons to our life now, why are we reading them?
2. Why is it important to call God, my God?
3. What is an example of someone who is totally sold out to the devil?
4. Who are the mighty mentioned in verse 3?
5. Why are they so determined to destroy David?
6. Who were the people that felt this same way about the Lord Jesus?
7. These evil ones followed Jesus around for what purpose?
8. What does David call the Lord in verse 5?
9. In verse 5, what was the contrast between what Jesus asked for His enemies, and what David wanted for his?
10. What does the word hosts, in verse 5, mean?
11. What is meant by them making a noise like a dog?
12. Explain the statement, belch with their mouth.
13. The word translated derision, here, means what?
14. What does verse 9 say that David is assured of? What is the word, prevent, saying in verse 10?
15. What is one of the hardest things for us to do after we pray?
16. Slay then not, lest _____.
17. David calls God, O Lord _____ in verse 11.
18. The word translated shield, here, means what?
19. Pride comes before a _____.
20. Pride of life is not of the Father, but of the _____.
21. Name a few of the sins that will keep you out of heaven.
22. What two things have stirred David to the point, that he says for God to consume them?
23. Where does judgment begin?
24. The dogs have lost their chance to devour David, so what are they doing?
25. I will sing aloud of thy mercy in the _____.
26. When is the darkest hour?
27. What lesson can we learn from all of this?
28. _____ is my defense.

We will begin this lesson by giving Psalm chapter 60 in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 60

- Verse 1 "O Lord, thou hast rejected us, And scattered us abroad; With us thou hast offended been. Return to us, O God."
- Verse 2 "The earth to tremble thou hast made, In it didst breaches make; Do thou thereof the breaches heal Because the land doth shake."
- Verse 3 "To thy own people thou hard things Hast shown, and on them sent; And thou hast caused us drink the wine of sore astonishment."
- Verse 4 "And yet a banner thou hast given To those who thee do fear, That for the sake of truth by them Displayed it may appear."
- Verse 5 "That thy beloved people, Lord, May all delivered be, Save with the power of thy right hand, And answer give to me."
- Verse 6 "God in his holiness did speak, In this rejoice I will: I Shechem will divide, and I will measure Succoth's vale."
- Verse 7 "I Gilead claim as mine by right; Manasseh mine shall be; Of my head Ephraim's the strength; Judah gives laws for me."
- Verse 8 "In Moab I will wash; my shoe I will to Edom throw; And o'er the land of Palestine I will in triumph go."
- Verse 9 "O who is he will bring me to The city fortified? And who is he that to the land Of Edom will me guide?"
- Verse 10 "O God, who hadst rejected us, This thing wilt thou not do? Even thou, O God, thou who didst not Forth with our armies Go?"
- Verse 11 "Help us from trouble; for the help is vain which man supplies. Through God we'll do great acts; he will Tread down our enemies."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of Psalms chapter 60. Psalms 60:1 "{To the chief Musician upon Shushaneduth, Michtam of David, to teach; when he strove with Aram-naharaim and with Aram-zobah, when Joab returned, and smote of Edom in the valley of salt twelve thousand.} O God, thou hast cast us off, thou hast scattered us, thou hast been displeased; O turn thyself to us again."

Even though this battle has been a victorious one and 12,000 of the enemy have fallen, David still is praying that God will come back to them with His blessings. It seems that when Saul took over the land as their king, God was displeased with them. He remained displeased with them and had scattered them. We do know that God did not want Israel to have an earthly king. He wanted to be their only King. The people sinned greatly, when they insisted on being like all the other countries around them, and insisted on having an earthly king. God did not want them to be like other countries, He wanted them to be a peculiar people, worshipping only Him. This is exactly what God expects from His people today. He wants us to be a peculiar people, separated from the world. He wants our worship all focused on Him. One of the troubles in the church today, is that you can hardly tell any difference in them and the world. Worldliness has crept into the church. Desiring to be like the rest of the world caused God to be displeased with His chosen

family then, and wanting to be like the world around us can cause God to be displeased with the church today.

Psalms 60:2 "Thou hast made the earth to tremble; thou hast broken it: heal the breaches thereof; for it shaketh."

When God shakes the earth, anything that can be shaken will be shaken. In David's time here, the priests had been murdered. The church and in fact, the very foundation of their belief had been shaken as well. It seemed as if everything was crumbling around them. Even though, God had been with them and they had won this battle, there was unrest in the land. David felt as if God had turned away. It is very much like that now in our land. Those who are sold out to God are truly concerned about the condition of our land, and more than that, they are concerned by what they see and hear the church as a whole doing. The uncertainties in our world today have many thinking that the end of the world is very near. Perhaps, the return of the Lord is near. David is asking God to heal the wounds. I truly believe that it is necessary for our people to do what the following Scripture says. II Chronicles 7:14 "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." The shaking has begun. It is time for all of us to repent and turn from our wicked ways.

Psalms 60:3 "Thou hast shewed thy people hard things: thou hast made us to drink the wine of astonishment."

Hard times come to cause people to repent and come to God. Even believers are astonished at the happenings around us.

Psalms 60:4 "Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth. Selah."

The banner, that those who fear God have been given, is the banner of righteousness. We should go forth with this banner proclaiming truth to all who will listen. This banner should be red, white, and blue. The red symbolizes the life that Jesus' precious blood has purchased for us. The white should proclaim righteousness throughout the land. The blue is for the heavenly calling. Do you fear the Lord? If you do, start waving your banner and bring the truth. We are in a war for the souls of the people. Selah, means pause and think on these things.

Psalms 60:5 "That thy beloved may be delivered; save [with] thy right hand, and hear me."

The Right hand, here, is prophetically speaking of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is the Right Hand of God. David means beloved of God, so perhaps, the beloved here is him. Just as Moses delivered the children of Israel from Egypt {type of the world}, Jesus is the great Deliverer, who saves us from this world.

Psalms 60:6 "God hath spoken in his holiness; I will rejoice, I will divide Shechem, and mete out the valley of Succoth."

The fact that God spoke in His holiness means, that He who cannot lie, spoke the truth. Since David has won this battle, it would be up to him to

divide the land into whatever parcels he desired. I am sure that David's division would be based upon the original division of the land when God gave it to the Israelites. God set the boundaries, and I am sure He wanted the boundaries to stay the way He set them. Some of the people trying to change the boundaries today, need to go back and look at the boundaries that God set.

Psalms 60:7 Gilead [is] mine, and Manasseh [is] mine; Ephraim also [is] the strength of mine head; Judah [is] my lawgiver;

This is speaking of the different separations. All belongs to God and whoever He desires to give it to. Judah is my lawgiver. We know that Jesus was the Lion of the tribe of Judah. The King of kings and Lord of lords will reign from the city of Jerusalem.

Psalms 60:8 "Moab [is] my washpot; over Edom will I cast out my shoe: Philistia, triumph thou because of me."

Moab was the land of the Gentiles that Ruth had lived in, before she came and married Boaz. Edom had been a reproach. God has no difficulty in subduing all nations, and Edom is no exception. He thought so little of it, that He threw His shoe. David had defeated Philistia so utterly that they deemed no problem to him.

Psalms 60:9 "Who will bring me [into] the strong city? who will lead me into Edom?"

This strong city in Edom was a stronghold and had not been defeated, even though David had defeated their army in the battle. David would have to go into the center of the land to defeat this city. The only answer to David's question, here, is God Almighty.

Psalms 60:10 "[Wilt] not thou, O God, [which] hadst cast us off? and [thou], O God, [which] didst not go out with our armies?"

David was fully aware that when God went with them into battle, there was always victory. He, also, knows that God had been displeased with this people when they wanted an earthly king to rule over them. He was not sure that God had forgotten and forgiven them. He wanted to be certain God was the One sending him into this battle, before he went. In God's anger, God had not gone into battle with them, and David wanted to take no chance that that would be the case now. He would go in only if God sends him.

Psalms 60:11 "Give us help from trouble: for vain [is] the help of man."

David knows that no mere man can go into the city of Petra {the city of the rock} and come out a winner. He will go on one condition; that God sends him and leads the way. David asks God to help him.

Psalms 60:12 "Through God we shall do valiantly: for he [it is that] shall tread down our enemies."

Notice that, David is not saying to stand back and let God do it. David is not jumping headlong into the battle on his own, either. David will go into the battle, doing what he can, if God leads the way. The only time

victory is assured is when God sends the person to the battlefield. Just as David killed Goliath in the name of the Lord, He will fight this battle in the name of the Lord. What lesson can we Christians get from this? We must not sit back and do nothing and expect God to do all of the work for us. We better not get out on a limb trying to do a task that God has not sent us to do, either. The only way for it to work is to do the task that the Lord has set before you knowing that He is leading the way.

Psalms 58 Questions

1. How many of Edom were killed in the valley of salt?
2. O God, thou hast _____ _ _ _.
3. Why was God displeased with these Israelites?
4. What was the great sin that these people had sinned against God?
5. What does God want from His people today?
6. Who made the earth to tremble?
7. What terrible thing had been done, in the time of David, that shook the foundation of their belief?
8. Who is really concerned about the condition of our land today?
9. What does the author believe is necessary to do in our land today to get right with God?
10. Why does God allow hard times to come?
11. What is the banner that has been given to those who fear God?
12. What color should this banner be?
13. Tell me what the different colors of the banner symbolize.
14. Who is the Right Hand of God?
15. What does the name David mean?
16. What is Egypt a type of?
17. Who is the great Deliverer, who saves us from the world?
18. What does it mean, God hath spoken in His holiness?
19. In verse 7, _____ is my lawgiver.
20. Where had Ruth lived before she met and married Boaz?
21. Where was the strong city in Edom?
22. Who was David dependent on for victory?
23. What opinion did David have of man's help?
24. What was the city of the rock?
25. Who shall tread down their enemies?

We will begin by giving the 61st Psalm in metre to show how easily it could be sung.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 61

- Verse 1 "Lord, hear my voice, my prayer attend, From earth's remotest bound I send My supplicating cry. When troubles great o'erwhelm my breast, Then lead me on the Rock to rest That higher is than I."
- Verse 2 "In thee my soul hath shelter found, And thou hast been from foes around The tower of my defiance; My home shall thy pavilion be; To covert of thy wings I'll flee, And find deliverance."
- Verse 3 "For thou, O Lord, my vows hast heard, On me their heritage conferred, That fear thy holy name. Long life thou to the king wilt give, Through generations he shall live, From age to age the same."
- Verse 4 "Before the Lord shall he abide: O, do thou truth and grace provide To guard him in the way. So I thy praises will make known, And humbly bending at thy throne, My vows will daily pay."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 61st Psalm. Psalms 61:1 "{To the chief Musician upon Neginah, [A Psalm] of David.} Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer."

It seems that David is praying this prayer very often. This time he goes further than just a prayer. David wants immediate attention paid to his prayer. Attend means God whatever your answer is to this prayer, please do not delay.. This is an urgent plea.

Psalms 61:2 "From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock [that] is higher than I."

This verse leads us to believe that this was in a time of terrible anguish of being away from God. He is overwhelmed with grief, because he feels that he has alienated himself from God. David loves God more than he loves anything in this world, and this separation is almost more than he can bear. Even though David is at this moment unable to go to his favorite place to meet with God, he does not stop crying out to God. He says, it does not make any difference where I am physically, I am seeking God in my prayer. His heart is breaking. He is overwhelmed with grief. We are like David in many ways. When it seems that all the world has turned against us, we cry out to God. Troubles seem to bring us closer to Him than when things are going well. God will listen and forgive, when we have a broken and contrite heart. David says, God, I can not seem to walk the straight and narrow path; come and lead me to the solid rock. This Rock, of course, is Jesus Christ our Lord. This is the Rock that cannot be moved. This Rock is higher than us all. This is the Rock that the storm cannot move. This is the Rock that we must all build upon. This is not like the sand that shifts when the waves come. Praise God! The sweet Holy Spirit led us to this Rock of our

salvation. I shall not be moved, because I have placed my trust in the Lord Jesus Christ {the Rock}.

Psalms 61:3 "For thou hast been a shelter for me, [and] a strong tower from the enemy."

David is very well aware that God protected him from Goliath, God had hidden him from Saul who sought to kill him, and God will protect him from this peril, as well. Christians, when I see this, I think of the hedge the Lord has built around each of us to keep us from the enemy. I think of the blood that covers me, which keeps me out of harm's way, I think of the name of Jesus, that he has given me authority to use against my enemies, is my shelter. He is my strong tower. He is my Saviour.

Psalms 61:4 "I will abide in thy tabernacle for ever: I will trust in the covert of thy wings. Selah."

David is asking to be able to go back into the tabernacle. Abide, as we have said before, means to continually live. We could look at the word tabernacle in a more permanent way, as well. It could mean the dwelling place of God, and could mean heaven, as well. In a previous lesson, we got in to the study about the wings forming a covering or protection. Again, Selah, means pause and think on these things. The covering of the Christian is the white robe of righteousness washed in the blood of the lamb. The tabernacle, that David was speaking of here, was just a type and shadow of the true tabernacle in heaven. Hebrews 8:5 "Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, [that] thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount." The eternal tabernacle is with God in heaven.

Psalms 61:5 "For thou, O God, hast heard my vows: thou hast given [me] the heritage of those that fear thy name."

Fear of God is the beginning of wisdom. David has made his commitment to God. He knows that God knows the vows he made were real. David knows that he is heir to the promises made to Abraham. We are, also, heirs according to the promises, if we fear God and call upon the name of Jesus Christ. We know from the following Scripture that there is a heritage through Abraham. Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

Psalms 61:6 "Thou wilt prolong the king's life: [and] his years as many generations."

David was king for 40 years, and when he died, his son Solomon reigned for another 40 years. David lived many years on this earth, but I believe this is a prophetic Scripture speaking of the reign of Jesus Christ who reigns forever and ever. The David, we have been reading about in this lesson is David who was actually ruler for 40 years. The real Beloved of God, Jesus Christ the Righteous, shall reign forever and ever.

Psalms 61:7 "He shall abide before God for ever: O prepare mercy and truth, [which] may preserve him."

Jesus is even now sitting at the right hand of the Father in heaven, but His reign is never ending. Jesus is Mercy, He is Truth, He is Eternal. The following Scripture is speaking of the reign of Jesus. I Kings 9:5 "Then I will establish the throne of thy kingdom upon Israel for ever, as I promised to David thy father, saying, There shall not fail thee a man upon the throne of Israel." The following Scripture leaves no doubt who this is speaking of, Luke 1:32 "He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:"

Psalms 61:8 "So will I sing praise unto thy name for ever, that I may daily perform my vows."

Jesus, in a sense, was a descendent of David, but He was, also, David's Lord. Matthew 22:45 "If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?" David, in verse 8 above, is saying that he will sing and praise God all the days of his life. His praise is performing his vow to God. David, in the verse above, is promising to praise the Lord every day. David's gratitude for the Lord answering his prayer is the reason he will praise for ever. His vow had been to God that he would praise him, if the prayer was answered.

Psalms 59 Questions

1. Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my _____.
2. What did David mean by, {from the end of the earth}?
3. When my heart is overwhelmed; lead me to the _____ that is higher than I.
4. What is the general condition of David, in verse 2?
5. When does it seem we are closer to God than other times?
6. Who is the Rock, in verse 2?
7. I shall not be moved, because _ have placed my _____ in the _____.
8. What 2 things does David call the Lord, in verse 3?
9. Who are two specific people God had protected David from?
10. What covers the Christian and keeps them from harm's way?
11. David is saying, he will abide where forever?
12. What does abide mean?
13. What are some of the things tabernacle, in verse 4, could mean?
14. What is the covert of thy wings telling us?
15. This tabernacle, in verse 4, is a type and shadow of what?
16. Quote Hebrews chapter 8 verse 5.
17. What was David an heir to?
18. Quote Galations chapter 3 verse 29.
19. How long was David king?
20. How long did Solomon reign as king?
21. How long shall Jesus Christ the Righteous reign?
22. What does 1 Kings chapter 9 verse 5 tell us of the reign of Jesus?
23. Luke chapter 1 verse 32 calls Jesus whom?
24. How often did David say, he would perform his vows?
25. What had David called Jesus?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 62nd chapter of Psalms in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 62

- Verse 1 "My soul with expectation doth Depend on God indeed; My strength and my salvation do From him alone proceed."
- Verse 2 "He only my salvation is, And my strong rock is he; He only is my sure defence; Much moved I shall not be."
- Verse 3 "How long will ye against a man Conspiring seek his fall? Ye all shall die, ye shall be like a tottering fence or wall."
- Verse 4 "To bring his glory down they plot; In lies is their delight: And whilst they bless him with their mouth They curse with inward spite."
- Verse 5 "Yet, O my soul, upon the Lord still patiently attend; My expectation and my hope on him alone depend."
- Verse 6 "He only my salvation is, And my strong rock is he; He only is my sure defence; And moved I shall not be."
- Verse 7 "In God alone my glory is, And my salvation sure; My rock of strength is in the Lord, My refuge most secure."
- Verse 8 "On him, ye people, evermore with confidence rely; before him pour ye out your heart; God is our refuge high."
- Verse 9 "Mean men are surely vanity, And great men are a lie; In balance altogether they are less than vanity."
- Verse 10 "Then do not in oppression trust, In robb'ry be not vain; And when your riches are increased Set not your hearts on gain."
- Verse 11 "The Lord hath spoken once to me, Yea, this I heard again, That power to Almighty God Alone doth appertain."
- Verse 12 "Yea, mercy also unto thee Belongs, O Lord, alone; For thou according to his work rewardest every one."

We will begin the verse by verse study of chapter 62 of Psalms. Psalms 62:1 {To the chief Musician, to Jeduthun, A Psalm of David.} "Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from him [cometh] my salvation."

The word that was translated truly, here, could have been translated only. This is saying, then, my soul is waiting only on God. It could, also, mean, my soul is waiting on God only. It is good to wait upon the Lord. Isaiah 40:31 "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew [their] strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; [and] they shall walk, and not faint." The following Scripture is what David is saying in the verse above. It is, also, what we Christians should be saying, as well. Isaiah 12:2 "Behold, God [is] my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH [is] my strength and [my] song; he also is become my salvation."

Psalms 62:2 "He only [is] my rock and my salvation; [he is] my defence; I shall not be greatly moved."

The Rock spoken of here, is the One we Christians call Jesus. He is the Rock that we must build upon, if we are to stand when the wind of false doctrines come. Jesus said, a house built upon the sand will not stand when the rains come. Matthew 7:24 "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of

mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:" Matthew 7:25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. Matthew 7:26 "And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:" Matthew 7:27 "And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it." Let us look, one more time, at who this Rock is. II Samuel 22:2 "And he said, The LORD [is] my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer;"

Psalms 62:3 "How long will ye imagine mischief against a man? Ye shall be slain all of you: as a bowing wall [shall ye be, and as] a tottering fence."

A bowing wall and a tottering fence are both just about to fall. This is not just speaking of David's opponents, but ours, as well. When a person starts to plot against someone else, he is about to come to a great fall himself. David, in the verse above, has founded upon the Rock, now he can come against the enemy with confidence. He being established upon the Rock, says to his opponents, your wall is crumbling and about to fall, and your fence is falling down. He goes even further and tells them of their doom. He says, you shall be slain.

Psalms 62:4 "They only consult to cast [him] down from his excellency: they delight in lies: they bless with their mouth, but they curse inwardly. Selah."

This is speaking of two-faced people. They pretend to be a friend, when in fact, they are being friendly to try to get any piece of information they can blow out of proportion and cause you trouble with. They delight in lying. They, while pretending to be a friend, are trying to tear down the work that you have done. They try to flatter you with their fancy words, while all the time they hate you in their heart. They would do, or say anything that might destroy you. Then, of course, we are to pause and think on these things; Selah.

Psalms 62:5 "My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation [is] from him."

David is saying, in this, that he will not depend on those of this world, but will steadfastly trust and wait upon God. He is saying, he expects nothing from the world, and that is what he will get from them. David is putting all his faith and hope in God, who will never let him down.

Psalms 62:6 "He only [is] my rock and my salvation: [he is] my defence; I shall not be moved."

This is a repeat of a previous sentence. David is just stating, all over again, that his trust, and faith, and hope all lie in God alone. Those who build upon the solid Rock have a solid foundation, as we read in a previous verse.

Psalms 62:7 "In God [is] my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, [and] my refuge, [is] in God."

This is a statement so true for us all. Salvation is in Jesus Christ our Lord. Acts 4:10 "Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, [even] by him doth this man stand here before you whole." Acts 4:11 "This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner." Acts 4:12 "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Proverbs 14:26 "In the fear of the LORD [is] strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge."

Psalms 62:8 "Trust in him at all times; [ye] people, pour out your heart before him: God [is] a refuge for us. Selah."

As we have mentioned so many times before, trust is one step further along than faith. To trust in God means that you have every confidence that He is doing the right thing in your life, and you rest in that knowledge. When we do that, we are not so frustrated about the little problems that arise, because we know that they are necessary for God to get us to the level He would have us. Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to [his] purpose." As we have said before, your heart condition is what you really are. This, then, is saying, open your heart to God, and let Him see who you really are.

Psalms 62:9 "Surely men of low degree [are] vanity, [and] men of high degree [are] a lie: to be laid in the balance, they [are] altogether [lighter] than vanity."

This is speaking of the unstable character of man. The word that was translated surely, should have been translated only. In our society today, we have a slang saying that fits these persons mentioned here perfectly. They are wishy-washy. They profess belief on Sunday, and then, the rest of the week, they carry on their lives in a worldly manner. They are trying to ride the fence. They want to keep one foot in the world and the other in heaven. The catch to this is that, fence riders will not make it to heaven. It reminds me of the crowd that followed Jesus to be fed and healed, but turned on Him and screamed for Him to be crucified. These are vain people, without the character to make a definite decision for good or bad. Look what Jesus said He would do with these lukewarm people. Revelation 3:16 "So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth."

Psalms 62:10 "Trust not in oppression, and become not vain in robbery: if riches increase, set not your heart [upon them]."

We see in the verse above, that riches are not to be acquired through oppressing others or by robbing. In fact, to have riches that have been acquired in an evil way is not an advantage, but a sin. Some times a person is blessed of God and acquires great riches. We read in the following Scriptures how a person is to conduct themselves, if they have wealth. I Timothy 6:17 "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;" I Timothy 6:18 "That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;" I

Timothy 6:19 "Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life."

Psalms 62:11 "God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power [belongeth] unto God."

There is absolutely no question, when God says something, that it is absolutely the truth. He does not change. II Chronicles 20:6 "And said, O LORD God of our fathers, [art] not thou God in heaven? And rulest [not] thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand [is there not] power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee?"

Psalms 62:12 "Also unto thee, O Lord, [belongeth] mercy: for thou renderest to every man according to his work."

Even though it was in the power of God to destroy us from the face of the earth, God was merciful to us and sent us a Saviour; Jesus Christ the righteous. The only work necessary to be saved is found in Romans chapter 10 verses 9 and 10. If all there is to being saved is to believe, then why do we work? When we stand before Jesus on judgment day, the sweetest words we could possibly hear is , Well done, thy good and faithful servant.

Psalms 60 Questions

1. The word that was translated truly, in verse 1, would have been better understood, if it had been translated what?
2. They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their _____.
3. Quote Isaiah chapter 12 verse 2.
4. The Rock, in verse 2, is referring to whom?
5. Jesus said, a house built upon _____, will not stand.
6. Where, in the Scriptures, do we find the contrast of building on the Rock and building on the sand?
7. What is soon to happen to a bowing wall and a tottering fence?
8. Who is verse 4 speaking of?
9. David's expectation is from whom?
10. Quote Psalms chapter 62 verse 6.
11. Where is salvation?
12. Quote Acts chapter 4 verse 12.
13. What does trusting God really mean?
14. Quote Romans chapter 8 verse 28.
15. What is verse 9, of this lesson, dealing with?
16. Who does the message in verse 9 remind the author of?
17. What do we have to have to be able to make definite decisions?
18. What will Jesus do with the lukewarm?
19. Oppression and robbery are riches that are _____.
20. If you are rich in this world, what are you to be quick to do?
21. Who does power belong to?
22. Quote 2 Chronicles chapter 20 verse 6.
23. God was _____ to us, and sent us a Saviour.
24. Where do we find the Scriptures that tell us what we must do to be saved?
25. What are the sweetest words we could possibly hear from Jesus on judgment day?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 63rd Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 63

- Verse 1 "Thou art my God, O God most High, And early seek thy face
will I; My soul doth thirst for thee. My spirit thirsts to
taste thy grace, My flesh longs in this barren place In
which no waters be.
- Verse 2 "I long as in the times of old Thy power and glory to behold
Within thy holy place; Because to me thy wondrous love Than
life itself doth dearer prove, My lips shall praise thy
grace."
- Verse 3 "Thus will I bless thee while I live, And with uplifted hands
will give Praise to thy holy name. As when with fatness well
supplied, So shall my soul be satisfied, My mouth shall
praise proclaim:"
- Verse 4 "My lips shall in thy praise delight When on my bed I rest at
night, And meditate on thee. Because thy hand assistance
brings, Beneath the shadow of thy wings My heart shall
joyful be."
- Verse 5 "My soul, O Lord, cleaves fast to thee, And thy right hand
upholdeth me; It doth my life defend; But those who seek me
for a prey, That they may take my life away, Shall into
earth descend."
- Verse 6 "They by the sword shall fall and die, Their flesh a prey for
foxes lie. In God the king shall joy: Who swears by him
shall still rejoice, But mouths which speak with lying voice
He'll silence and destroy."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of thee 63rd Psalm. Psalms 63:1 " {A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.} O God, thou [art] my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;"

The water, that David is speaking of, is the Spirit of God. I have discovered, along with David, that the best time to seek God is the first thing in the morning. The reason we know for sure that the water David is thirsting for, is the Spirit, is the fact that Jesus told the woman at the well she would never thirst again, if she drank the water He gave her. John 4:14 "But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." This is really speaking of righteousness through the Spirit of God. Look at one more Scripture that Jesus spoke on this subject. John 6:35 "And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." All of this leaves no doubt that the dry and thirsty land, in verse one above, is a land without the Spirit of God.

Psalms 63:2 "To see thy power and thy glory, so [as] I have seen thee in the sanctuary."

David wants very much to be able to worship, again, in the sanctuary where he had witnessed the presence of God. We know that in David's youth, he had been in close relationship with the Lord. This is really what he is desiring, again, here. I refuse to attend church, where the presence of God is not evident. There is no more hollow feeling, than to seek God and not be able to sense His presence.

Psalms 63:3 "Because thy lovingkindness [is] better than life, my lips shall praise thee."

To live this life without God is not worth living. The only life worth living, is the life we live in Him. The following Scripture is the only way to live a victorious life in the world today. Galatians 2:20 "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." We Christians, even more than David, have much to praise the Lord for. He paid the price for our sins that we might live in His righteousness. Our lips should not stop day and night praising His wonderful name. God inhabits the praises of Israel. Christians are spiritual Israel.

Psalms 63:4 "Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name."

Had you ever really thought of it being possible that we might bless the Lord? Notice, how long David says he will praise Him. He says as long as there is breath in his body, he will praise God. Can we who have received so much more than David, do less? Notice, how David blesses Him. He lifts his hands toward heaven, and praises Him. This reminds me of the offering that is waved before the Lord in the tabernacle. Do you suppose, by raising our hands toward heaven to bless the Lord, that we are dedicating our work with our hands to Him? Even the lifting of the hands must be done in the name of the Lord.

Psalms 63:5 "My soul shall be satisfied as [with] marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise [thee] with joyful lips:"

The fat of the offering was burned as a sweet smelling savour to God. The fat, then, could be a spiritual blessing that we receive in our soul when we bless God. This beautiful experience can make us alive with joy, and nothing but praise could come from our lips. The dry bones in Ezekial needed but a breath of the Spirit of God to make the fat and marrow come on them and make them alive again. I won't tell you where it is, it is good to search the Word for morsels of truth.

Psalms 63:6 "When I remember thee upon my bed, [and] meditate on thee in the [night] watches."

David, perhaps, was like many of us. He was so busy during the day, that his best time to be quiet and think of God was on his bed at night. Sometimes just thinking of God and His plans early in the night get me so excited that, I forget what time it is and visit most of the night with him.

Psalms 63:7 "Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice."

How beautiful to feel the protection underneath the protecting wings of God. We talked about how a mother hen will get her little chickens under her wings before the storm comes for their protection. This just means that God is that protective, and even more, of us. Just knowing that God is protecting us should make us rejoice. David says, you have been my help in the past, and I know you will protect me now.

Psalms 63:8 "My soul followeth hard after thee: thy right hand upholdeth me."

David is saying, that even though he made some mistakes, he sought the Lord with everything within him. He would not be denied. He just came to the Lord over and over. This Right Hand, and its mention all through the Bible, is speaking of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 63:9 "But those [that] seek my soul, to destroy [it], shall go into the lower parts of the earth."

David's enemies were actually out to destroy him. They were not out just for David's life, but to destroy his reputation, as well. They were God's enemies, as well as David's, and their destination was hell. It really is no different now. There are people who do nothing except try to cause you to sin. The devil has sent them on a mission to steal your soul. They are out to destroy you. The flesh and the spirit of man are constantly in battle. The will of man has to do with the soul. The spirit or the flesh of man will control the will of man. If the spirit rules, the man is saved and will spend eternity in heaven. If the flesh rules, the man is headed for an eternity in hell.

Psalms 63:10 "They shall fall by the sword: they shall be a portion for foxes."

Those that live by the sword, shall die by the sword. Those who are opposed to God's family will die in the field of battle. A very good example of this is Ezekial chapter 39, where 5 out of 6 of those opposed to Israel are killed. The scripture says, that the animals and birds shall eat their flesh.

Psalms 63:11 "But the king shall rejoice in God; every one that sweareth by him shall glory: but the mouth of them that speak lies shall be stopped."

The king here is David. David will greatly rejoice, because his enemies have been defeated by God. Christians where is our rejoicing? Our enemy, the devil, has been defeated by the Lord Jesus Christ. This is prophetically speaking of Jesus as King of kings and Lord of lords, as well. The swearing by Him, just means that we have professed our belief in Him with our mouth. The liars, spoken of, are children of their father, the devil, who is the author of all lies. Christians will not have to hang their head in shame, because they will reign over these liars for the 1000 year reign of Jesus as King on this earth.

Psalms 61 Questions

1. When did David seek God?
2. My _____ thirsteth for thee.
3. What was the water that David was seeking?
4. Quote John chapter 4 verse 14.
5. What did Jesus call himself, in John chapter 6 verse 35?
6. What is the dry and thirsty land, in verse 1?
7. Where was David longing to worship again?
8. Where does the author refuse to attend church?
9. Thy _____ is better than life.
10. Quote Galatians chapter 2 verse 20.
11. God inhabits the praises of _____.
12. Who is spiritual Israel?
13. Why do we lift our hands to God?
14. What was done with the fat of the offering?
15. What did the dry bones in Ezekial need to make them live?
16. Why did the author not give you the location in Ezekial for the dry bones?
17. Where was David, in verse 6, when he remembered God?
18. Why do you suppose this was a good place to worship and meditate on God?
19. How does the mother hen protecting her chicks relate to verse 7?
20. What is meant by David when he says, his soul followeth hard after thee?
21. Where will those who sought to destroy David wind up?
22. The spirit is constantly in battle with the _____.
23. What does Ezekial chapter 39 say will happen to the enemies of God's people?
24. Who is verse 11 speaking of prophetically?
25. Why will the Christians not be ashamed at last?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 64th chapter of Psalms in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 64

- Verse 1 "When I to thee my prayer make, Lord, to my voice give ear;
My life save from the enemy, Of whom I stand in fear.
- Verse 2 "Me from their secret counsel hide Who do live wickedly; From
insurrection of the men Who work iniquity."
- Verse 3 "For they their tongues with malice whet, They make them cut
like swords; In their bent bows are arrows set, Even sharp
and bitter words;
- Verse 4 "That they may at the perfect man In secret aim their shot;
Yea, suddenly they dare at him To shoot, and fear it not.
- Verse 5 "In ill encourage they themselves; In secret, snares they
lay, They conference together have; Who shall them see?
they say.
- Verse 6 "They have sought out iniquities, A perfect search they keep;
Of each of them the inward thought, And very heart is deep."
- Verse 7 "God shall an arrow shoot at them, And wound them suddenly:
Their own false tongue shall them con-found; All seeing them
shall flee.
- Verse 8 "All men shall fear, and that this is God's work they shall
declare; They shall observe and understand What these his
doings are."
- Verse 9 "The righteous shall on God rely, In him shall they delight.
In him shall glory every one Who is in heart upright."

We will begin the verse by verse study of the 64th Psalm now. Psalms 64:1 "{To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.} Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer: preserve my life from fear of the enemy."

God hears our prayer many times, even before we utter it aloud. He even knows the thoughts of our heart. Our prayers are symbolized by the rising of the smoke from the burning on the altar of the oil. No prayer that is in earnest fails to rise to the throne of God. We must not pray amiss, but pray in the will of God. We are the salt of the earth, Christians. Our prayers must keep us in such close contact with God, that we will preserve the earth with our prayers. Fear is lack of faith. Christians should not fear the things of this earth. Our enemy should not be the subject of our fear. The only fear, that is permissible by God, is fear of the Lord.

Psalms 64:2 "Hide me from the secret counsel of the wicked; from the insurrection of the workers of iniquity:"

David is facing much of what the Lord Jesus faced. The counsel {in secret} met to see if they could do away with Jesus. The word that insurrection was translated from means a tumultuous crowd. The workers of iniquity were after David to destroy him. We, also, see in this that the tumultuous crowd were out to destroy Jesus. Even though Jesus was innocent of any wrong doing, they cried for Jesus to be crucified.

Psalms 64:3 "Who whet their tongue like a sword, [and] bend [their bows to shoot] their arrows, [even] bitter words:"

This is another prophetic Scripture about Jesus. Notice, the tongue they whet is like a sword, it is not a sword. The sword symbolizes the Word of God. They are pretending that the Word of God is why they are coming against Jesus, when in fact, it is not the Word at all. The Word of God should have told them exactly who Jesus was. They shot their bitter words to Jesus. They even accused the very Son of God of blasphemy. What boldness they had against God the Word!

Psalms 64:4 "That they may shoot in secret at the perfect: suddenly do they shoot at him, and fear not."

We know for sure this is speaking of Jesus, because it says the perfect. No one ever lived on this earth, except Jesus Christ who was perfect. It is amazing, to me, how they could say these things to the Son of God, and not fear what might happen to them. Jesus is the Judge of all the world, and they will have to stand before Him, and give an account. How could they not fear? I really believe, toward the end of Jesus' earthly ministry, that they knew who He was. They were just afraid of losing their hold over the people to Him, if they admitted that He was truly Messiah. What a very foolish thing to do. They wanted world power so much, that they gave up any chance of eternal life.

Psalms 64:5 "They encourage themselves [in] an evil matter: they commune of laying snares privily; they say, Who shall see them?"

We know that they sent spies to search out Jesus and try to find anything that they might accuse him of. I believe, in this verse, that David is speaking of his enemies laying traps for him, and all of them getting together and trying to destroy him. It, also, is speaking of the conspiracy going on between the scribes, and the Pharisees against Jesus. Those, who never had been in agreement before on anything, worked together as if they were friends to try to destroy the Lord Jesus.

Psalms 64:6 "They search out iniquities; they accomplish a diligent search: both the inward [thought] of every one [of them], and the heart, [is] deep."

This, again, is not just David's enemies seeking ways to find him guilty, but this is speaking of the enemies of the Lord. I always love it, when Jesus would trap them by answering their questions with a question, that was impossible to answer without getting themselves in trouble. They even tried to accuse the Lord for healing on the sabbath. The amazing and wonderful thing, to me, was that they could not trap Jesus. They always got caught in their own trap. Every thought they had, day and night, was on how to trap Him, but they could not, until it was the right time for His purpose.

Psalms 64:7 "But God shall shoot at them [with] an arrow; suddenly shall they be wounded."

Can you imagine how those, who slapped Jesus and spit upon Him, and even the ones who nailed Him to the cross, felt when the sun became dark in the middle of the day, and the earth became to tremble? I am sure that a

dart of pain ran through their heart, knowing they had crucified the Son of God. Some of them said; surely this was the Son of God.

Psalms 64:8 "So they shall make their own tongue to fall upon themselves: all that see them shall flee away."

They may flee, but there is no where to run to get away from God. At this point, they probably wished they had cut their tongues out before it could say these things about the Son of God. Now, no one wants to be associated with them.

Psalms 64:9 "And all men shall fear, and shall declare the work of God; for they shall wisely consider of his doing."

On this earth these men had boldly come against the Son of God, but there is coming a day, when they shall have to stand before Him in judgment, and then they will be terrified. All wise people fear God. When we think of His perfection in comparison to our shortcomings, it is enough to cause fear. There is coming a time when all will bow before the Lord. Philippians 2:10 "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of [things] in heaven, and [things] in earth, and [things] under the earth;" Philippians 2:11 "And [that] every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ [is] Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Psalms 64:10 "The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and shall trust in him; and all the upright in heart shall glory."

Who are the righteous? Those who have repented of their sins and been washed in the blood of the Lamb. There is no greater joy than to know that you are in right standing with the Lord. The victory for each of us was won on the cross by Jesus, but the glorious day of rewards will be that day when God accepts us into His household, and we are accepted in heaven. The glory of the saints is their everlasting life with Jesus.

Psalms 62 Questions

1. When does God hear our prayer?
2. What, in the tabernacle in the wilderness, symbolized the prayers of the saints?
3. Who is the salt of the earth?
4. What is fear?
5. What is the only permissible fear?
6. How does verse 2 relate to Jesus?
7. What does the word, that insurrection was translated from, mean?
8. Even though Jesus was innocent of any wrong doing, they cried to do what to Jesus?
9. What should we notice about the tongue in verse 3?
10. What does the sword symbolize?
11. What was the worst thing these evil people accused Jesus of?
12. What should the Word of God have told them?
13. What one word, in verse 4, lets us know for sure that this is speaking of Jesus?
14. Who is the Judge of all the world?
15. When does the author believe that those in the temple actually knew who Jesus was?
16. They wanted _____ so much that they gave up any chance of eternal life.
17. Why did they send spies to check on Jesus?
18. What was unusual about the scribes and Pharisees being together on the plot?
19. What does the author love about the answers the Lord gave to these who were trying to trap Him?
20. When was the only time they could catch Jesus?
21. What do you think these accusers thought, when the darkness came in the middle of the day, and the earth began to shake?
22. What did some of them say at this time?
23. What do they wish they had done, so they could not have accused the Lord?
24. How will they feel, when they must stand before Jesus in judgment?
25. Quote Philippians chapter 2 verse 10.
26. Who shall be glad in the Lord?
27. Who are the righteous?
28. When was the victory for each of us won?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 65th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 65

- Verse 1 "Before thee, Lord, a people waits, To praise thy name in Zion's gates; Thou bearer of the suppliant's prayer, All flesh shall unto thee repair, To seek thy gracious aid.
- Verse 2 "How great my trespasses appear! But from all guilt thou wilt me clear, And my transgressions hide. How blest thy chosen, Who by grace are brought within thy dwelling-place, That they may there abide."
- Verse 3 "The goodness of thy house, O Lord, Our souls shall satisfy. By fearful deeds, in justice wrought, The Lord will grant us what we sought, Our saviour, God most High."
- Verse 4 "On whose sustaining arm depend, To earth's and sea's remotest end, All men, in every age. Who, girt with strength, sets fast the hills Who roaring seas and billows stills, Who calms the nations' rage."
- Verse 5 "The tribes of earth's remotest lands Behold he tokens of thy hands, And fear the earth throughout. The east, where beams the morning light, By thee in gladness shout."
- Verse 6 "Thy timely visits bless the earth, To drenching rains thy clouds give birth, Enriching all the land. By God's own river, deep and broad, Thou wilt prepare their corn, O God, By thy providing hand. "
- Verse 7 "Thou wilt its ridge and furrowed plain Make soft and smooth with showers of rain, Its springing thou wilt bless. The year thou hast with goodness crowned, Thy paths drop fatness all around, Ev'n on the wilderness."
- Verse 8 "The little hills with verdure clad, Are girt with joy, by thee made glad; The flocks in pastures lie; The vales are robed with waving grain; And shout and song from hill and plain, Swell joyous to the sky."

We will begin the verse by verse study of the 65th chapter of Psalms now. Psalms 65:1 "{To the chief Musician, A Psalm [and] Song of David.} Praise waiteth for thee, O God, in Sion: and unto thee shall the vow be performed."

We know, throughout these studies, that Zion symbolizes the church. I wish this statement were true in all believing churches today. Are there really praises waiting for God in His church today? Some of our churches are far from the state of praise. The church must remain faithful to God. Churches, as well as the people in the churches, must keep their vows they have made to God.

Psalms 65:2 "O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come."

I saw a sign on a billboard a few days ago. It said, God still talks to His people, but we are not listening. God always listens to us. He never

tires of hearing our prayers. Perhaps, He has to wait a little longer for our prayers now in our affluent society. Most people spend more time in prayer, when they are in some difficulty. There is a time, when not just the believers, but all of mankind shall come and stand before the Lord.

Psalms 65:3 "Iniquities prevail against me: [as for] our transgressions, thou shalt purge them away."

David is saying, here, that his enemies are constantly bringing up his past sins. In fact, they are blowing them all out of proportion. They want David's sins to sound so bad that he will not be forgiven for them. In the next part of the verse David says, our transgressions. David is reminding us here, that all have sinned and come short of the glory of the Lord. The last part of the verse is very optimistic. David knows that God has washed his sins away as far as the east is from the west. I am glad that I am included in the purging of my sins. Praise God! Jesus is the propitiation for all our sins. I John 2:2 "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for [the sins of] the whole world." This is one of the greatest shows of God's love for man in all the Bible. I John 4:10 "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son [to be] the propitiation for our sins."

Psalms 65:4 "Blessed [is the man whom] thou choosest, and causest to approach [unto thee, that] he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, [even] of thy holy temple."

We did not choose God, He chose us. John 15:16 "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and [that] your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you." One of the best examples of this, in all the Bible, is when God called Moses from the burning bush. We have to answer that call. We are not a puppet that we have no choice, but salvation is offered to each of us. Some accept it, and some do not. This one verse takes us from our calling to total access to the throne of God. We are of the household of God, if we accept the call. The holy temple in heaven will be our new home. We are adopted into the family of God, and are able to call our Father by the name that only His children can call Him, Abba.

Psalms 65:5 "[By] terrible things in righteousness wilt thou answer us, O God of our salvation; [who art] the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are afar off [upon] the sea:"

Salvation was not offered exclusively to the natural Hebrew, but to those afar off, as well. Salvation is for whosoever will. Salvation is for all nationalities who believe. Sometimes the answers to our prayers frighten us. I have said, over and over, do not pray for me to have patience, because patience comes through tribulation. It is really special to see a prayer that we have prayed answered. Our confidence should not be in our own ability, but in His ability. It is amazing to me every time I see someone come to the Lord. One by one, God is building Him a family. The Bible, itself, says by the foolishness of preaching men are saved. I Corinthians 1:21 "For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe."

Psalms 65:6 "Which by his strength setteth fast the mountains; [being] girded with power:"

Have you really ever looked at a mountain and suddenly realized that God made this beautiful thing? Genesis 1:9 "And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry [land] appear: and it was so." You see, a mountain is a mountain because God called it into being. This is the unmatched power of God's spoken Word, not man's spoken word.

Psalms 65:7 "Which stilleth the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves, and the tumult of the people."

I never see this verse, that I do not recall, the Lord Jesus speaking to the angry waves and telling them to be still, and they were. There will never be peace in this world among the nations until the King of peace comes and sets up His kingdom of peace.

Psalms 65:8 "They also that dwell in the uttermost parts are afraid at thy tokens: thou makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to rejoice."

Unless these tokens are natural phenomena, I do not know what this means. Most people in the church believe that storms and earthquakes are from the devil, but I believe they are from God. The earthquakes, and they repented not. The storm comes, and they repented not. It seems to me that these things come to get our attention turned to God. I believe even depressions come for the same reason. It seems the church grows strongest under the greatest tribulation. God controls the sunshine, and the rain, and the night, and day, as well. One Scripture that leaves no doubt about this is the following. Matthew 5:45 "That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust." The devil has a little power on earth, but he has to get God's permission to do his evil deeds just as he had to get God's permission before he could attack Job.

Psalms 65:9 "Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, [which] is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it."

We see again, here, that the crop produces, because God tells it to. We may plant a seed and pray that it grows, but it will not grow unless it is the will of God for it to grow.

Psalms 65:10 "Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly: thou settlest the furrows thereof: thou makest it soft with showers: thou blessest the springing thereof."

This is just saying that the rain in the spring, along with the warmer weather, makes the vegetation to grow. Spring is very much like new life. After it appears that all vegetation is dead, it springs to new life with every new spring.

Psalms 65:11 "Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness."

God set the universe in order, and it has stayed there since creation. We look at one of the promises of God in the next verse which has to do with the blessings of God. Genesis 8:22 "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." God blesses each day of the year in its own way. The years roll by, and another year comes fast on its heel.

Psalms 65:12 "They drop [upon] the pastures of the wilderness: and the little hills rejoice on every side."

This is saying, that even in lands which have not been cultivated by man, the grass grows. Possibly, some of the most beautiful growth in all the world is the voluntary growth in the wilderness where no man's hand has touched. The greatest beauties in the earth are the natural beauties, such as the mountains and streams, the waterfall and the sunset. Man has a tendency to mess up the beauty of nature.

Psalms 65:13 "The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing."

There is nothing happier than animals feeding on the clover of the spring. Every time we see a new season of spring roll around and all the beautiful flowers and vegetation that come with it, we know afresh that God has not given up on man.

Psalms 63 Questions

1. What is the symbolic meaning of Zion?
2. O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all _____ come.
3. When do most people spend more time in prayer?
4. David is saying, in verse 3, that his enemies are doing what?
5. When David says our sins, what is he trying to say?
6. How far away is David's sin from him?
7. Jesus is the propitiation for _____ .
8. Quote 1 John chapter 4 verse 10.
9. We did not _____ God, He _____ us.
10. Quote John chapter 15 verse 16.
11. Who is possibly the best example of God choosing someone?
12. Who is salvation offered to?
13. Verse 4 takes us from our calling to where?
14. What is the name that only the children of God can call Him?
15. Salvation is for all _____ who believe?
16. Why does the author not want prayer to make her patient?
17. Quote 1 Corinthians chapter 1 verse 21.
18. Why is a mountain a mountain?
19. What does verse 7 remind us about Jesus?
20. When will there be peace among the nations?
21. What are the tokens in verse 8 probably?
22. When does the church grow the strongest?
23. Quote Matthew chapter 5 verse 45.
24. What makes a seed grow into a plant?
25. Spring is very much like ____ .
26. How long will there be seedtime and harvest on the earth?
27. What is verse 12 saying about the vegetation?
28. What does the author believe to be the real beauties of the earth?
29. What is happy when the clover comes up in the spring?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 66th chapter of Psalms in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 66

- Verse 1 "All lands to God, in joyful sounds, Aloft your voices raise;
Sing forth the honor of his name, And glorious make his
praise."
- Verse 2 "Say ye to God, How terrible In all thy works art thou!
Through thy great power thy foes to thee Shall be
constrained to bow."
- Verse 3 "And all the earth shall worship thee, They shall thy praise
proclaim With cheerful heart, aloud they shall Sing to thy
holy name."
- Verse 4 "O come, the works that God hath With admiration see:
wrought In working, to the sons of men Most terrible is he.
- Verse 5 "He to dry land did turn the sea, And they a passage had;
They through the flood on foot did march There we in him
were glad.
- Verse 6 "He ruleth ever by his power; His eyes the nations see; Let
not the proud rebellious ones Lift up themselves on high."
- Verse 7 "O all ye people, bless our God, Aloud proclaim his praise,
Who safely holds our soul in life, Our foot from sliding
stays."
- Verse 8 "For thou hast proved and tried us, Lord, As men do silver
try; Hast brought us into nets, and made Bands on our loins
to lie."
- Verse 9 "Thou o'er our heads hast caused that men Triumphantly should
ride; Through fire and flood thou to a place of plenty didst
us guide."
- Verse 10 "I'll bring burnt-off'rings to thy house; To thee my vows
I'll pay, which my lips uttered, my mouth spoke, when
trouble on me lay."
- Verse 11 "Burnt-sacrifices of fat rams With incense I will bring; of
bullocks and of goats I will present an offering."
- Verse 12 "All that fear God, come, hear, I'll tell What he did for my
soul. I with my mouth cried unto him, My tongue did him
extol."
- Verse 13 "If in my heart I sin regard, Jehovah will not hear; But
surely God hath heard my voice, Attending to my prayer.
- Verse 14 "O let the Lord, our gracious God, Forever blessed be, Who
hath not turned my prayer from him, nor yet his grace from
me."

We will begin the verse by verse study of the 66th chapter of Psalms.
Psalms 66:1 "{To the chief Musician, A Song [or] Psalm.} Make a joyful noise
unto God, all ye lands:"

Every land throughout the world should praise the Lord. One universal
word of praise is hallelujah. Notice, it does not say, make a noise to the
Lord. It says make a joyful noise. I have said it before, but it should be a
sweet sound in the ear of the Lord.

Psalms 66:2 "Sing forth the honour of his name: make his praise glorious."

The praise should be directed to the Lord of all the earth. There is a name above the others. It is the name of Jesus.

Psalms 66:3 "Say unto God, How terrible [art thou in] thy works! through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee."

As we said in the verse before, this praise must be directed to God. The enemy does not submit to the Lord willingly, but because of the power of the Lord. They submit, because they have to, not because they want to. The works of the Lord are around us on every side. His creation speaks for itself.

Psalms 66:4 "All the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; they shall sing [to] thy name. Selah."

Isaiah 45:23 "I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth [in] righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear." Romans 14:11 "For it is written, [As] I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." Not only do they bow to the Lord, but then they begin to sing praises to Him, as well. Selah, means pause and think on this.

Psalms 66:5 "Come and see the works of God: [he is] terrible [in his] doing toward the children of men."

When I think of the greatness {terribleness} of God, I have to think of His creation of the world in 6 days preparing it to be habitable for man. Everything has been done on this earth by God for man. We look at the 10 plagues that came on Egypt, and we see God did it for the release of the children of Israel. We have mentioned, over and over, how God parted the Red sea and allowed the children of Israel to escape through the sea, and then He drowned the Egyptians that tried to follow them. At the foot of the mountain, the voice of God speaking to the children was so awesome that they asked Moses to speak to God for them, they were so frightened. We could go on and on, but you get the point I am sure.

Psalms 66:6 "He turned the sea into dry [land]: they went through the flood on foot: there did we rejoice in him."

This , of course, is speaking of the incident at the Red sea. The amazing thing, to me, about all of this is how God held the Egyptians off, until close to 3 million people could go through the sea. I will give you two Scriptures from this account to show how God held Pharaoh off, until the Israelites were safely through the sea. Exodus 14:19 "And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them:" Exodus 14:20 "And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness [to them], but it gave light by night [to these]: so that the one came not near the other all the night." Read the whole chapter to get the full account of what happened. You can tell from this that, God stood between Egypt and Israel. God fought for His people.

Psalms 66:7 "He ruleth by his power for ever; his eyes behold the nations: let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah."

Pharaoh thought he was powerful, until he came up against God. There is no less power, now, than He demonstrated here. The rulers of nations can boast and pretend to be great, but God is the One who lifts them up and brings them down. Lucifer rebelled against God and got thrown out of heaven. Lucifer thought he was strong, but he was, and is, no match for God. Christians, Jesus has given you power of attorney to use the name of Jesus in battles against the devil here on the earth. Jesus has defeated the devil. He may rip, and snort, and run around, seeking whom he may devour, but if you resist the devil in the name of Jesus, he will flee from you. Pause and think on this for a moment.

Psalms 66:8 "O bless our God, ye people, and make the voice of his praise to be heard:"

I love the little chorus from the Bible that says, Bless the Lord; O my soul and all that is within me bless His holy name. When I sing that chorus, I feel as if I am seated in heavenly places with Christ Jesus. This is not just silently praising in your heart, but is, in fact, praising aloud.

Psalms 66:9 "Which holdeth our soul in life, and suffereth not our feet to be moved."

The devil can not take you away from God. We will see in Jesus' own words that the devil, or any man, can not take us away from God. John 10:28 "And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any [man] pluck them out of my hand." John 10:29 "My Father, which gave [them] me, is greater than all; and no [man] is able to pluck [them] out of my Father's hand." The only way that we can fall away, is if we deliberately choose to walk back away from God and go back into a sinful way of life. As long as we stay grounded in the Lord, nothing can move us.

Psalms 66:10 "For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried."

Just as Job had so many problems, we have problems, too, to see how we hold up under pressure. Job came out of the fiery trial pure. I wonder if we will be able to say the same? Silver is heated to over 2000 degrees to burn out the impurities. The impurities float to the top on the melted silver, and the trash can be skimmed off. God must purge us, too, until He gets us refined the way He would have us. It is very important for us to be willing to be molded into the form God would have us.

Psalms 66:11 "Thou broughtest us into the net; thou laidst affliction upon our loins."

The one thing that I would like to point out, here, is who did it. Thou means God did it.

Psalms 66:12 "Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy [place]."

We can not appreciate the sunshine, until it has rained a few days. I mentioned Job in this lesson earlier, but there is no better example of this message here, than what happened to Job. He lost everything when he was going through his trial, but praise God! Read the last page and see what happened in the end. Job 42:12 "So the LORD blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses." To learn the entire lesson about this, read the Bible study on Job. The trials come, but if we survive the trials, giving God glory, then we are blessed more than we could ever imagine.

Psalms 66:13 "I will go into thy house with burnt offerings: I will pay thee my vows," Psalms 66:14 "Which my lips have uttered, and my mouth hath spoken, when I was in trouble."

David is saying, now that these terrible troubles are behind me, I will not forget the promises I made to you, O Lord. I will keep every promise I made. So many times, as soon as the trial is over, we are so relieved that it is easy to forget the promises we made to God, if He would only get us out of the mess.

Psalms 66:15 "I will offer unto thee burnt sacrifices of fatlings, with the incense of rams; I will offer bullocks with goats. Selah."

David is saying that, he will give the best of his flock to the Lord in sacrifice. We must think on this. Are we giving the best that we have to God?

Psalms 66:16 "Come [and] hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul."

David is saying, I will not only praise Him in private, but I will testify of his goodness wherever I go. I have seen people who have had a miracle from God, who will not stand and tell others about it. It is as if they are ashamed of the fact that God helped them in their greatest need.

Psalms 66:17 "I cried unto him with my mouth, and he was extolled with my tongue."

Extolled means praise, in this particular Scripture. This just means that in the midst of David's prayer for help from God, he praised God.

Psalms 66:18 "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear [me]:"

God listens the best to the righteous. The regarding of iniquity in his heart, means that he has the desire in his heart to continue in sin. We cannot choose the world over God, and expect God to answer our prayers. God listens to a repentant heart, but not to a heart that wants to continue to sin.

Psalms 66:19 "[But] verily God hath heard [me]; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer."

The reason God heard is he had a repentant heart. David did not desire in his heart to sin. David had a pure heart stayed upon God. David, like

many of us, was guilty of sin, but it was not the desire of his heart to sin. God listened to David and answered his prayer.

Psalms 66:20 "Blessed [be] God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me."

Look at another Psalm with me and see just how long God's mercy lasts. Psalms 106:1 "Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for [he is] good: for his mercy [endureth] for ever." God's love for His people is so enduring that He is not willing that any should perish. II Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

Psalms 64 Questions

1. Make a joyful noise unto God, _____.
2. What is one universal word of praise?
3. What should this joyful noise that we make be in God's ear?
4. What is the name above all others in the earth?
5. What causes the enemies to submit to God?
6. Quote Isaiah chapter 45 verse 23.
7. Quote Romans chapter 14 verse 11.
8. What is the first thing the author thinks of when reading about His terribleness?
9. Name at least 2 other terrible acts of God that helped his children?
10. Why did the Egyptians not over-run the children of Israel, before they could get through the Red sea?
11. He ruleth by His power _____.
12. Who lifts up and brings down rulers of nations?
13. If you resist the devil, what will he do?
14. Quote John chapter 10 verses 28 and 29.
15. What is the only way we can fall away from God?
16. How hot is silver heated to take out the trash?
17. It is very important for us to be willing to be molded into _____ that God wants us in.
18. What is the one point the author says needs to be pointed out in verse 11?
19. When can we appreciate the sunshine?
20. Quote Job chapter 42 verse 12.
21. What is David saying in verses 13 and 14 of this lesson?
22. Are we giving the best we have to God?
23. In verse 16, David is saying that he will declare God _____.
24. What does extolled mean?
25. What does regarding iniquity in his heart mean?
26. Why had God heard David's prayer?
27. How long does God's mercy endure?
28. Quote 2 Peter chapter 3 verse 9.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 67th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 67

- Verse 1 "O Lord, to us be merciful, Do thou us also bless; And graciously cause shine on us The brightness of thy face:"
- Verse 2 "That so thy way upon the earth To all men may be known; And also to the nations all Thy saving health be shown."
- Verse 3 "Let all the people praise thee, Lord, Their voice in praise employ. O let the nations all be glad, And ever sing for joy."
- Verse 4 "For rightly thou shalt people judge, And nations rule on earth. O let the nations all be glad, And ever sing for joy."
- Verse 5 "The earth her increase then shall God, our God, bless us shall, yield; God will us bless; and of the earth The ends shall fear him all."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of Chapter 67 of Psalms. Psalms 67:1 "{To the chief Musician on Neginoth, A Psalm [or] Song.} God be merciful unto us, and bless us; [and] cause his face to shine upon us; Selah."

I believe I will begin this verse with the word Selah, which is the last word of the verse. Pause and think on these things. It is only by the mercy of God that any of us come to God. The following is what Jesus had to say about this. John 6:44 "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day." We see that God's mercy came to us, to save us from our unrighteousness. Hebrews 8:12 "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more." Romans 5:8 "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." We have no righteousness of our own. It is the righteousness the Lord Jesus clothed us in that we have, if we are Christians. He took our sin upon His body and in return gave us His righteousness. How much more blessed could we be? Notice in the following Scripture, who adds to the church. Acts 2:47 "Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." When His face shines upon us, it brings us peace. II Corinthians 4:6 "For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to [give] the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

Psalms 67:2 "That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations."

The word that was translated health, here, means salvation. It, also, can mean deliverance. This is easier to understand by this meaning. Salvation is offered to the peoples of all nations. The great commission that Jesus gave was in Mark 16:15 "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Salvation is not just for the Caucasians of this world. It is for the Orientals and Negroids, too. God is not concerned about the flesh, He is interested in our spirit. Spirits do

not have colors. In the following Scripture, we will see that God is not even interested in whether you are male or female either. God looks on the spirit, not on the flesh. Galatians 3:28 "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." God's ways are not as man's ways. We are too concerned with this world. Church, we need to focus on God and His Word, and not on earthly happenings.

Psalms 67:3 "Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee."

Even our praise to God must be by His permission. Notice, the word, let. We must praise God in the name of Jesus, just as we pray in the name of Jesus. We have much to praise God for.

Psalms 67:4 "O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. Selah."

Jesus is the Judge of all the earth. His judgment is righteous. We, also, know that Jesus is to rule as King of kings and Lord of lords on the earth for a 1000 year period of time. All the people of the earth will rejoice at this, because there will be peace. Jesus is the King of Peace. The 20th chapter of Revelation goes into great detail about this 1000 years, and about those who will reign with Jesus Christ. One of the main reasons the people of all nations will be rejoicing, is because the devil will be chained for the thousand years, and will not be able to cause problems for the people during that time. Probably, the greatest reason for them being so joyful is, because they are the redeemed. Christians will be joyful, because they will not taste of the second death. All of this is in the 20th chapter of Revelation, as I said. Nations will not govern themselves as they did before, but all will be under the rule of Christ.

Psalms 67:5 Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.

We see this, again, and now there is more reason than ever to praise. There will be no depressions or recessions. There will be no threat of war. There will be no starving children, or shortages of any kind. The King of all the earth will be in charge. It will not be left up to the minds of mortal man to figure all of this out. The Creator of the universe will be on His throne. The praise will be so spontaneous that it will ring from the mouths of every individual, and the governments of the world will rejoice, as well. The weapons will be made into plows, and there will be no life threatening war hanging overhead.

Psalms 67:6 "[Then] shall the earth yield her increase; [and] God, [even] our own God, shall bless us."

Now there is a constant worry about the ozone layer disappearing and all the crops failing. There is already famine around the world. That will not be a problem for Jesus. God rained food from heaven for 40 years to feed the estimated three million Israelites on their journey to the promised land. It would be no problem to feed all the people in the world. The weather will be perfect, and the rain will come just when it is needed, and the crops will all be bumper crops. This earth will be like the garden of Eden. There is perfect harmony in all of nature when the Creator of it all

is there. One of the blessings of God is plenty to eat. The land was cursed by sin, and now there will be no sin, so there will be no curse, only blessings. This earth will be full of the goodness of God, and there will be plenty. The Lord will turn the whole earth into a fruitful land. I love the statement {our own God}. He is our own personal God.

Psalms 67:7 "God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him."

The greatest blessing of all is that He has saved us. Jesus is the Savior. I Timothy 4:10 "For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe." This is a peculiar statement, but Jesus did give His body on the cross that all might live. Some do not accept that wonderful gift. Salvation is for whosoever will. Revelation 22:17 "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." The fear, in verse 7 above, is really saying, and all the ends of the earth shall reverence Him. At this time, the scales will be removed from our eyes, and we shall see Him as He really is. We will be full of praise and adoration for Him, and He will bless us.

Psalms 65 Questions

1. Why did the author begin this with Selah in verse 1?
2. It is only by the _____ that any of us come to God.
3. Quote John chapter 6 verse 44.
4. In Hebrews chapter 8 verse 12, God will be merciful to what?
5. What condition were we all in when Christ died for us?
6. He took our _____ upon His body, and He clothed us in His _____.
7. In the 2nd chapter of Acts, we find that who adds to the church?
8. Quote 2 Corinthians chapter 4 verse 6.
9. What does the word that was translated health, in verse 2, mean?
10. Who was salvation offered to?
11. Quote the great commission Jesus gave us all.
12. Quote Galatians chapter 3 verse 28.
13. How do we know that even our praising God is by His permission?
14. Who is the Judge of the earth?
15. What kind of Judge will He be?
16. How long will Jesus rule on the earth?
17. What chapter of Revelation gives us more information on His rule?
18. What is the main reason people of all nations will be rejoicing during this time?
19. Name some of the terrible things that are happening on the earth now, that will not be when Christ reigns.
20. How many years did God rain food from heaven for the Israelites?
21. Approximately how many Israelites were fed miraculously?
22. There will be no _____ on the earth, just blessings.
23. The Lord will turn the whole earth into a _____.
24. Who is Jesus Saviour of?
25. From Revelation chapter 22, who say come?
26. What is the fear, in verse 7?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 68th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 68

- Verse 1 "Let God arise, and scattered far Let all his en'mies be; And
let all those who do him hate Before his presence flee."
- Verse 2 "As smoke is driv'n, so drive thou them; As fire melts wax
away, Before God's face let wicked men So perish and decay."
- Verse 3 "But let the righteous all be glad; Rejoice before God's
sight; Let them exult exceedingly And joy with all their
might."
- Verse 4 "O sing to God and praise his name; Extol him with your
voice, That rides on heav'n by his name JAH; Before his face
rejoice."
- Verse 5 "Because the Lord a father is To children fatherless; He is
the widows judge, within His place of holiness."
- Verse 6 "God doth the solitary set In families; and from lands The
chained he frees, but rebels dwell In dry and desert lands."
- Verse 7 "O God, when thou wast going forth Before thy people's face,
And when thy glorious marching was within the wilderness;
- Verse 8 "Then at God's presence shook the earth, then drops from
heaven fell; This Sinai shook before the Lord, The God of
Israel."
- Verse 9 "O God, thou to thy heritage Didst send a plenteous rain, By
which thou when it weary was, Didst it refresh again.
- Verse 10 "Thy congregation then did make Their habitation there: Of
thy own goodness for the poor, O God, thou didst prepare."
- Verse 11 "The Lord himself did give the word, The mighty word of God;
Great was the company of him Who published it abroad."
- Verse 12 "Kings of great armies vanquished were, And forced to flee
away; And women, who remained at home, Distributed the prey.
- Verse 13 "Though ye have lain among the pots, Like doves ye shall
appear, Whose wings with silver, and with gold Whose
feathers covered are.
- Verse 14 "When there th' Almighty scattered Like Salmon's snow' twas
white [kings, God's hill is like to Bashan hill, Like Bashan
hill for height."
- Verse 15 "Why do ye leap, ye mountains high? This is the hill of God;
He here desires to dwell, and here Will ever make abode.
- Verse 16 "God's chariots twenty thousand are, of angels thousands
strong; As once on Sinai's holy mount, The Lord is them
among."
- Verse 17 "Thou hast, O Lord, most gloriously Ascended up on high, And
captive thou triumphantly Hast led captivity."
- Verse 18 "And gifts thou hast received for men, For such as did rebel;
Yea, even for them, that God the Lord In midst of them might
dwell.
- Verse 19 "Blest be the Lord, who is to us Of our salvation God, Who
daily with his benefits Us plenteously doth load."
- Verse 20 "He of salvation is the God, Who is our God most strong; And
unto God the Lord from death The issues do belong."
- Verse 21 "But surely God shall wound the head of those that are his

- foes, The hairy scalp of him that on In his transgression goes."
- Verse 22 "God said, My people I will bring Again from Bashan hill; Yea, from the sea's devouring depths Them bring again I will;
- Verse 23 "That in the blood of enemies Thy foot imbrued may be, And of thy dogs dipped in the same The tongues thou mayest see."
- Verse 24 "O God, thy goings they have seen, The goings of my God, The stately steppings of my King In his divine abode."
- Verse 25 "Before went singers, next to them The players took their way; Among them also damsels were Who did on timbrels play."
- Verse 26 "Within the congregations great bless God with one accord, From Isr'el's fountain do ye bless, And praise the mighty Lord."
- Verse 27 "Their prince, young Benjamin, is there, And Judah's rulers high, The chiefs of Zebulon are there, And those of Naphtali."
- Verse 28 "Thy God commands thy strength; for us Make strong thy work, O Lord. For thy house at Jerusalem Kings shall thee gifts afford."
- Verse 29 "The spearmen's host, the multitude Of bulls which fiercely look, Those calves which people have sent forth, O Lord our God, rebuke,"
- Verse 30 "Till every one submit himself, And silver pieces bring: The people that delight in war Disperse, O God and King."
- Verse 31 "They who are princes great shall then come out of Egypt lands; And Ethiopia to God Shall soon stretch out her hands."
- Verse 32 "O all ye kingdoms of the earth, Sing praises to this King; To him who is the Lord of all, O do ye praises sing."
- Verse 33 "To him that rides on heav'ns of heav'ns, Which he of old did found; Lo, he sends out his voice, a voice In might that doth abound."
- Verse 34 "All strength to God do ye ascribe; His glorious majesty Is over Isr'el, and his strength Is in the clouds most high."
- Verse 35 "How dreadful from thy temple, Lord! Isr'el's own God is he, Who gives his people strength and power; O let God blessed be."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 68th chapter of Psalms. Psalms 68:1 "{To the chief Musician, A Psalm [or] Song of David.} Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him."

God, in verse one above, is Elohim. Some noted scholars believe that this was sung when the ark was moved to mount Zion. This is about the same thing that happened when the cloud by day, and the fire by night, moved to lead the children of Israel in the wilderness. As long as the presence of God was stationary over the camp, the Israelites stayed camped, but when the presence of God moved, by the fire, or the smoke, the people followed. In a sense, it was God arising and moving. We do know that when God sent them into battle with the ark with them, they won the battle. In a sense, again, the enemy was scattered. I believe we would be more successful in our endeavors for God now, if we would let Him lead the way. Many times we get ahead of God and that is when we fail. We, also, know that the fame of what

happened to the pharaoh of Egypt spread, and the people before the company of Israelites were afraid of Israel's God and they fled.

Psalms 68:2 "As smoke is driven away, [so] drive [them] away: as wax melteth before the fire, [so] let the wicked perish at the presence of God."

Smoke is of no permanent nature. When the wind blows, it moves with the wind. Perhaps, that is what is intended here. The enemy is like a puff of smoke, blown away. Everyone who has ever lit a candle knows what happens to wax when the heat comes in contact with it. It is very much like the smoke, it is gone. The wicked will perish at the presence of God. If God looks upon sin, He burns it up. This is the case here.

Psalms 68:3 "But let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice before God: yea, let them exceedingly rejoice."

We have spoken, over and over, about the righteous being those who are in right standing with God. When God arises, it would do nothing but bring overrwhelming joy to those who are in right standing with Him. Only those who have not been washed in the blood of the Lamb, and taken on the righteousness of Christ, would have fear, or dread. These next Scriptures say it better than I ever could. I Peter 1:5 "Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." I Peter 1:6 "Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:" I Peter 1:7 "That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:" I Peter 1:8 "Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see [him] not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:" I Peter 1:9 "Receiving the end of your faith, [even] the salvation of [your] souls."

Psalms 68:4 "Sing unto God, sing praises to his name: extol him that rideth upon the heavens by his name JAH, and rejoice before him."

JAH is the same name as Jehovah. He is LORD GOD ALMIGHTY. When we sing praises to God, it should be worshipful. The praises we sing should not be for entertainment, or even for the people around us to hear, but for the ears of God. II Chronicles 2:6 "But who is able to build him an house, seeing the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain him? who [am] I then, that I should build him an house, save only to burn sacrifice before him?" Really, we should praise Him, when we think of why the Son of God would suffer the humiliation of the cross for us.

Psalms 68:5 "A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows, [is] God in his holy habitation."

You may not have a father on this earth, but if you are a Christian, you have a heavenly Father that you can call by His special name, Abba. Only His children are allowed to call Him by this name. God has always taken care of His family. Widows will not be widows in heaven, if they are believers in Christ. They will be the bride of Christ. Where is the holy habitation of God? God is omnipresent. Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father, but He is also in the believer. Christ in us the hope of glory. Where two or three or gathered, He is in the midst.

Psalms 68:6 "God setteth the solitary in families: he bringeth out those which are bound with chains: but the rebellious dwell in a dry [land]."

This was so true of those who came across the wilderness to the promised land. Those rebellious children, who had no faith, died in the wilderness. Sometimes, only one in a family believes and follows God. To be in a family of non-believers, is truly to be bound.

Psalms 68:7 "O God, when thou wentest forth before thy people, when thou didst march through the wilderness; Selah:"

God did go before them in the wilderness. His presence led them. The amazing thing, to me, is that He would still call these rebellious people His. Selah, of course, means pause at this point and think on this.

Psalms 68:8 "The earth shook, the heavens also dropped at the presence of God: [even] Sinai itself [was moved] at the presence of God, the God of Israel."

We know that the earth, and the mountains, and the heavens are all subject to the God that made them. The presence of God was so great at mount Sinai, that the people were frightened greatly. Look with me, in the next few verses, at the effect the presence of God had on the people and on the mountain. Look, also, and see that God appeared as a fire and smoke, the same as the way He led them in the wilderness. Exodus 19:16 "And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that [was] in the camp trembled." Exodus 19:17 "And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount." Exodus 19:18 "And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly." At this time, the Israelites were the only people known as God's people.

Psalms 68:9 "Thou, O God, didst send a plentiful rain, whereby thou didst confirm thine inheritance, when it was weary."

Each time the children of Isreal sinned against God, He forgave them, and blessed them. It rained Manna from heaven to feed them when they were hungry. God led them to water to drink even where there seemed to be no water. The Rock provided water for them. They wore the same shoes for 40 years, and they did not wear out. This is miraculous provision for His children. All the nations around them never doubted their inheritance, because of the miraculous provision God made for them.

Psalms 68:10 "Thy congregation hath dwelt therein: thou, O God, hast prepared of thy goodness for the poor."

The children of Israel were the congregation of God. These people had been in bondage to the Egyptians, yet God kept them, without them working, for these 40 years.

Psalms 68:11 "The Lord gave the word: great [was] the company of those that published [it]."

This company, that published it, was approximately 3 million people. The Word of God is still alive and being published today by His true followers.

Psalms 68:12 "Kings of armies did flee apace: and she that tarried at home divided the spoil."

As we said earlier in this lesson, the nations, that Israel passed on the way to the promised land, had heard of how God fought their battles for them, and they were afraid, and fled before them. This is saying, that the women, who were not actually in the battle, shared in the spoil they got in battle.

Psalms 68:13 "Though ye have lien among the pots, [yet shall ye be as] the wings of a dove covered with silver, and her feathers with yellow gold."

The thing to do with this, I suppose, is to look at the symbols. The dove speaks of the Holy Spirit. The silver speaks of redemption and the gold speaks of God. It appears that the women {symbolic of the church} has been in a lowered condition, among the pots. This, to me, is symbolic of the church filled with the spirit of God being redeemed by God. Enough said.

Psalms 68:14 "When the Almighty scattered kings in it, it was [white] as snow in Salmon."

God, Himself fought their battles. White symbolizes righteousness. When God scattered His enemies, righteousness reigned.

Psalms 68:15 "The hill of God [is as] the hill of Bashan; an high hill [as] the hill of Bashan."

Bashan was a very tall mountain physically. This is saying, then, that the hill of God was high and lifted up. The hill of God, even though not physically as high, was spiritually higher.

Psalms 66 Questions

1. God, in verse one, is _____.
2. Most noted scholars believe this was associated with what event?
3. What prior event does, the fact that God arises, remind us of?
4. When God sent the Israelites into battle with the ark leading the battle, what happened?
5. We would be more successful in our endeavors today, if we did what?
6. The fame of what God had done to Pharaoh spread, and had what effect on the nations Israel passed by?
7. What is the nature of smoke?
8. What happens to a candle, when a flame gets too close?
9. What does God do when He looks upon sin?
10. Who are the righteous?
11. Quote 1 Peter chapter 1 verse 7.
12. What is the end of your faith?
13. What unusual name is God called, in verse 4?
14. When we sing praises, it should be _____.
15. Whose ears should the praise be for?
16. Quote 2 Chronicles chapter 2 verse 6.
17. You may not have a father on this earth, but if you are a Christian, you have a heavenly _____.
18. Who will be the bride of Christ?
19. Where is the holy habitation of God?
20. Those rebellious children that had no faith, died in the _____.
21. What effect did the presence of God on mount Sinai have on the people?
22. What effect did the presence of God on mount Sinai have on the mountain?
23. The Lord descended on the mountain in what?
24. Who were the only people known as God's people at this time?
25. How did God confirm their inheritance?
26. What kind of provision did God make for the children of Israel on the way to the promised land?
27. Who were the congregation of God at the time of the wilderness experience?
28. Who publishes the Word of God today?
29. Did the women, who were not in the heat of battle, share in the spoil?
30. What does the dove symbolize?
31. What does silver symbolize?
32. What does gold symbolize?
33. Who are the women symbolic of?
34. When God scattered His enemies, _____ reigned.
35. What is Bashan, in verse 15?

We will continue the verse by verse study of the 68th chapter of Psalms. Psalms 68:16 "Why leap ye, ye high hills? [this is] the hill [which] God desireth to dwell in; yea, the LORD will dwell [in it] for ever."

This will be called the holy mountain of God. This mountain is Zion. God has chosen this mountain to dwell in. Moriah and Zion are the same mountain. Zion symbolizes the church. Zion is sometimes speaking of Jerusalem. No one knows for sure why God chose this mountain for His dwelling place. We do know that God has chosen to dwell in spiritual Zion {the Christians}. Let's look at an Old Testament Scripture and a New Testament Scripture that tells us just that. Ezekiel 37:27 "My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people." Revelation 21:3 "And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God [is] with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, [and be] their God."

Psalms 68:17 "The chariots of God [are] twenty thousand, [even] thousands of angels: the Lord [is] among them, [as in] Sinai, in the holy [place]."

Tens of thousands of angels and chariots of fire are available to God to use, at any time He wishes. Even Pharaoh had sent 500 chariots out to battle, and that was thought to be a large army with chariots. The difference is not just in the number, either. Earthly chariots are no comparison to the chariots of fire that belong to God. We know that God's chariots are of fire, because one of them came to escort Elijah to heaven. II Kings 2:11 "And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, [there appeared] a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven." The Lord is among them, could be speaking of Jesus, when He comes back to the earth with His mighty hosts.

Psalms 68:18 "Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, [for] the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell [among them]."

This is not only speaking of the ark of the covenant being carried to the holy mountain, but this is speaking of the Lord Jesus rising into heaven itself. He had been into hell, and preached, and brought captivity captive out with Him. I Peter 3:18 "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:" I Peter 3:19 "By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison;" Ephesians 4:8 "Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men." Ephesians 4:9 "(Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?" Ephesians 4:10 "He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)" Ephesians 4:11 "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;" Ephesians 4:12 "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:"

Psalms 68:19 "Blessed [be] the Lord, [who] daily loadeth us [with benefits, even] the God of our salvation. Selah."

Not only were David and the people shouting, Blessed be the Lord, as they took the ark up to the mountain, but this is the cry of all who truly love God. Just as the manna fell everyday [except sabbath] in the journey to the promise land, God takes care of the needs of His people now. I think one of the most beautiful things in the Bible, is how God sent the raven twice a day to feed Elijah. I Kings 17:4 "And it shall be, [that] thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there." I Kings 17:6 "And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook." The God of our salvation is Jesus Christ.

Psalms 68:20 "[He that is] our God [is] the God of salvation; and unto GOD the Lord [belong] the issues from death."

This, of course, is speaking of Jesus. Notice in the two following Scriptures, that Jesus has defeated death for himself and us. Romans 8:11 "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." Colossians 2:12 "Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with [him] through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead." God the Lord controls death and life.

Psalms 68:21 "But God shall wound the head of his enemies, [and] the hairy scalp of such an one as goeth on still in his trespasses."

This is a very hard saying. Notice, the difference in God's enemies and those who continue in their trespasses. We know that those, who are God's enemies, are friends of Satan. We, also, know of the promise in Genesis made to Eve about what God would do to those who reject Jesus. Genesis 3:15 "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." Notice, the wound is on the enemy's head. The last half of verse 21 above indicates, to me, that these are potentially God's people. It seems, to me, that they may profess Christianity, but not live it. They are still caught up in bad habits that they have not given up. The call of the world is too great, and they will go the way of the serpents seed.

Psalms 68:22 "The Lord said, I will bring again from Bashan, I will bring [my people] again from the depths of the sea:"

Whether it be the tallest mountain, or the depths of the sea, God is there and knows all that is going on. This could, also, be a prophetic Scripture about the Jews coming back into Jerusalem. The sea, many times, is speaking of large groups of people. The Jews were scattered all over the world, but God will bring them back to Jerusalem.

Psalms 68:23 "That thy foot may be dipped in the blood of [thine] enemies, [and] the tongue of thy dogs in the same."

The enemy is defeated, if their blood is under foot. The dog's tongue being in the blood, just shows that much blood was shed in the battle.

Psalms 68:24 "They have seen thy goings, O God; [even] the goings of my God, my King, in the sanctuary."

It was no secret when God was in the sanctuary. Either the fire was there, or the smoke from the fire was visible. When God was ready for them to move, the smoke and fire moved first. Notice, here, the personal relation David has with God. He calls Him, my God.

Psalms 68:25 "The singers went before, the players on instruments [followed] after; among [them were] the damsels playing with timbrels."

This is speaking of the triumphant entry of the ark. David danced before the ark at this time, as well as the music and the timbrels being played. This was a joyous time. The presence of their God had dwelt over the ark.

Psalms 68:26 "Bless ye God in the congregations, [even] the Lord, from the fountain of Israel."

The water in heaven flows from the throne of God. Revelation 22:1 "And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb." The law of God came from the fountain of Israel. Jesus came through this race, as well. Jesus was the Son of God, but His mother was an Israelite. We should never stop praising God.

Psalms 68:27 "There [is] little Benjamin [with] their ruler, the princes of Judah [and] their council, the princes of Zebulun, [and] the princes of Naphtali."

Joseph and Benjamin were the favorite sons of Israel. Benjamin was allotted Zion as his portion. Jesus is the Lion of the tribe of Judah.

Psalms 68:28 "Thy God hath commanded thy strength: strengthen, O God, that which thou hast wrought for us."

In our weakness, He is strong. I Corinthians 1:25 "Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men." II Corinthians 12:9 "And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

Psalms 68:29 "Because of thy temple at Jerusalem shall kings bring presents unto thee."

The temple at Jerusalem, that Solomon built for God, was truly the most magnificent building anywhere. The queen of Sheba heard of it and brought gifts to Solomon. I Kings 10:1 "And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to prove him with hard questions." I Kings 10:10 "And she gave the king an hundred and twenty talents of gold, and of spices very great store, and precious stones: there came no more such abundance of spices as these which the queen of Sheba gave to king Solomon."

Psalms 68:30 "Rebuke the company of spearmen, the multitude of the bulls, with the calves of the people, [till every one] submit himself with pieces of silver: scatter thou the people [that] delight in war."

Looking at this from the spiritual point of view, we would see that regardless of how powerful they were, or how many offerings of bulls or calves they made, it was not enough. Silver means redemption. Notice the words, {submit himself}. A man must repent and be redeemed. Looking at this with the physical eye, we see that they are powerful and are trying to win by force. Solomon was a man of peace, and that is why God allowed him to build the temple.

Psalms 68:31 "Princes shall come out of Egypt; Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God."

People did come from far and wide and brought gifts, such as we mentioned about the queen of Sheba. Egypt has always symbolized the world. Looking at this spiritually, we see heathen people from all over the world coming to the Lord.

Psalms 68:32 "Sing unto God, ye kingdoms of the earth; O sing praises unto the Lord; Selah:"

This just shows how salvation is offered to all peoples of the world. We have much to sing about. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so. Think on these things.

Psalms 68:33 "To him that rideth upon the heavens of heavens, [which were] of old; lo, he doth send out his voice, [and that] a mighty voice."

We know that the mighty voice that the children of Israel heard was so frightening, that they asked Moses to talk to God for them. Jesus rode a cloud into heaven, when He left the earth. Read about it in Acts chapter 1. The heavens were created by Him, so He could ride one of the clouds, if He wanted to. II Chronicles 6:18 "But will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house which I have built!" This Scripture is just showing the magnitude of God's reign.

Psalms 68:34 "Ascribe ye strength unto God: his excellency [is] over Israel, and his strength [is] in the clouds."

Ascribe means to give. God's power is everywhere. He is ruler over everything in heaven, as well as everything in the earth. In the sense ascribe is used above, it would mean recognize the strength of God.

Psalms 68:35 "O God, [thou art] terrible out of thy holy places: the God of Israel [is] he that giveth strength and power unto [his] people. Blessed [be] God."

All strength and power belong to God. The wonderful thing is, that all believers in Christ have been given permission to use the name of Jesus. The 14th chapter of John, beginning with the 12th verse tells us just how much authority there is in the name of Jesus. The one thing that we must keep in mind is, that this is Jesus' power, not ours. The power is in the name of Jesus. Let me share just two verses with you here. John 14:12 "Verily,

verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater [works] than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father." John 14:13 "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." When you look these Scripture up, notice the Words were spoken by Jesus. BLESSED BE GOD.

Psalms 67 Questions

1. What mountain is verse 16 speaking of?
2. What is another name for this mountain?
3. What does Zion symbolize?
4. What does Ezekiel chapter 37 verse 27 and Revelation chapter 21 verse 3 have in common?
5. Verse 17 says the chariots of God are how many?
6. How many chariots did Pharaoh send after the Israelites?
7. What are God's chariots made of?
8. Where do we find the Scripture that tells us that?
9. What does [the Lord is among them] possibly mean?
10. Besides the ark being carried into Jerusalem, what does verse 18 mean?
11. Jesus was put to death in the _____, but quickened by the _____.
12. When He ascended upon high, He led _____.
13. Who did He give for the perfecting of the saints?
14. What does the author believe to be one of the most beautiful examples in the Bible of God providing for His own?
15. In the last half of verse 21, who are these people?
16. What are the 2 meanings of verse 22?
17. The enemy is _____, if their blood is under foot.
18. What does the dog's tongue being in the blood show?
19. How did the people know when God was in the sanctuary?
20. Where does the water in heaven flow from?
21. Where did the law of God come from?
22. Who were the favorite sons of Israel?
23. Quote 1 Corinthians chapter 1 verse 25.
24. What queen heard of the magnificence of the temple Solomon built and came and brought gifts to him?
25. What does ascribe mean?
26. What wonderful provision has been given to the believers in Christ?
27. Blessed be _____.

We will now begin by giving the Psalms of David in metre for chapter 69.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 69

- Verse 1 "O God, preserve me, for the floods Do so encompass me, That even to my very soul Come in the Waters be."
- Verse 2 "I downward in deep mire do sink, Where standing there is none, And into waters deep have come, Where floods have o'er me gone."
- Verse 3 "I weary with my crying am, My throat is also dried; My sight decays while for my God I waiting do abide."
- Verse 4 "The men who do without a cause bear hatred unto me, Ev'n than the hairs upon my head In number more they be."
- Verse 5 "They who are wrongful enemies, And seek my soul to slay Are great in might; then I restored What I took not away."
- Verse 6 "O God, my folly and my sins Are not concealed from thee. Let none that wait on thee be shamed, Lord God of hosts, for me."
- Verse 7 "O Lord, the God of Israel, Let none who seek thy face Be ever made to suffer shame Because of my disgrace."
- Verse 8 "For I have born reproach for thee, My face is hid with shame. To brethren strange, to mother's sons An alien I became."
- Verse 9 "Because the zeal did eat me up Which to thy house I bear; And the reproaches cast at thee Upon me fallen are."
- Verse 10 "I wept and fasted in my soul, And that was to my shame; When I with sackcloth clothed myself, A by-word I became."
- Verse 11 "The men who sit within the gate Against me evil spake; They also that vile drunkards were, Of me their song did make."
- Verse 12 "But in a time accepted, Lord, My prayer is to thee; In thy salvation's truth, O Lord, In mercy great hear me."
- Verse 13 "Deliver me out of the mire, And me from sinking keep; Free me from those that do me hate, And from the waters deep."
- Verse 14 "Let not the flood on me prevail, Whose water overflows; Nor deep meyswallow, nor the pit Her mouth upon me close."
- Verse 15 "Thy loving-kindness, Lord, is good, My prayer therefore hear; Turn thou to me, for every great Thy tender mercies are."
- Verse 16 "Nor from thy servant hide thy face; I'm troubled, soon attend. Draw near my soul, and it redeem; Me from my foes defend."
- Verse 17 "To thee is my reproach well known, My shame and my disgrace; Those that to me are enemies Are all before thy face."
- Verse 18 "My heart is broken by reproach, My soul is full of grief. I looked in vain for those who would give pity and relief."
- Verse 19 "They also bitter gall did give To me instead of meat; they gave me vinegar to drink. What time my thirst was great."
- Verse 20 "Before them let their table prove A snare; and do thou make Their welfare and prosperity A trap themselves to make."
- Verse 21 "Let thou their eyes so darkened be, That sight may them forsake; And let their loins be made by thee Continually to shake."

- Verse 22 "Upon them, Lord, thy fury pour, Them seize in anger great;
And in their tents let no one dwell, Their homes be
desolate.
- Verse 23 "For they have persecuted him, Whom thou didst smite before;
And to the grief of those they talk Whom thou hast wounded
score.
- Verse 24 "Add thou iniquity to all Their former wickedness; And do not
let them come at all Into thy righteousness.
- Verse 25 "And from the book of life let them Be blotted out by thee;
Among the just and righteous ones Their names not written
be.
- Verse 26 "But now become exceeding poor And sorrowful am I: By thy
salvation, O my God, Let me be set on high.
- Verse 27 "The name of God I with a song Most cheerfully will praise;
And I, in giving thanks to him, His name will highly raise.
- Verse 28 "And to the Lord an offering More pleasing this shall prove
Than sacrifice of any beast That hath both horn and hoof.
- Verse 29 "When this the humble men shall see, It joy to them shall
give: O all ye that do seek the Lord, Your hearts shall over
live.
- Verse 30 "For God the poor hears, and will not His prisoners contemn.
Let heaven, and earth, and seas him praise; And all that
move in them.
- Verse 31 "For God will Judah's cities build, And Zion he will save,
That they may dwell therein, and it In sure possession have.
- Verse 32 "And they that are his servants' seed Inherit shall the same;
So they shall have their dwelling there Who love his
blessed name.

We will begin now in the verse by verse study of the 69th Psalm. Psalms 69:1 "{To the chief Musician upon Shoshannim, [A Psalm] of David.} Save me, O God; for the waters are come in unto [my] soul."

In this whole chapter, we will see the Son of God portrayed, as well as David. Not in every verse will He be shown, but in nearly every verse. Watch, with me, as we begin this study, and see if you, too, can not see the Lord.

In this very first verse, we can see Jesus in the garden of Gethsemene praying so earnestly to the Father for the cup to pass from Him that sweat of blood was on His forehead. There was at this moment a flooding of His soul. I believe the dread was for that one terrible moment, when the Father would turn from Him. We, also, see David in this, crying to God to save him. Christians all over the world are crying this same cry now. God, please do not turn from us. Our souls are troubled.

Psalms 69:2 "I sink in deep mire, where [there is] no standing: I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me."

Have you ever been to the point that you thought, if God does not intervene today, I will not be able to stand any longer? The more you attempt to do what is right, the deeper in the mud you get and the higher the problems come up like a raging river. If help does not come, you will go under.

Psalms 69:3 "I am weary of my crying: my throat is dried: mine eyes fail while I wait for my God."

Jesus prayed three times for the cup to pass. He submitted His will to the will of the Father. David is crying desperately to God. I have felt this same despair in my Christian ministry. It is as if there is no strength left in you to fight with. Waiting sometimes can be a painful experience.

Psalms 69:4 "They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head: they that would destroy me, [being] mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty: then I restored [that] which I took not away."

More than anyone else who ever lived, Jesus was hated without a cause. Truly those opposed to Jesus were more than the hairs of His head. Jesus had done nothing to harm any of these people who were against Him. Jesus went around doing good. He healed the sick, cast out devil spirits, and raised the dead. Jesus bought salvation for even those who rejected Him, if they would repent and turn to Him. Paul was among those opposed to Jesus, until the face to face encounter with Jesus. It was not just the worldly people who were opposed to Jesus, it was the church people along with the world. There was Rome, there was just the average citizen, and there were the scribes and the pharisees, as well. It gives us some consolation, when we are undergoing so much opposition {trying to do good}, that our Lord suffered much more persecution than we could ever stand. David felt this same opposition, and some of it from his own family.

Psalms 69:5 "O God, thou knowest my foolishness; and my sins are not hid from thee."

This Scripture does not apply to the Lord at all. He was completely without sin. It does, however, apply to David and to us. David made some foolish mistakes with Bathsheba. We have done things we wish we could take back, too. We may be able to hide from the world, but we can not hide from God. He knows even every evil thought we have ever had. Praise God! My sins are forgiven.

Psalms 69:6 "Let not them that wait on thee, O Lord GOD of hosts, be ashamed for my sake: let not those that seek thee be confounded for my sake, O God of Israel."

This does not apply to the Lord, either. Jesus did not have short comings. I have thought myself, Lord, please do not let my short comings cause anyone to have reason to fall away from you. The non-believer is watching every move you make trying to figure out something that he can ridicule Christianity for. Weak Christians are, also, looking to find some reason why it is alright for them to go back into the world. Some will go so far as to say, I told you it was not real. In both of these cases, this is someone who does not have the right relation with God. If we have the right relation with the Lord, the following Scriptures are true in our life. Romans 8:35 "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? [shall] tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?" Romans 8:36 "As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." Romans 8:37 "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." Romans 8:38 "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,"

Romans 8:39 "Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Psalms 69:7 "Because for thy sake I have borne reproach; shame hath covered my face."

Jesus bore our sin upon His body on the cross. He was not guilty of sin, we were. Jesus went around telling the truth, and it made the religious people of His day angry. Their religion offered regulation. His message brought hope. Jesus came to the Jewish people first, and they rejected Him. We can not put all the blame on them, however. Our sin really brought Jesus to such shame. It was our sin that He took on His body that caused the shame to cover His face.

Psalms 69:8 "I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children."

Jesus half-brothers and sisters did not accept Him for who He said He was, until after He rose from the grave. Notice, {mother's children}. Joseph was the father of the rest, but Jesus' Father was the Holy Spirit of God.

Psalms 69:9 "For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me."

This zeal, spoken of here, is the keeping of the letter of the law. These people, in authority in the temple, had been taught by Gamaliel. They knew the letter of the law, they did not know the lawgiver. Those who had said ugly things about God and His temple are now turning that anger to the Son of God. They are trying to stop Jesus. If the temple had been a threat to them, think what greater threat it would be for the powerful ministry of Jesus to come against them.

Psalms 69:10 "When I wept, [and chastened] my soul with fasting, that was to my reproach."

Jesus was accused no matter what He did. He really did not need food. At one point He told the disciples that He had food that they knew not of. He was not speaking of physical food, but of spiritual food. When Jesus joined in and ate with the others, the people called Him a glutton and a winebibber. They were never satisfied, they were just looking for anything to accuse Him of. Jesus had no reason to fast. This particular part of the verse, possibly, has to do with David.

Psalms 69:11 "I made sackcloth also my garment; and I became a proverb to them."

When a person was dedicated to prayer, it was the custom to wear sackcloth and not eat. This showed total separation from the world. It was saying, that the world and all it has to offer were not important.

Psalms 69:12 "They that sit in the gate speak against me; and I [was] the song of the drunkards."

Just about the worst thing there is in a community, is the corner where those without work hang around. Gossip is traded regardless of whether it is true or not, and most of the time it is not true. Some people get their

thrills by trying to tear someone else down. Gossipers are house wreckers, not builders. This is saying, that even the drunkards are in on this gossip.

Psalms 69:13 "But as for me, my prayer [is] unto thee, O LORD, [in] an acceptable time: O God, in the multitude of thy mercy hear me, in the truth of thy salvation."

Jesus did not ask for mercy from the authorities. David is not going to earthly authorities for help, either. He is praying to the Lord for help. The acceptable time for salvation is today. Jesus came to this earth at the appointed time and showed God's great mercy for mankind. There is salvation in no other.

Psalms 69:14 "Deliver me out of the mire, and let me not sink: let me be delivered from them that hate me, and out of the deep waters."

Psalms 69:15 "Let not the waterflood overflow me, neither let the deep swallow me up, and let not the pit shut her mouth upon me."

David is crying to God to deliver him. The children of Israel cried this same cry, when they were in the mud in Egypt making brick as slaves. You and I cry this, too, in a world that is about to drown us in the sin and filth all around us. Sometimes it feels as if we are about overcome. That is when we must cry the harder to the Lord to deliver us. The pit could be speaking of hell, as well. Without Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, we would be headed for an eternity in that very pit. He came and saved us.

Psalms 69:16 "Hear me, O LORD; for thy lovingkindness [is] good: turn unto me according to the multitude of thy tender mercies."

Psalms 69:17 "And hide not thy face from thy servant; for I am in trouble: hear me speedily."

Psalms 69:18 "Draw nigh unto my soul, [and] redeem it: deliver me because of mine enemies."

Turn unto me and help me, not because I deserve it, but because you are kind. Thy mercy, Lord, is sufficient for me. Isn't it strange how we can relate so closely to what David is saying here, and he lived thousands of years before us? We all cry, help, I am in trouble.

Psalms 68 Questions

1. What message do we see spiritually about Jesus in verse 1?
2. What was the dread that Jesus had?
3. What is the condition of the true Christian around the world today?
4. Have you ever been to the point that you thought, if God does not intervene today, I will not be able to stand?
5. How many times did Jesus pray for the cup to pass from Him?
6. Waiting sometimes can be a _____ experience.
7. They that hate me without a cause are more than the _____
8. Who, in all of history, could say this and it be the most truthful?
9. Who were those opposed to Jesus without cause?
10. What brings some consolation to us, when we are being persecuted unjustly?
11. Who lived completely without sin?
12. What was one of the foolish mistakes David made?
13. What do Christians have reason to praise God about pertaining to their sin?
14. Who is watching every move the Christian makes, besides God?
15. Read aloud Romans chapter 8 verses 35, 36, 37, 38 and 39.
16. Jesus bore our sin upon His _____ upon the cross.
17. What made the religious people of Jesus day angry with Him?
18. When did Jesus' half-brothers and sisters believe who He really was?
19. Why does verse 8 say, alien to my mother's children?
20. What is the zeal in verse 9?
21. They knew the letter of the law, they did not know the _____.
22. When Jesus ate, what did the people call Him?
23. What was the food that Jesus said He had, that the disciples did not know about?
24. When a person had totally dedicated themselves to prayer, what did they wear?
25. What is verse 12 all about?
26. Who is our salvation in?
27. Did David ask for help of those around him?
28. What are the Christians, in the world today, about to drown in?
29. Turn unto me according to thy _____.
30. Do you find it strange that we relate so closely to the problems of David?

We will continue the verse by verse study in chapter 69 of Psalms. Psalms 69:19 "Thou hast known my reproach, and my shame, and my dishonour: mine adversaries [are] all before thee."

We have been viewing, in these lessons, the reproach that David felt from the enemies around him, and the reproach that Jesus felt when the religious people of His day joined forces with the worldly people and all rejected Him. The reproach, dishonour, and the shame, did not belong to Jesus. He had done nothing wrong to cause this. They were attacking Him without a cause. David, also, felt all of these things, but in some far away way felt he should pay restitution for the evil he had done. He felt it could have been just payment.

Psalms 69:20 "Reproach hath broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked [for some] to take pity, but [there was] none; and for comforters, but I found none."

This is certainly speaking prophetically about the Lord Jesus Christ. Even His beloved apostles had run away. Peter had even denied Him 3 times. Where were all of the people who had been miraculously healed by one touch of His hand, or touched by a word He spoke? Where were the multitude that He had fed? The only excuse that I can make at all for them, is that He was crucified early in the morning. Perhaps, before some of them knew. Jesus loved them so much, and there was not any move at all to save Him. He would not have let them stop the crucifixion, but it would have been heart-warming, if they had tried. Jesus stood alone.

Psalms 69:21 "They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink."

We see the fulfillment of this in the following Scripture. Matthew 27:34 "They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted [thereof], he would not drink."

Psalms 69:22 "Let their table become a snare before them: and [that which should have been] for [their] welfare, [let it become] a trap."

Psalms 69:23 "Let their eyes be darkened, that they see not; and make their loins continually to shake."

Psalms 69:24 "Pour out thine indignation upon them, and let thy wrathful anger take hold of them."

Psalms 69:25 "Let their habitation be desolate; [and] let none dwell in their tents."

Jesus said, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. However, we see in the book of Romans that this very thing, spoken of in verse 22 and 23 above, did happen to them. The blessings of God was off them until the time of the Gentiles be fulfilled. Romans 11:8 "(According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day." Romans 11:9 "And David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a trap, and a stumblingblock, and a recompence unto them:" Romans 11:10 "Let their eyes be darkened, that they may not see, and bow down their back alway." We do know, that this very thing has happened to the natural Jew. This was even so up until 1948. The time of the Gentiles is at a close. Luke 21:24 "And they

shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." Now let us go back to Romans for one more Scripture. Now we see why all of this happened. Romans 11:11 "I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but [rather] through their fall salvation [is come] unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy."

Psalms 69:26 "For they persecute [him] whom thou hast smitten; and they talk to the grief of those whom thou hast wounded."

We find that this persecution has never stopped. The sinful have just begun to persecute the followers of Jesus the same as they persecuted HIM. Even now, there are many who persecute the name of Jesus. They use His name in vain. The worst thing of all, they are still rejecting Him today.

Psalms 69:27 "Add iniquity unto their iniquity: and let them not come into thy righteousness."

The Lord will not force His righteousness on anyone. There is no hope for those who totally reject Jesus. You can just take one look at the television and see that sin is getting worse and worse. The only hope for this world, is the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Reach out and take the salvation Jesus offers today, before it is too late.

Psalms 69:28 "Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous."

We know that these religious people believed that they were the chosen of God, and that there was no way they would not be saved. Those who reject Jesus, then or now, will not be saved. God's chosen people who rejected Jesus would have their names removed from the book of life. The righteous are those who have been washed in the blood of the precious Lamb and put in right standing with God for that. Notice though, that there is a possibility to have your name removed from the book. Once we are saved, we must stay saved. We must not choose to go back into a sinful way of life after we have been saved. Read chapter 6 of Hebrews.

Psalms 69:29 "But I [am] poor and sorrowful: let thy salvation, O God, set me up on high."

Jesus came to preach the gospel to the poor. This does not mean just poor financially. This means those poor in spirit, as well. We have nothing to offer God, but a repentant heart. In that sense, we are poor. Sorrowful has to do with repentance. The way to receive salvation is to be sorrowful for your sin and repent and receive the salvation Jesus provided for each of us. We know that since Jesus rose from the grave, we shall rise, too. We are not to try to elevate ourselves. God will do the elevating of whom He wants to.

Psalms 69:30 "I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving."

I will praise the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me praise His holy name. Christians, we have so much to praise Him for. We, of all the people in the world, have the hope of the resurrection. We are the bride of

Christ. Our Groom is off preparing a place for us. He will come again and receive us unto Himself. Our lips should be filled with praise and thanksgiving.

Psalms 69:31 "[This] also shall please the LORD better than an ox [or] bullock that hath horns and hoofs."

Christians should offer praise to God on a regular basis. Sacrifice for a Christian is praise. Jeremiah 33:11 "The voice of joy, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the voice of them that shall say, Praise the LORD of hosts: for the LORD [is] good; for his mercy [endureth] for ever: [and] of them that shall bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the LORD. For I will cause to return the captivity of the land, as at the first, saith the LORD." One more Scripture to verify that is what God wants from us. Hebrews 13:15 "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of [our] lips giving thanks to his name."

Psalms 69:32 "The humble shall see [this, and] be glad: and your heart shall live that seek God."

James 4:6 "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble." The proud are the same as the ones Jesus called stiff-necked. The humble are teachable. Seek and ye shall find, ask and ye shall receive, knock and it shall be opened unto you. James 4:10 "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up." God will not force Himself on anyone. The humble seek salvation, and He shall save them.

Psalms 69:33 "For the LORD heareth the poor, and despiseth not his prisoners."

These 2 Scriptures say it better than I could. I Samuel 2:8 "He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, [and] lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set [them] among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth [are] the LORD'S, and he hath set the world upon them." James 2:5 "Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?"

Psalms 69:34 "Let the heaven and earth praise him, the seas, and every thing that moveth therein."

The Word of God created all of the things mentioned above. Look in John chapter 1. It is right that the creation would praise its Creator. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Psalms 69:35 "For God will save Zion, and will build the cities of Judah: that they may dwell there, and have it in possession."

We have been discussing that there are two, or perhaps, three different meanings of Zion. Look at Zion as the church. The true believers in Christ are the church, and we know they will be saved. Look at Zion as Jerusalem, and we know that the Lord will rule from Jerusalem. The new Jerusalem will

come down from God out of heaven, and all who truly believe will live there with our Lord.

Psalms 69:36 "The seed also of his servants shall inherit it: and they that love his name shall dwell therein."

Who are the seed spoken of here who will possess the land? These are the seed of Abraham. Those who are in covenant relationship with God. Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Praise God! all true Christians are the seed spoken of.

Psalms 69 Questions

1. What 3 undeserved things was Jesus feeling in verse 19.
2. Who is verse 20 saying abandoned Jesus?
3. Where were all those who had been miraculously healed by Jesus?
4. Where is the fulfillment of verse 21 found in the New Testament?
5. What were some of the things prophesied to these people who turned against the Lord?
6. What did Jesus ask the Father to do to these who crucified Him?
7. Quote Romans chapter 11 verse 8.
8. How long shall Jerusalem be trodden down of the Gentiles?
9. Why had they stumbled?
10. Who do the sinful persecute today?
11. Who is there no hope for?
12. What is the only hope for this world?
13. Who will not be saved?
14. Who are the righteous?
15. Who had their names blotted out of the book?
16. Who did Jesus come to preach to?
17. What is the only thing we have to offer God?
18. Who elevates us up?
19. What is the hope of the Christian?
20. Who is the bride of Christ?
21. What two Scriptures verify the fact that praise is sacrifice?
22. God resisteth the proud, but does what for the humble?
23. What two other Scriptures explain verse 33?
24. Who created all things?
25. God will save _____.
26. Who, or what, is Zion?
27. Who are the seed that inherit from God?
28. Quote Galatians chapter 3 verse 29.

PSALMS LESSON 70

We will begin this lesson by giving chapter 70 in metre to show how easily it could be sung.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 70

- Verse 1 "Make haste, O God, me to preserve; With speed, Lord, help thou me. And let all those who seek my soul Shamed and confounded be."
- Verse 2 "Turned back be they, and put to shame, That in my hurt delight. Turned back be they, Ha, ha! that say, Their shaming to requite."
- Verse 3 "Let all who seek thy face be glad, And ever joyful be: Let them who thy salvation love Say still, The Lord praise ye."
- Verse 4 "But I both poor and needy am; Come, Lord, and make no stay; My help thou, and deliv'rer art; O Lord, make no delay.

We will begin the verse by verse study of chapter 70 of Psalms. Psalms 70:1 "{To the chief Musician, [A Psalm] of David, to bring to remembrance.} [Make haste], O God, to deliver me; make haste to help me, O LORD."

We see David in a state of urgency with his prayer. Many times, we feel that God has not heard our prayer, because we are not immediately answered.

Psalms 70:2 "Let them be ashamed and confounded that seek after my soul: let them be turned backward, and put to confusion, that desire my hurt."

David is asking the Lord to make the people, who are trying to destroy him, ashamed. This is as if David is saying, I can't show them, but you show them for me. Lord, make them ashamed of themselves for attacking one of yours.

Psalms 70:3 "Let them be turned back for a reward of their shame that say, Aha, aha."

Their reward on judgment day will be, everlasting punishment. The expression {aha, aha} is used by the devils followers. This just shows who they really are.

Psalms 70:4 "Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: and let such as love thy salvation say continually, Let God be magnified."

In the last lesson, we gave the meaning of this. Those that seek God, find Him. We said it before and it bears repeating, again. Those who have found the Lord have much to be joyful about. They are the redeemed, and they should say so. The praise of the Lord should never cease from the lips of the redeemed. God should be magnified, not only with our lips, but by the lives we live, as well.

Psalms 70:5 "But I [am] poor and needy: make haste unto me, O God: thou [art] my help and my deliverer; O LORD, make no tarrying."

Jehovah is the name of God here. Those who need and want God will be helped of God. The Lord came to help those who needed help, as we see in the following verse. Matthew 9:12 "But when Jesus heard [that], he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick." Notice, the use of my in the 5th verse above. This shows that salvation, deliverance, and for that matter, all gifts from God are for the individual. It is a decision we must make one at a time, that we need and want God in our life.

This little chapter of prayer, here seems to be a connector from chapter 69 into chapter 71. This is a powerful prayer bridge we have studied here. Now, we will get into the 71st chapter.

We will begin by giving the 71st chapter in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 71

- Verse 1 "O LORD, My hope and confidence Are placed alone in thee;
Then let me evermore be kept from all confusion free."
- Verse 2 "And let me, in thy righteousness, From thee deliv'rance
have; O rescue me, incline thy ear To hear me, and me save."
- Verse 3 "Be thou my dwelling rock, to which I ever may resort: Thou
my salvation hast ordained; Thou art my rock and fort."
- Verse 4 "Free me, my God, from wicked hands, Hands cruel and unjust;
For thou, O Lord God, art my hope, And from my youth my
trust."
- Verse 5 "Thou from my birth hast held me up, Thou art the same that
me Out of my mother's womb didst take: I ever will praise
thee."
- Verse 6 "To many I a wonder am; Thou art my refuge strong. Filled let
my mouth be with thy praise And honor all day long.
- Verse 7 "O do not cast me off, when me Old age doth overtake; And in
the day of failing strength, O do not me forsake."
- Verse 8 "For they who are my enemies Against me speak with hate; And
they together counsel take Who for my soul lay wait."
- Verse 9 "They say God leaves him, him pursue, And take, for none
will save. Be thou not far from me, my God; Thy speedy help
I crave."
- Verse 10 "Confounded, and consumed let all My adversaries be; And
clothed with scorn and shame be they Who seek to injure me."
- Verse 11 "But I in thee with confidence Will hope continually ; And
yet with praises more and more I will thee magnify."
- Verse 12 "Thy justice and salvation, Lord, My mouth abroad shall show,
Even all the day; for I thereof The numbers do not know."
- Verse 13 "And I will constantly go on In strength of God the Lord; And
thy own righteousness, even thine Alone, I will record."
- Verse 14 "For even from my youth, O God, by thee I have been taught;
And hitherto I have declared The wonders thou hast wrought."
- Verse 15 "And now, O God, forsake me not When I am old and gray; Till
I to this and every age Thy strength and power display.
- Verse 16 "Thy perfect righteousness O God, The heavens height exceeds;
O who is like to thee, who hast Performed such mighty deeds?
- Verse 17 "Thou, Lord, who great adversities, And sore to me didst

show, Shalt quicken me, and bring again From depths of earth below."

Verse 18 "My greatness and my power thou wilt Increase and far extend; Against all grief on every side Thou wilt me comfort send."

Verse 19 "Thee, ev'n thy truth, I'll also praise, My God, with psaltery; Thou Holy one of Israel, With harp I'll sing to thee."

Verse 20 "My lips shall much rejoice in thee, When thy praises sound; My soul, by thee redeemed from death, In joy shall much abound."

Verse 21 "And with my tongue I will proclaim Thy justice all day long; For they confounded are and shamed Who seek to do me wrong."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of chapter 71 of Psalms. Psalms 71:1 "In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion."

We see a firm statement in the beginning of this prayer, that His trust is in The LORD. We have talked about trust before, but to refresh our memory, we will, again, speak of what it is. I believe that trust is a furtherance of faith. It is a point when you are resting in the faith that you have in God, knowing that whatever is the outcome of the prayer, it is best for you. You might even call it the rest of the believer. Resting in the confidence that all is well with my soul. Let me never be put to confusion, I believe is saying, just as I trust the LORD, let it be. To be put to confusion would be for the answer to the prayer to be one that would cause you not to trust.

Psalms 71:2 "Deliver me in thy righteousness, and cause me to escape: incline thine ear unto me, and save me."

When I look at this Scripture, I think of God having Michael keep the body of Moses from the devil. Jude 1:9 "Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee." Just as God, through Moses, delivered the children of Israel out of physical Egypt, I believe God will deliver us out of symbolic Egypt {the world}. The deliverance is a deliverance in the spirit. This is just saying, hear my prayer of repentance and save me by covering me with your righteousness.

Psalms 71:3 "Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort: thou hast given commandment to save me; for thou [art] my rock and my fortress."

Habitation, here, would be dwelling place. We can always hide in Jesus, if we are a believer. He builds a hedge around us and protects us from the evil one. You are my rock that I build upon, and you are my strong fortress, as well.

Psalms 71:4 "Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked, out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man."

These wicked are our enemies, because they are God's enemies. Unrighteous men are cruel, because they do not have a conscience. We see the reason for the wicked being cruel to the righteous in the next verse. John 15:18 "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before [it hated]

you." God's enemies are the enemies of the believer. We are not to take vengeance on them. God takes vengeance on them for us.

Psalms 71:5 "For thou [art] my hope, O Lord GOD: [thou art] my trust from my youth."

David is saying, here, that he decided when he was just a youth to follow God. We know it is true, because David was just a lad when he fought Goliath. He is saying, I placed my life in your hands a long time ago. Everything that has happened to me since has been for my good. I trust you Lord.

Psalms 71:6 "By thee have I been holden up from the womb: thou art he that took me out of my mother's bowels: my praise [shall be] continually of thee."

There is a strange thing about those who God has called to do a special job for Him in this life. God, through His foreknowledge, knows what decisions you will make in this life. He does not overrule your will in the matter, but sees into the future and knows the decision you will make. It seems that people, who have been called into God's service, are protected from the moment they are born. It is an argument for predestination, but we will not get into that. We do know that Samuel, when David was very young, anointed David. I Samuel 16:13 " Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah." He is a chosen vessel of God. David will never cease to praise God.

Psalms 71:7 "I am as a wonder unto many; but thou [art] my strong refuge."

People who are a chosen vessel of God are not like the rest of the world. They are a peculiarity to those around them. Other people think, and some even say, why did God choose him and not me? I do not know. I do know that God is my refuge and strength, as He was David's.

Psalms 71:8 "Let my mouth be filled [with] thy praise [and with] thy honour all the day."

The gratitude of all, who are of the family of God, should be like David, continually praising God.

Psalms 71:9 "Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth."

This is a strange statement, since Moses was 80 years old when God called him to serve. Perhaps, David said this because he was so young when God first called him. To those who love the Lord, He gets sweeter and sweeter as the days go by.

Psalms 71:10 "For mine enemies speak against me; and they that lay wait for my soul take counsel together,"

David's enemies feared David in his youth, but they think when he gets older, he will be weaker and not able to fight back. They would like to destroy David, but God will not let them.

Psalms 71:11 "Saying, God hath forsaken him: persecute and take him; for [there is] none to deliver [him]."

Just as Job's friends and Job's wife tried to convince Job that God was done with him and would not help him, these enemies think God will not help David. How wrong they are.

Psalms 71:12 "O God, be not far from me: O my God, make haste for my help."

Sometimes we need the comfort of feeling the Father's hand. He is saying here, Let me know that you are here to help me.

Psalms 71:13 "Let them be confounded [and] consumed that are adversaries to my soul; let them be covered [with] reproach and dishonour that seek my hurt."

These enemies of God are the enemies of David, also. David says, Lord, get them so confused that they will not know what they are doing. He is saying, they are trying to destroy my soul. Show them up, Lord, for what they really are.

Psalms 71:14 "But I will hope continually, and will yet praise thee more and more."

Even when it looks bad and looks like no help is coming, the believer will still praise the Lord. We do not praise just in the good times, but all the time, whatever is happening. David has hope.

Psalms 71:15 "My mouth shall shew forth thy righteousness [and] thy salvation all the day; for I know not the numbers [thereof]."

David says, here, I do not know how long I will live, but while I am alive, I will continually have praise in my mouth for God. David will not stop witnessing and telling others of the salvation God offers to all.

Psalms 71:16 "I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD: I will make mention of thy righteousness, [even] of thine only."

David is aware that his physical strength is gone, because he is older, but that will not stop him from speaking about God to all he comes into contact with.

Psalms 71:17 "O God, thou hast taught me from my youth: and hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works."

David is not forgetting that in his youth he came against Goliath in the name of the Lord and killed him. David did not let his youth, or his inexperience stop him from doing battle for God.

Psalms 71:18 "Now also when I am old and greyheaded, O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed thy strength unto [this] generation, [and] thy power to every one [that] is to come."

David is saying that he is older and wiser in his old age, but his strength of youth is gone. He is saying I was young and now I am old, but I know you will be with me and I shall win. David is saying, I am not fighting them in my strength, but in Your strength. Let's show this young generation just how powerful God is.

Psalms 71:19 "Thy righteousness also, O God, [is] very high, who hast done great things: O God, who [is] like unto thee!"

The power and character of God is so far above anything that we know, that it is impossible to imagine. The goodness of God is above all. There is no one on the earth, or in heaven, or anywhere else, that is a match for God. Pharaoh found that out in Egypt.

Psalms 71:20 "[Thou], which hast shewed me great and sore troubles, shalt quicken me again, and shalt bring me up again from the depths of the earth."

Just for this one battle, David wants God to quicken his spirit and body as he did Abraham, so that he can win this battle.

Psalms 71:21 "Thou shalt increase my greatness, and comfort me on every side."

This is not asking God to do it, but is spoken in holy confidence knowing that God will do this.

Psalms 71:22 "I will also praise thee with the psaltery, [even] thy truth, O my God: unto thee will I sing with the harp, O thou Holy One of Israel."

Psalms 71:23 "My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing unto thee; and my soul, which thou hast redeemed."

Psalms 71:24 "My tongue also shall talk of thy righteousness all the day long: for they are confounded, for they are brought unto shame, that seek my hurt."

David had sung and played the harp just for God while he was herding sheep. He is saying, here that he will do this again when this is over. He will sing aloud with his lips and tongue the beautiful thoughts originating in his heart. Those who sought to kill him are defeated through the power of David's God. We must learn this well.

Psalms 70 Questions

1. Why was David's prayer so urgent in verse 1 of chapter 70 of Psalms?
2. David wanted God to make his enemies _____ for what they were doing.
3. The expression _____ is used by the devil's followers in verse 3.
4. Who is David saying is to be magnified?
5. Those that seek God, _____.
6. What 2 things did David say he was in verse 5?
7. Quote Matthew chapter 9 verse 12.
8. What seems to be the purpose of chapter 70?
9. David's trust is where?
10. What is trust?
11. What would {put to confusion} be?
12. When the author looks at verse 2 of chapter 71 of the lesson, what does it remind her of?
13. God, through _____, brought the children of Israel out of physical Egypt.
14. What is symbolic Egypt?
15. What two things does he call God in verse 3?
16. What does habitation mean here?
17. Why are unrighteous men cruel?
18. Quote John chapter 15 verse 18.
19. When David was just a youth, he fought whom?
20. How long had God been taking care of David?
21. Who anointed David?
22. What happened to David when he was anointed?
23. What did it mean that he was a wonder to many?
24. Cast me not off in the time of _____.
25. How old was Moses when God called him to serve?
26. If they feared David before, why do they think they can defeat him now?
27. Even when it looks ____, David will praise God.
28. God has taught David from his _____.
29. What description did David give of himself to prove he was old?
30. David wants God to quicken _____.
31. How will David praise God?
32. Who did David play and sing for?

We will begin this lesson by giving chapter 72 of Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 72

- Verse 1 "O God, thy judgments give the king, His royal Son thy righteousness: thy people he shall justly judge, thy poor With uprightness.
- Verse 2 "The mountains great shall peace secure, And little hills by means of right; He'll save the needy, judge the poor, and crush the proud oppressor's might."
- Verse 3 "Till sun and moon no more are known, They shall thee fear through ages all; He'll come like rain on meadows mown, And showers upon the earth that fall."
- Verse 4 "The just shall flourish in his day, While lasts the moon shall peace extend; From sea to sea shall be his sway, And from the river to earth's end."
- Verse 5 "To him shall bow who dwell in wilds, Down to the dust his foes shall bend; The Kings of Tarshish. and isles, Sheba and Seba, gifts shall send."
- Verse 6 "All kings before him down shall fall; All nations shall his laws obey; He'll save the needy when they call, The poor, and those that have no stay."
- Verse 7 "The poor and needy spared shall be, The needy's soul saved by his might, From fraud and violence set free; Dear shall their blood be in his sight."
- Verse 8 "He'll live; before him shall be laid of Sheba's gold an offering; For him shall constant prayer be made, His praise they shall daily sing."
- Verse 9 "On hill-tops sown a little corn Like Lebanon with fruit shall bend; New life the city shall adorn; She shall like grass grow and extend."
- Verse 10 "Long as the sun his name shall last, It shall endure through ages all; And men shall still in him be blest, Blest all the nations shall him call."
- Verse 11 "Now blessed be the mighty One, Jehovah, God of Israel, For he alone hath wonders done, And deeds in glory that excel."
- Verse 12 "And blessed be his glorious name, Long as the ages shall endure. O'er all the earth extend his fame. Amen, amen, forevermore.

We will now begin the verse by verse study of chapter 72 of Psalms. Psalms 72:1 "{ [A Psalm] for Solomon.} Give the king thy judgments, O God, and thy righteousness unto the king's son."

Some noted scholars believe that this Psalm was written by Solomon. They also believe that the prayer was uttered by David. Either way the thoughts are the thoughts of David, perhaps conveyed successfully to his son. Solomon succeeded his father David as king. At one time, just before David's death they were for all good purposes both king. David was king in name only and Solomon was acting king. In this we will see the physical son of David in Solomon, and the Son of David spiritually who is the Lord Jesus Christ. This helps us to understand fully the statement above {king's son}.

From the spiritual standpoint we can see in this verse, the fact that Jesus was acting King and yet his Father was King also. It did not diminish the power and rule of Jesus for the Father to have dominion. Look with me at the following Scriptures, which I believe explains how this is a little better than I can. John 10:30 "I and [my] Father are one." John 17:11 "And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we [are]." I Corinthians 8:6 "But to us [there is but] one God, the Father, of whom [are] all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom [are] all things, and we by him." I John 5:7 "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." David and Solomon were one in the fact that they were in agreement. This prayer was David asking God for the relationship he had with Him to be continued on in his son. Give your righteousness to my son O Lord.

Psalms 72:2 "He shall judge thy people with righteousness, and thy poor with judgment."

David felt that of all his sons, Solomon would do the best job. He felt that Solomon had been taught well by himself and Solomon's mother. We do know that Solomon's desire was to do a good job for God ruling the people. Look with me at some Scriptures that verify this. II Chronicles 1:9 "Now, O LORD God, let thy promise unto David my father be established: for thou hast made me king over a people like the dust of the earth in multitude." II Chronicles 1:10 "Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this thy people, [that is so] great?" II Chronicles 1:11 "And God said to Solomon, Because this was in thine heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honour, nor the life of thine enemies, neither yet hast asked long life; but hast asked wisdom and knowledge for thyself, that thou mayest judge my people, over whom I have made thee king:" II Chronicles 1:12 "Wisdom and knowledge [is] granted unto thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honour, such as none of the kings have had that [have been] before thee, neither shall there any after thee have the like." We know that Solomon started his reign with the blessings of God upon him. His wisdom was a gift from God.

Psalms 72:3 "The mountains shall bring peace to the people, and the little hills, by righteousness."

Solomon was a man of peace. No band of armies would come swarming over the hills and destroy anymore. There were outposts to secure the land, but the main reason there was no war was the king {Solomon} was a man of peace. Rulers from all of the known world greatly admired the wisdom of Solomon.

Psalms 72:4 "He shall judge the poor of the people, he shall save the children of the needy, and shall break in pieces the oppressor."

Solomon was thoughtful of the needy, especially the widows and orphans who could not help themselves. David had been a warrior king, but Solomon would not allow the oppressors to get started. This reminds us that the rule of the Lord Jesus Christ, will be a rule of iron, but He will bring perfect peace, because He is King of Peace. There will be no permanent peace, until the King of peace sets up His reign on the earth.

Psalms 72:5 "They shall fear thee as long as the sun and moon endure, throughout all generations."

Jesus' reign of peace upon the earth and in heaven is spoken of here. It is not Solomon intended here, but the Lord Jesus Christ. I Chronicles 16:25 "For great [is] the LORD, and greatly to be praised: he also [is] to be feared above all gods."

Psalms 72:6 "He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass: as showers [that] water the earth."

This again is speaking of the peaceful land when Jesus comes down and rules on the earth.

Psalms 72:7 "In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth."

Psalms 72:8 "He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth."

When Solomon reigned, there were many of these things that happened in the physical realm, but this is really speaking prophetically of the reign of the Lord Jesus. Jesus, as King of kings and Lord of lords. Jesus Christ is the only one who will ever rule the whole earth.

Psalms 72:9 "They that dwell in the wilderness shall bow before him; and his enemies shall lick the dust."

The dust of the earth was for the serpents seed. We know that these wilderness dwellers had been furious fighters. When the King of Peace arrives on the scene, there will be total submission to Him by everyone, even the dwellers in the desert. This King is the Lord Jesus.

Psalms 72:10 "The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts."

The mingling here again with what Solomon's reign was and what the reign of the everlasting David who is Christ our Lord is evident. Perhaps David was looking prophetically to the time when his descendent Lord Jesus as King would reign, and all the world would worship and adore Him. We do know that the queen of Sheba brought gifts to Solomon, but this was not true of all the world. The isles bringing presents have to do with Jesus. Remember, Solomon is a type of Christ, in that his reign was a reign of peace.

Psalms 72:11 "Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him."

This is most assuredly speaking of the reign of the Lord Jesus Christ. The key word is {all}. Revelation 11:15 "And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become [the kingdoms] of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever." Revelation 2:27 "And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father." The reign of the Lord Jesus Christ as King of kings and Lord of lords shall be absolute. All people and all nations shall fall down before Him and worship Him. Philippians 2:10 "That at the name of Jesus

every knee should bow, of [things] in heaven, and [things] in earth, and [things] under the earth;" Philippians 2:11 "And [that] every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ [is] Lord, to the glory of God the Father." These Scriptures leave absolutely no doubt who this is speaking of.

Psalms 72:12 "For he shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and [him] that hath no helper."

Psalms 72:13 "He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy."

We got into, in a previous lesson, how we must need and want God before He will save us. He will not force Himself upon us. The poor and the needy are more aware of their need for a Saviour. Look in Jesus' own words what He came to the earth for. Luke 4:18 "The Spirit of the Lord [is] upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,"

Psalms 72:14 "He shall redeem their soul from deceit and violence: and precious shall their blood be in his sight."

The poor have always been the victim of deceit, and violence. This is just saying that the Lord will be their champion and will free them from all of this. For some strange reason, the poor receive the Lord more readily than the wealthy highly educated. The common working people were the people who followed the Lord.

Psalms 72:15 "And he shall live, and to him shall be given of the gold of Sheba: prayer also shall be made for him continually; [and] daily shall he be praised."

Jesus, does live forevermore. He is Alpha and Omega the Beginning and the End. He is the Everlasting One. The Gold in all the world belongs to Jesus. Just as He commanded the coin to be in the fish's mouth to pay His taxes in the book of Matthew. We should pray continually. All prayer should be to the Father in the name of Jesus. Jesus told us in the following verse to pray in His name. John 14:14 "If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do [it]." We should never stop praising Jesus, for He has done marvellous things for us.

Psalms 72:16 "There shall be an handful of corn in the earth upon the top of the mountains; the fruit thereof shall shake like Lebanon: and [they] of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth."

Perhaps this is saying, that from the few disciples that Jesus taught when He was with them here, the Christians as we know them today have grown. He spoke of the Word of God as being a seed planted. Some of the seed fell on good ground and produced as many as 100 from 1 seed. The city here is possibly speaking of the church. We do know that there are literally millions of believers today, perhaps even more.

Psalms 72:17 "His name shall endure for ever: his name shall be continued as long as the sun: and [men] shall be blessed in him: all nations shall call him blessed."

This is definitely the Lord Jesus. His name has power to heal, the power to save, the power to deliver, and the power to resurrect us to everlasting life. He really is our all in all. As we have said so many times, His name is above all other names. There will be a time when all will know and praise His name. Hebrews 8:11 "And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest."

Psalms 72:18 "Blessed [be] the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things."

The miracles that Jesus did and is doing are so numerous, if they were written down there would not be enough books in all the world to contain them. This is just a statement of praise and worship of the One too magnificent to be able to describe. We call Him by 98 names or more in the Scriptures, such as Creator, Mighty God, everlasting Father, and on and on.

Psalms 72:19 "And blessed [be] his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled [with] his glory; Amen, and Amen."

This in a sense is saying, Come quickly Lord Jesus. Amen means, so be it. the most I can add to this is Amen.

Psalms 72:20 "The prayers of David the son of Jesse are ended."

We know this is the prayer and prophecy in prayer, of David. It could possibly have been written down by his son Solomon.

Psalms 71 Questions

1. What do some of the noted scholars believe about this Psalm?
2. At one time what two people were actually king together over these Hebrews?
3. Who is this Psalm about in the physical sense?
4. Who is it about in the spiritual sense?
5. Quote John chapter 10 verse 30.
6. Who does Jesus ask the Father to keep in verse 11 of John chapter 17?
7. Quote 1 John chapter 5 verse 7.
8. How were David and Solomon one?
9. Who was David's choice of sons to follow as king?
10. What did Solomon ask God to give Him?
11. Because Solomon did not ask for wealth, what did God give him?
12. Wisdom is a _____ from _____.
13. What is verse 3 of this lesson speaking of?
14. What was the difference in the reign of David and his son Solomon's reign?
15. What will the reign of the Lord Jesus be like?
16. Quote 1 Chronicles chapter 16 verse 25.
17. Where will the dominion of the Lord reach to?
18. Who is the only one who will ever rule over the whole earth?
19. Solomon was a type of Christ in that his reign was a reign of _____.
20. What is the key word in verse 11?
21. Quote Philippians chapter 2 verse 10.
22. Quote Luke chapter 4 verse 18.
23. What are some of the names of Jesus that show His eternity?
24. What does John chapter 14 verse 14 tell us about prayer?
25. What is verse 16 tell us about the growth of the church?
26. What are some of the things the name of Jesus has the power to do?
27. How many miracles has Jesus done?
28. What are some of the names for Jesus in the Bible?
29. Quote Psalms chapter 72 verse 20.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 73rd chapter of Psalms in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 73

- Verse 1 "Yet God is good to Israel, To each pure-hearted one. With me, my steps had nearly slipped, My feet were almost gone."
- Verse 2 "For I was envious, and grudged The foolish ones to see, When I perceived that wicked men Enjoyed prosperity."
- Verse 3 "Because their strength continues firm, Their death from bands is free, They are not toiled like other men, Nor plagued as others be."
- Verse 4 "Their pride doth therefore like a chain Encompass them about; And, as a garment, violence Doth cover them throughout."
- Verse 5 "Their eyes stand out with fat, they have more than their hearts could wish They are corrupt; their talk of wrong Both lewd and lofty is."
- Verse 6 "They set their mouth against the heavens In their blaspheming talk; And their reproaching tongue at large Throughout the earth doth walk."
- Verse 7 "His people, therefore, oftentimes Look back, and turn about; And in abundance unto them The waters are wrung out."
- Verse 8 "And thus they say, How can it be That God these things doth know? Or, Can there in the Highest be Knowledge of things below?"
- Verse 9 "Behold, how these the wicked ones Do prosper at their will In worldly things; how they increase In wealth and riches still!"
- Verse 10 "I verily have sought in vain My heart to purify; And vainly also washed my hands In innocence have I."
- Verse 11 "For daily, and all day throughout, Great plagues I suffered have; Yea, every morning I anew did chastisement receive."
- Verse 12 "If in this manner foolishly To speak I would intend, Thy children's generation then behold I should offend."
- Verse 13 "When I this thought to know, it was Too hard a thing for me; Till to God's holy place I went, Then I their end did see."
- Verse 14 "Them set upon a slippery place Assuredly thou hast; And suddenly didst thou, O Lord, Them to destruction cast."
- Verse 15 "How in a moment suddenly To ruin brought are they! With fearful terrors utterly They are consumed away."
- Verse 16 "Even like an empty dream when one From sleeping doth arise, So thou, when thou awakest, Lord, Their image shalt despise."
- Verse 17 "Thus grieved within me was my heart, And me my reins opprest; So rude was I, and ignorant, And in thy sight a beast."
- Verse 18 "Yet notwithstanding this, O Lord, I ever am with thee; Thou hast me held by my right hand; And still upholdest me."
- Verse 19 "With thy good counsel while I live Thou wilt me safely guide; And into glory afterward Receive me to abide."
- Verse 20 "O whom have I in heavens high, But thee, O Lord, alone? And

in the earth whom I desire Besides thee there is none."
Verse 21 "My flesh and heart do faint and fail, But God my heart sustains; The strength and portion of my heart He evermore remains."
Verse 22 "For lo, they that are far from thee Forever perish shall; And as for those who from thee stray, Thou hast destroyed them all."
Verse 23 "But surely it is good for me That I draw near to God: In God I trust, that all thy works I may declare abroad."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 73rd chapter of Psalms. Psalms 73:1 "{A Psalm of Asaph.} Truly God [is] good to Israel, [even] to such as are of a clean heart."

When we get into this Psalm, the first thing we must note is that it is attributed to Asaph. Many noted scholars believe it to be written by David to Asaph, for him to sing. As we have concluded in many of the other studies; it is not that important to know who the penman is, just receive the message in it. You would get no argument from anyone on the fact that God has been overly good to the physical house of Israel. We have studied, in our study on Exodus, how God forgave them over and over for their sins against Him. As we have said before, God is more interested in the condition of your heart, than He is in your actions. We are what our heart is.

Psalms 73:2 "But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped."

We see, in this, a confession of guilt. He had gotten so weak in the faith, that he had almost fallen. This usually comes just before victory. When you fight the good fight and get to the end of your ability to do any more, God takes over and you win.

Psalms 73:3 "For I was envious at the foolish, [when] I saw the prosperity of the wicked."

This is a problem, that I greatly fear will come upon the prosperity teachers of our day. If we teach that all is peaches and cream after you receive the Lord, and that you will not be sick, or have problems; then you look at the evil people around you, and they are not having problems, it gets you confused. We might say, wait a minute, did you not teach that these were blessings for those who know and love God? Sometimes the wicked prosper greatly and are in great health on this world. You can easily see how that would confuse the new believer. Another problem believers have is, when they get sick, they begin to believe their soul is lost. My Bible says, in this life, you will have tribulation. It also says, tribulation comes to make you strong. We read in II Timothy 2:12 "If we suffer, we shall also reign with [him]: if we deny [him], he also will deny us:" Let me give one more Scripture along this line. Romans 8:17 " And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and jointheirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with [him], that we may be also glorified together." We must not covet, or be desirous of things the wicked have.

Psalms 73:4 "For [there are] no bands in their death: but their strength [is] firm."

Truly there is no rejoicing in their death, because they do not inherit eternal life.

Psalms 73:5 "They [are] not in trouble [as other] men; neither are they plagued like [other] men."

Psalms 73:6 "Therefore pride compasseth them about as a chain; violence covereth them [as] a garment."

They have a false sense of security, because they are not having troubles. Statistics show that people come to the Lord when they are in trouble. They may be dressed in fine clothes, and live in a big house, and drive a big shiny new car, but that does not mean that they are in right standing with God. In fact, it might mean the opposite. Christians, we are supposed to be a separated people. We are not to be like the world.

Psalms 73:7 "Their eyes stand out with fatness: they have more than heart could wish."

Psalms 73:8 "They are corrupt, and speak wickedly [concerning] oppression: they speak loftily."

Drug dealers in our day fit this description perfectly. The eyes described, above, are speaking of eyes like a hog. The terrible thing many times is that having too much causes boredom and sometimes even grows into depression. They think they can buy their way out of anything, they have no respect for authority and even less for the oppressed people around them.

Psalms 73:9 "They set their mouth against the heavens, and their tongue walketh through the earth."

This is even worse than the verses above. They were attacking men, now they are speaking out against God. They are full of blasphemies, and they spread this all over the places they go. These are people who are sold out to the devil. There is life and death in the power of the tongue. These evil people are speaking their own death into existence. This is a correct observation of the Psalmist.

Psalms 73:10 "Therefore his people return hither: and waters of a full [cup] are wrung out to them."

We see that the believer comes to God with his needs. They look around them and see the worldly people prospering, and they are having to take the leavings. Christian, do not despair. All of the wonders in heaven are yours. There are blessings on this earth for us, but wonderful surroundings and blessings too numerous to imagine wait the faithful. Mark 13:13 "And ye shall be hated of all [men] for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." Notice the water was rung out. Even though the cup was full, it came to them through great tribulation. Don't get me wrong, there are blessings God gives to His children, here and now, but we should not expect them and base our relationship with Him on how blessed we are. Ephesians 3:20 "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,"

Psalms 73:11 "And they say, How doth God know? and is there knowledge in the most High?"

The answer to this is yes. Have you ever heard people say, that only the simple minded worship God? They do not know who God is or what He knows. They do not even believe in God. This is speaking of atheists who do not believe in God's existence. They believe in evolution and the ultimate becoming theory of human existence.

Psalms 73:12 "Behold, these [are] the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase [in] riches."

As far as God is concerned, there are two kind of people in the world. There are those who believe in God, and those who do not believe in God. There is no in between. These evil people prosper in the world, because they will do anything to anyone to make a dollar. They do not care whether it is damaging to someone else, or not. They have no conscience. A Christian should never make a deal with this type person. The one who does not believe in God would not hesitate to lie, so that he could get the best end of a deal. You can not trust them. Their riches are dirty. Ill-gotten gain will burn up, when Jesus judges them.

Psalms 73:13 "Verily I have cleansed my heart [in] vain, and washed my hands in innocency."

This has jumped back to the believer speaking here. This is saying, if all the blessings go to the sinner, why have I come to God? Asaph is putting blessings on trial, as if the blessings are why he came to God. All I can say is, this is a dangerous attitude. God does not want us to become a believer because of the blessings we might receive in this earth. That is conditional salvation. God wants our heart to be stayed on Him, even if we face persecution for it. If you look at the disciples of Jesus, you will find that they were persecuted for their belief. Some of them like Stephen were martyred for the sake of the gospel. When we come to God, we better not have any ifs attached to it at all.

Psalms 73:14 "For all the day long have I been plagued, and chastened every morning."

It seems his troubles began early in the morning and lasted all day. He should have read about Job in the Bible and taken advice from what Job did.

Psalms 73:15 "If I say, I will speak thus; behold, I should offend [against] the generation of thy children."

We could see from this that, he should have kept this to himself. It was bad enough to think it, but to speak it aloud was a sin. If he kept it to himself, no one but God and he would have known about it. This would be a dangerous thing to talk to other believers about. This would anger God.

Psalms 73:16 "When I thought to know this, it [was] too painful for me;"

It had actually gotten to be painful for him to see this.

Psalms 73:17 "Until I went into the sanctuary of God; [then] understood I their end."

When he turned his back to the world and studied the teachings of God, he realized the temporary situation with these worldly people. They better get all the blessings of this world they could in this life, because they would not be in heaven, or have any blessings in the hereafter. The presence of God in the temple was so wonderful that all the things of this world faded in the background.

Psalms 73:18 "Surely thou didst set them in slippery places: thou castedst them down into destruction."

Psalms 73:19 "How are they [brought] into desolation, as in a moment! they are utterly consumed with terrors."

Suddenly he has jumped over to the terrible fate that awaits the evil ones who have rejected Jesus. The truth is that death is terrifying to these people. Revelation 20:15 "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

Psalms 73:20 "As a dream when [one] awaketh; [so], O Lord, when thou awakest, thou shalt despise their image."

This is saying that these evil people may seem to have it pretty good here on the earth, but there is coming a day of judgment. II Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." God knew all the time of their evil doings. He was just trying to give them time to repent.

Psalms 73:21 "Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins."

It seems that when Asaph had time to really think over what God was doing, he was so sad in his heart, that he had questioned God. Asaph repented of the things he had said and even the thoughts he had in his heart.

Psalms 73:22 "So foolish [was] I, and ignorant: I was [as] a beast before thee."

This is the voice and words of a repentant soul. He was feeling little, and no more than an animal in understanding, when he took time to consider.

Psalms 73:23 "Nevertheless I [am] continually with thee: thou hast holden [me] by my right hand."

We see a man hanging on to his faith and apologizing for his actions. He is saying, thank you Lord that you did not give up on me, but led me through this shadow of despair that I was in.

Psalms 73:24 "Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me [to] glory."

He is now confident that God has forgiven him. He speaks the truth. Guiding with God's counsel is studying God's Word. He says, In your Word I am assured that you will receive me as one of yours in glory.

Psalms 73:25 "Whom have I in heaven [but thee]? and [there is] none upon earth [that] I desire beside thee."

Suddenly the world and all it has to offer is not important to him anymore. He now realizes that wealth and things are not the true treasure. God is the treasure. In heaven and on the earth, the only true worth is salvation through our Lord and Saviour.

Psalms 73:26 "My flesh and my heart faileth: [but] God [is] the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever."

This flesh has no value, it is dust and to dust it shall return. I Corinthians 15:45 "And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam [was made] a quickening spirit." He is saying, I no longer want to be flesh man, I want to be born of the spirit of God. John 3:6 "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." We see from this that, the birth that really counts is our new birth in the Lord Jesus Christ. Galatians 2:20 "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

Psalms 73:27 "For, lo, they that are far from thee shall perish: thou hast destroyed all them that go a whoring from thee."

We said it before, those wicked, who do not have their name written in the Lamb's book of life, will be doomed to the lake of fire. The sad thing about the sentence above is that, some who had been married to God, go a whoring and they go the way of those who never accepted Jesus as their Saviour.

Psalms 73:28 "But [it is] good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all thy works."

Notice, God did not draw near to him, he drew near to God. God had never moved away from him. He has decided to put his trust in God. He will now rest in God and stop worrying about what others have. Asaph has decided to work for God, and to let his work show to the world whose side he is on.

In summary: Christians, stop comparing your walk with God with other's walk with God. God is God of individuals. He personalizes our salvation walk to fit us.

Psalms 72 Questions

1. Who is this Psalm attributed to?
2. Who has God been overly good to?
3. God is more interested in the condition of your _____ than in your actions.
4. What is verse two really?
5. When you get to the end of your ability, what happens?
6. Who was Asaph envious of?
7. What is dangerous about teaching prosperity?
8. In this life, we will have _____.
9. Quote 2 Timothy chapter 2 verse 12.
10. Who are we joint heirs with, if we suffer with Him?
11. Why is there no rejoicing when the evil die?
12. What do the evil have a false sense of?
13. Does having a new car and a new house mean that you are saved?
14. What does the fatness of the eyes, in verse 7, mean?
15. What is meant by their tongue walketh through the earth?
16. Quote Mark chapter 13 verse 13.
17. What does it mean about the water being wrung out of the full cup?
18. Quote Ephesians chapter 3 verse 20.
19. In verse 11, what type of people would make this statement?
20. In God's opinion there are 2 types of people, who are they?
21. What is Asaph doing in verse 13?
22. Did the disciples live prosperously on this earth?
23. What was so bad about Asaph's complaining?
24. When did Asaph change his mind about all of this?
25. What caused the things of this world to fade away from Asaph?
26. What is the fate of the evil people who do not repent?
27. Why had God not already punished these evil people?
28. What happened when Asaph realized what he had done and said?
29. What is guiding with God's counsel?
30. Quote 1 Corinthians chapter 15 verse 45.
31. Quote Galatians chapter 2 verse 20.
32. What is the sad thing about the last part of verse 27?
33. How could you summarize this lesson?

We will begin by giving the 74th Psalm in metre. You can easily see how you could sing this.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 74

- Verse 1 "O God, why hast thou cast us off? Why doth forever smoke Thy wrath against thy chosen race, Sheep of thy flock?"
- Verse 2 "Thy church by thee redeemed of old In love remember still, The rod of thy inheritance, This Zion hill."
- Verse 3 "Here thou hast dwelt; lift up thy feet, To these and ruins haste, Thy holy place, with wicked hands by foes laid waste."
- Verse 4 "Thy enemies in triumph shout Where saints were wont to pray: Their ensigns on thy temple's walls For sighs display."
- Verse 5 "Once men were famed for felling trees, But now the carved work falls; With axes and with hammers now they break the walls."
- Verse 6 "They have thy temple set on fire, In dust they have defiled Thy holy place where dwelt thy name, Thy house despoiled."
- Verse 7 "They, to destroy us all at once Did in their hearts conspire; Through all the land God's synagogues They've burnt with fire."
- Verse 8 "Our signs we see not; there is now No prophet us among, Nor is there any one who knows The time how long."
- Verse 9 "O Lord, how long shall those Blaspheme Thy name who thee withstand? Why hide thyself? make bare thy hand, Ev'n thy right hand."
- Verse 10 "Because God is my King of old; Salvation worketh he, Through all the earth, and by his strength Divides the sea."
- Verse 11 "Thou broken hast the dragons' heads, And as their meat didst give Leviathan to those who did In deserts live."
- Verse 12 "Fountain and flood thou didst divide, Made mighty rivers dry; The day is thine, the night is thine, The sun and sky."
- Verse 13 "Thou hast established by decree All borders of the earth; To summer and to winter thou Hast given birth. "
- Verse 14 "O Lord do thou this keep in mind, How enemies defame, And how the foolish people have Blasphemed thy name."
- Verse 15 "Thy turtle-dove deliver not To crowds which is beset, And thy poor flock forevermore Do not forget. "
- Verse 16 "Unto thy cov'nant have respect, For every where we see The earth's dark habitations filled With cruelty."
- Verse 17 "O let not those that are oppressed Return again with shame; But let the poor and needy ones Still praise thy name."
- Verse 18 "Arise. O God. plead thy own cause, Keep thou in memory How every day the foolish man Reproacheth thee."
- Verse 19 "Of them that up against thee rise The tumult ever grows; Forget not thou the voice of them That are thy foes."

We will begin the verse by verse study of the 74th chapter of Psalm. Psalms 74:1 "{Maschil of Asaph.} O God, why hast thou cast [us] off for ever? [why] doth thine anger smoke against the sheep of thy pasture?"

So many times, it appears that God has cast off the church and that He is not going to help. The sheep of thy pasture are the believers in Christ. The church seems to be going through one of those difficult times now. The faithful never give up, even when they are going through terrible problems. Their faith remains strong.

Psalms 74:2 "Remember thy congregation, [which] thou hast purchased of old; the rod of thine inheritance, [which] thou hast redeemed; this mount Zion, wherein thou hast dwelt."

The church {Zion} belongs to you, God. Jesus shed His precious blood to purchase the souls of the people. This is His inheritance. What is happening? God, please do not forget us. The plan from the foundation of the earth was that Jesus would come to this earth as Saviour and redeem His creation. Asaph is asking God, has He forgotten this?

Psalms 74:3 "Lift up thy feet unto the perpetual desolations; [even] all [that] the enemy hath done wickedly in the sanctuary."

The evil ones are not out in the world in this lesson. They are in the church. They are there to destroy the very structure of the church.

Psalms 74:4 "Thine enemies roar in the midst of thy congregations; they set up their ensigns [for] signs."

We know that the devil, like a roaring lion, is going to and fro, seeking whom he may devour. This is saying the devil is on the pew with you at church. Signs of the times are everywhere. One of the signs is the Christian rock music in the church. Has the rock music joined the church, or has the church joined the rock music? Have we brought the world into the church? Have we turned our worship services into a time of entertainment? Would God examine our service and declare it holy? The wolf came in when the sheep were asleep. The signs of the enemy is everywhere.

Psalms 74:5 "[A man] was famous according as he had lifted up axes upon the thick trees."

The sad thing in our society today is that the axe is not used in building. It is used in tearing down. In the name of social progress, buildings are being burned and looted. Are you sure this is progress, when we spend our time tearing down what someone else has constructed?

Psalms 74:6 "But now they break down the carved work thereof at once with axes and hammers."

The beautiful carved work that took hundreds of hours to produce is being torn down and replaced with concrete. Is this progress, or a society with no respect for beauty? Our young people, it seems, are tearing down the old establishment. In the Bible that is rebellion, not progress.

Psalms 74:7 "They have cast fire into thy sanctuary, they have defiled [by casting down] the dwelling place of thy name to the ground."

We know that many of God's sanctuaries were destroyed by armies who conquered the land. There seems to be no end of this type problem. Many churches today have been burned to the ground.

Psalms 74:8 "They said in their hearts, Let us destroy them together: they have burned up all the synagogues of God in the land."

We see that the enemy of the church believes that the thing to do, is destroy their meeting place and thereby destroy their faith. They need to look at the history of the church. Throughout history, the growth of the church has been the greatest in time of persecution. When the Christians were forbidden access to the temple in Jerusalem, they scattered to the adjoining areas and started churches. Many of them met in people's homes. The church grew greatly during this time of persecution.

Psalms 74:9 "We see not our signs: [there is] no more any prophet: neither [is there] among us any that knoweth how long."

It was not long after the crucifixion of Jesus, that the temple in Jerusalem was destroyed. Perhaps, this is speaking prophetically of this, but it could, also, be speaking of now. This could be speaking of the famine of the Word of God that is being experienced now. It is very difficult to get people interested in true Bible study. The 34th chapter of Ezekiel, speaking prophetically of our time, speaks harshly of the shepherds. It speaks of the judgment of God which falls. There has begun, again, to be a move in much of the world for small groups to meet in homes, or even out in open fields. Many church buildings have been sold and used for purposes other than church. We need an awakening to the Word of God today in our land. We must get into God's Word and find out what the will of God is for our lives.

Psalms 74:10 "O God, how long shall the adversary reproach? Shall the enemy blaspheme thy name for ever?"

Just as Asaph asks here, how long will this go on, we must ask, too? The only chance for us is for the Word of God to sweep across our land and fill us with the knowledge of God. Our glass, or cup, is empty. We must let God fill our cup to overflowing with His Word and His Spirit and renew our faith in Him. The enemy can not steal the Word of God that you have stored away in your heart. Please get yourself a King James version of the Bible and study it every day. The reason I believe in this Bible is because, it was the first Bible widely used by the common people. Some of the new versions of the Bible are connected with the new age movement. Be careful reading them.

Psalms 74:11 "Why withdrawest thou thy hand, even thy right hand? pluck [it] out of thy bosom."

The Right Hand of God is Jesus Christ. It may appear that Jesus has folded His arms and stopped helping us. This is not so. Jesus never walks away from any of us, we have walked away from Him. The seemingly inactivity of Jesus is because of our lack of time spent in prayer.

Psalms 74:12 "For God [is] my King of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth."

One of the good things about looking back to their faith of old is, the fact that God came through for them in their need. He did not fail them, and He will not fail us. Salvation is still offered to whosoever will. The falling off is on our part, not His.

Psalms 74:13 "Thou didst divide the sea by thy strength: thou brakest the heads of the dragons in the waters."

Now we see some remembrance of the deliverance by the Right Hand of God. The Red sea parted and delivered the Israelites, while the evil ones of Egypt were destroyed in this same sea. The dragons here are the warriors of Pharaoh.

Psalms 74:14 "Thou brakest the heads of leviathan in pieces, [and] gavest him [to be] meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness."

The birds of the air ate the drowned bodies of the Egyptians killed in the Red sea. I do not believe the people ate the bodies. This must mean that they spoiled the riches of the bodies that washed upon the shore.

Psalms 74:15 "Thou didst cleave the fountain and the flood: thou driedst up mighty rivers."

We know that when they stepped into the water with the ark of the covenant at the river Jordan, it parted like the Red sea. It seemed that the necessary thing to do to get the water to part, was to enter the edge with the ark. Joshua 3:13 "And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests that bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of Jordan, [that] the waters of Jordan shall be cut off [from] the waters that come down from above; and they shall stand upon an heap."

Psalms 74:16 "The day [is] thine, the night also [is] thine: thou hast prepared the light and the sun."

It was God that established an evening and a morning making up a day. Notice, that the Light and the sun are two different things. Study Genesis to fully understand the difference. I will just say here that, the Light of the world is Jesus Christ. He is the source of all Light. The sun is a fixture that we see light in.

Psalms 74:17 "Thou hast set all the borders of the earth: thou hast made summer and winter."

In the act of creation, the Word or the Right Hand, as mentioned here, set all the boundaries. When the moon was created, one of its jobs was for the changing of the seasons.

Psalms 74:18 "Remember this, [that] the enemy hath reproached, O LORD, and [that] the foolish people have blasphemed thy name."

For us to know who the foolish are, we would first have to know who the wise are. The beginning of wisdom is the fear of God. We see, then, that the foolish are those who do not fear God. Just before the return of the Lord, the evil will wax worse and worse. Using God's name in vain has become a daily affair with many. II Timothy 3:13 "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived." The third chapter of second Timothy is about the end time. The chapter begins by saying, II Timothy 3:1 "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come." The description of this time continues in this chapter. Read it all. It is our

time. The blaspheming of the name of God should tell us, if nothing else does.

Psalms 74:19 "O deliver not the soul of thy turtledove unto the multitude [of the wicked]: forget not the congregation of thy poor for ever."

A turtledove is harmless. The church is to be as harmless as a dove. We must remember that the enemy can not do anything to God's people without God's permission. judgment begins at the house of God. Has God allowed this to happen, to wake us up?

Psalms 74:20 "Have respect unto the covenant: for the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty."

I can not believe that Asaph is reminding God of His covenant with Abraham. It is not God that has forgotten the covenant. It is God's people. That covenant had 2 sides to it. There were blessings, if the people obeyed God. There were curses, if they disobeyed God. It seems the whole world is almost dark today. The way to do away with darkness is turn on the Light. Christians, let your Light shine. Do away with the dark places. Matthew 5:16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Psalms 74:21 "O let not the oppressed return ashamed: let the poor and needy praise thy name."

If we need God, cry out to Him. He never turns a deaf ear to His children. Before you call on Him, make sure He will not be ashamed to call you His child.

Psalms 74:22 "Arise, O God, plead thine own cause: remember how the foolish man reproacheth thee daily."

There will come a time when this very thing will happen, but it will be during the wrath of God. How horrible to be left here to live through such a terrible time: Every judgment that comes upon the people of the earth at that time is followed by, and they repented not. God will plead His cause with fire and wormwood for water. This will not be a pleasant time at all. In fact, the Bible says this time of trouble is worse than has ever been known upon this earth. Please awake while there is yet time. Don't wait until God has to plead His own case. Preachers, tell the people now, while there is still time to repent. Blow the warning on the trumpet. Don't sit back, knowing this is about to happen and not warn the people. Pray on the porch of the church. Get them into the kingdom, if you have to go and drag them out of the fire by their feet. Awake! America, judgment is coming.

Psalms 74:23 "Forget not the voice of thine enemies: the tumult of those that rise up against thee increaseth continually."

See the signs. Know that the enemy is a fierce opponent. Be ready to fight the good fight. Prepare for the battle. Learn the Word of God, so that when you open your mouth the two edged sword will come flying out to divide the Word properly. There is tumult everywhere we look. Prepare for war. This is a holy war. Our weapon is the two-edged sword. This is the Word of God. Keep your powder dry. DO NOT WATER DOWN THE WORD OF GOD. Keep your

weapon at your side. Put on the whole armour of God. Wear the knees of your garment out, by praying on your knees. Lay your life on the line for the army of God. We must not let the enemy win.

Psalms 73 Questions

1. What does the Psalmist say, smokes against the sheep of the pasture?
2. Who are the sheep it is speaking of?
3. Who does Zion belong to?
4. What was the plan from the foundation of the earth for the church?
5. Where are the evil ones in this lesson?
6. The devil, like a roaring lion, is going to and fro trying to do what?
7. What are some of the signs in the church that there are problems?
8. What is the axe used for now?
9. What should it be used for?
10. What is being done in the name of social progress?
11. Is this really progress?
12. What is a sign of society with no respect for beauty?
13. What is it really, when young people go against the establishment?
14. How were many of the sanctuaries destroyed?
15. What does the enemy of the church believe is the thing to do?
16. When is the greatest time of growth for the church?
17. What happened when the Christians were forbidden access to the temple in Jerusalem?
18. What chapter in Ezekiel speaks harshly of the shepherds?
19. What can turn this around?
20. The enemy can not steal the Word of God that is stored _____ .
21. Why does the author recommend the King James version of the Bible?
22. Who is the Right Hand of God?
23. Why is Jesus seemingly inactive in our lives?
24. What is good about looking back at the faith of old?
25. What ate the drowned bodies of the Egyptians?
26. What caused the water to part at the Jordan river?
27. Who established the evening and morning making a day?
28. Who is the Light of the world?
29. Who has blasphemed His name?
30. Quote 2 Timothy chapter 3 verse 13.
31. Quote 2 Timothy chapter 3 verse 1.
32. What are the 2 conditions of the covenant?
33. How can we do away with the darkness?
34. When will God plead His own cause?
35. Awake America _____ is coming.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 75th chapter of Psalms in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 75

- Verse 1 "To thee, O God, we render thanks, We render thanks to thee;
Because thy wondrous works declare Thy great name near to be.
- Verse 2 "I purpose when I shall receive The congregation, Lord, That
I will judgment uprightly To every one award."
- Verse 3 "The land has been dissolved throughout, With all that in it
dewll, But yet its pillars I bear up, And them establish well.
- Verse 4 "I to the foolish people said, Do not deal foolishly; And
unto those that wicked are, Lift not your horn on high."
- Verse 5 "Lift not your horn on high, nor speak With stubborn neck;
but know, Promotion not from east, nor west, Nor from the
south doth flow."
- Verse 6 "But God is judge, he puts down one, And sets another up. For
in the hands of God Most High Of red wine is a cup;"
- Verse 7 "Tis full of mixture; he pours forth, And makes the wicked
all Wring out the bitter dregs thereof; Yea, and they drink
them shall."
- Verse 8 "But I forever will exult, I Jacob's God will praise. All
power of sinners will cut off; But just men's power will
raise. "

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 75th Psalm. Psalms 75:1 "{To the chief Musician, Al-taschith, A Psalm [or] Song of Asaph.} Unto thee, O God, do we give thanks, [unto thee] do we give thanks: for [that] thy name is near thy wondrous works declare."

This begins with praise, which is good for us to do, as well. The repeating of the giving thanks could mean, in the morning and in the evening, we give thanks. One of the most beautiful statements in the letters to the churches in Revelation, is because the Light of the world is in each church. As I have said, over and over, God never leaves His people. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. It is so easy when our crisis is over to forget who brought us out of the crisis. When is the proper time to praise Him? All the time.

Psalms 75:2 "When I shall receive the congregation I will judge uprightly."

This, I believe, is saying when the believers stand before the throne of God, He will judge uprightly. We need not expect to be judged harshly, but righteously. The following is a promise Jesus made to all of His congregation. John 14:3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, [there] ye may be also." Notice, in the next few verses, that the Lord blows the trumpet and calls us to that new home in heaven, if we are His children. I Thessalonians 4:14 "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him." I Thessalonians 4:15 "For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive [and] remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep."

I Thessalonians 4:16 "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:" I Thessalonians 4:17 "Then we which are alive [and] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

Psalms 75:3 "The earth and all the inhabitants thereof are dissolved: I bear up the pillars of it. Selah."

All of this, in my opinion, is speaking of that great and terrible day of the Lord. Notice in the verse above, that the Lord took care of His own first, and then the terrible wrath of God descends upon the earth. To dissolve is to do away with. We are told, in another Scripture, that the earth will melt with fervent heat. The Lord is the only thing that is holding up the pillars of the earth today.

Psalms 75:4 "I said unto the fools, Deal not foolishly: and to the wicked, Lift not up the horn:"

A fool is someone who does not regard God. God put a conscience within each of us. We should regard that conscience and deal accordingly. The only real power {horn} is the power that comes from God. The richest, most powerful, man upon the earth will stand before God with empty hands. All of that power and prestige they thought they had, will be left behind here on the earth. When you deal foolishly you are dealing as if there is no tomorrow. Shame on those who would be so foolish.

Psalms 75:5 "Lift not up your horn on high: speak [not with] a stiff neck."

Nebuchadnezzar found out the hard way, when he was bragging that he had built the kingdom by his power and for the honor of his majesty, that he had nothing to do with it. While the words were still in his mouth, there fell a voice from heaven saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee. The same hour was the thing fulfilled. Read this in the 4th chapter of Daniel. To be stiff-necked is to be full of pride. Pride goes before a fall. To be brazen and proud before man is bad enough, but to try to be proud and arrogant with God is the act of a fool. God is saying here, put your horn down, the only power you have is that I gave you.

Psalms 75:6 "For promotion [cometh] neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south." Psalms 75:7 "But God [is] the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another."

There would not even be an east or a west, had not God ordained it. Those who believe that their success comes from themselves, have an awful lot to learn. We have absolutely nothing to do with the nationality we are. We have nothing to do with the family we are born into. We have absolutely nothing to do about the sun coming up in the morning or a flood coming. All of these things are out of our hands. All of these things are controlled by God. It is even God's decision whether you will take your next breath, or not. Haughty mankind, bow before your maker who ordains all things. Even kings are kings, because God had it done. The wise will be thankful. Kingdoms rise and fall because the Lord tells them to. We know by the prophecies in the Bible that God not only knows the future, but actually

sets up whoever he wants to as ruler. God is in total control of his creation.

Psalms 75:8 "For in the hand of the LORD [there is] a cup, and the wine is red; it is full of mixture; and he poureth out of the same: but the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall wring [them] out, [and] drink [them]."

The cup in the hand of the LORD is full of the wrath of God. It is red with blood. God is standing waiting until just the right moment to pour this wrath upon the evil inhabitants of the earth. All of the plagues and woes are mixed up together in the cup. When He begins to pour them out, He will not stop until He has wrung the last drop out. Want to or not, the inhabitants of the earth will have to accept them {drink them}.

Psalms 75:9 "But I will declare for ever; I will sing praises to the God of Jacob."

This has jumped back from God speaking to man speaking. He is determined to praise God as long as he lives.

Psalms 75:10 "All the horns of the wicked also will I cut off; [but] the horns of the righteous shall be exalted."

This is speaking of the power being taken away from the wicked and being given to the righteous. As we have said, over and over, horns denote power. God will cut off the power of the wicked. It is God who elevates the righteous. This is, possibly, speaking of the time when Jesus will set up his kingdom on this earth, and the Christians will rule with Him as His subordinates. When society has arrived at where God intended for it to be, the righteous shall rule with Jesus. Revelation 5:9 "And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;" Revelation 5:10 "And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth."

Psalms 74 Questions

1. What does the repeating of the giving thanks, in verse 1, possibly mean?
2. What is one beautiful thing in the letters to all the churches in Revelation?
3. When is the proper time to praise God?
4. When does the author believe is the time setting for verse 2?
5. Quote John chapter 14 verse 3.
6. Where do we find the Scriptures that tell of the Lord blowing the trumpet and coming to get the Christians?
7. What is meant by the earth dissolving?
8. When does the wrath come to the earth?
9. What is holding up the pillars of the earth today?
10. Who is a fool?
11. What does the horn symbolize?
12. When you deal foolishly, you are dealing as if there is no _____.
13. Who was the foolish ruler that thought it was by His power he had built the kingdom?
14. When did the voice from heaven speak?
15. What did the voice say to Him?
16. To be stiff-necked is to be _____.
17. Where does promotion come from?
18. Name some of the things in our life that we have nothing to do with.
19. The cup in the hand of the Lord is full of the _____.
20. When will He pour it out?
21. Who will He pour it on?
22. What is meant by them drinking it?
23. In verse 10, the power is taken away from the _____ - and given to the _____.
24. Quote Revelation chapter 5 verses 9 and 10.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 76th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 76

- Verse 1 "In Judah God is known; his name In Israel is great; In Salem is his holy place, In Zion is his seat."
- Verse 2 "There arrows of the bow he broke, The shield, the sword, the war. More glorious thou than hills of prey; More excellent art far."
- Verse 3 "The stout of heart themselves were A deadly sleep they; slept, [spoiled, And none of all the men of might Their strength of hands have kept."
- Verse 4 "When thy rebuke, O Jacob's God, Had forth against them passed, Then both the chariot and the horse Were in a dead sleep cast."
- Verse 5 "For thou, yea, thou art to be feared, And who, O Lord, is he That may stand up before thy sight, If once thou angry be?"
- Verse 6 "From heaven judgment was proclaimed, The earth was still with fear, When God to judgment rose, to save All meek on earth that were."
- Verse 7 "Because the very wrath of man Unto thy praise redounds: Thou to the remnant of his wrath Wilt set restraining bounds."
- Verse 8 "Vow to the Lord your God, and pay; All ye that near him be, Bring gifts and presents unto him; To be adored is he."
- Verse 9 "For he the spirits shall cut off Of those that princes are: And to the kings that are on earth He fearful shall appear."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 76th Psalm. Psalms 76:1 "{To the chief Musician on Neginoth, A Psalm [or] Song of Asaph.} In Judah [is] God known: his name [is] great in Israel."

Though the world may not know God, or even believe that He exists, Israel always knows. As we have said before, there is a physical Israel {the people who received the law of God}. There is, also, a spiritual Israel {the people who received the grace of God}. Both are Israel. Looking at this with physical eyes, we do know that even though they were divided at the time this was written, both Judah and Israel believed in God. They both had their ancestry in Abraham. The believers in Christ, also, have their spiritual ancestry in Abraham. Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Whichever way that you want to look at Israel, here, God is known by Israel.

Psalms 76:2 "In Salem also is his tabernacle, and his dwelling place in Zion."

Salem is the same as Jerusalem. The temple of God was built in Jerusalem. Salem means peace. So we know that it is peaceful in Salem. Zion spiritually means the church. We are looking at these lessons from the spiritual standpoint, so we believe that the Spirit of God in His church, His tabernacle at present, is with His believers.

Psalms 76:3 There brake he the arrows of the bow, the shield, and the sword, and the battle. Selah."

Jesus fought the battle with the devil on the cross, and He won the victory for us. This is just saying, that we do not need physical weapons for this war. Isaiah 54:17 "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue [that] shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This [is] the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness [is] of me, saith the LORD." I love each time the Scripture says Selah. It tells us to pause and think on the things we have just read.

Psalms 76:4 "Thou [art] more glorious [and] excellent than the mountains of prey."

To have the Lord in all His glory within us and within the church is so much greater than anything we might bring home from a physical battle. We should want to win their soul, not their goods.

Psalms 76:5 "The stouthearted are spoiled, they have slept their sleep: and none of the men of might have found their hands."

The stouthearted of this world are no match for the God of this whole universe. Possibly, the slept their sleep means that they were killed. They could not even raise their hands up against God's people. This reminds me so much of the battle of Gideon, when the Lord sent nearly all the army of Israel home, and only 300 remained to fight thousands of their enemies. God helped Gideon and his army, and the thousands fled. To get the whole study on this, read the 7th chapter of Judges.

Psalms 76:6 "At thy rebuke, O God of Jacob, both the chariot and horse are cast into a dead sleep."

I am sure it was a frightening thing for the Israelites to hear the rattle of many chariots coming. This Scripture says that God will cause a deep sleep to come on them, and they will not awake to battle. I find it quite interesting that God can cause even horses to sleep when He wants them to. God of Jacob is God of the covenant.

Psalms 76:7 Thou, [even] thou, [art] to be feared: and who may stand in thy sight when once thou art angry?

When Satan comes against us we, just pray and use the name of Jesus to battle him. We have nothing to fear from the old devil, because Jesus gave us the authority to use His name against him. The sad thing is, there is no where to go and nothing you or anyone else can do, when God pours out His wrath. There is no one to stay the hand of God. We should not fear anything in this world, or anyone in this world, or even the devil himself. God is the only one we should fear. Matthew 10:28 "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." The only fear that is permissible is fear of God. That fear is wise to have.

Psalms 76:8 "Thou didst cause judgment to be heard from heaven; the earth feared, and was still,"

judgment has fallen from heaven a few times, and when it does, it is terrible. We know when Moses came down the mountain and found the children of Israel committing sin with the golden calf, God killed literally thousands. We know, also, that God judged Pharaoh and his false gods, and God killed all the first born in Egypt. We know, also, that God judged 2 of Aaron's sons in the tabernacle, and God killed them both. The judgment of God is something that is to be greatly feared. There is nothing to do, but be still when His judgment is being carried out. Psalms 46:10 "Be still, and know that I [am] God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

Psalms 76:9 "When God arose to judgment, to save all the meek of the earth. Selah."

It is time to be still when the God of all the earth arises to judge. We are told that the meek shall inherit the earth. God fights the battle for those who are depending upon Him. This, possibly, is speaking of those who have humbled themselves and received the Lord into their lives. The Lord loves those who have an humble heart, those who have repented and been saved.

Psalms 76:10 "Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain."

Man is no match for God. Evil mankind, or the devil, is no match for God. Romans 12:21 "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." The wrath of man stops abruptly when it comes into contact with the power of God. Pharaoh's magicians could turn their staffs into serpents the same as Moses, staff turned into a serpent, but Moses serpent swallowed up the magicians' serpents.

Psalms 76:11 "Vow, and pay unto the LORD your God: let all that be round about him bring presents unto him that ought to be feared."

The best way in the world to be abundantly blessed of God, is to bring offerings and the things you have vowed to God into His temple. You should never promise to do something for God, unless you fully intend to carry out the work. It is the same with your money, you already owe God one tenth of everything you make, but really that is not enough. Gifts come above that 10%.

Psalms 76:12 "He shall cut off the spirit of princes: [he is] terrible to the kings of the earth."

God is not impressed with the worldly fame of someone. You may be king in the country you live in, but to God, you are just another of His creations. Worldly wealth and fame do not impress Him at all. All that any of us are is because He ordained it from heaven.

Psalms 75 Questions

1. In _____ is God known.
2. His name is great in _____.
3. What are the 2 Israels?
4. The ancestry of both Judah and Israel go back to _____.
5. Quote Galations chapter 3 verse 29.
6. What city is spoken of as Salem here?
7. What does the word, Salem, mean?
8. What does Zion symbolize spiritually?
9. Where is His tabernacle at present?
10. When did Jesus win the battle for us?
11. Quote Isaiah chapter 54 verse 17.
12. What does it mean when it says, Selah?
13. To have the Lord in all His glory is better than what?
14. What does slept their sleep mean?
15. What does verse 5 remind the author of?
16. What happens to the chariot and horse in verse 6?
17. What weapon can Christians use against Satan?
18. Quote Matthew chapter 10 verse 28.
19. What is the only fear permissible?
20. Give some examples of God's judgment of those on the earth.
21. When is it time to be still before God?
22. Quote Romans chapter 12 verse 21.
23. What was different about the serpent from Moses' staff and the serpents of the Pharaoh's magicians' staff?

24. How is the best way in the world to be abundantly blessed of God?
25. When does the wrath of man stop abruptly?
26. Gifts to God are _____ 10%.
27. Worldly _____ and _____ do not impress God.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 77th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 77

- Verse 1 "I Cried to God, I cried, he heard; In day of grief I sought the Lord; All night with hands stretched out I wept, My soul no comfort would accept."
- Verse 2 "I thought of God, and was distressed; Complained, yet trouble round me pressed; Thou holdest, Lord, my eyes awake; So great my grief I cannot speak."
- Verse 3 "The days of old I called to mind, The ancient years when God was kind; I called to mind my song by night, My musing spirit sought for light."
- Verse 4 "Will God cast off forevermore? His favor will he ne'er restore? Has grace forever passed away? Or, doth his promise fail for aye?"
- Verse 5 "Hath God forgotten to be kind? His tender love in wrath confined? My weakness this, yet faith doth stand Recalling years of God's right hand."
- Verse 6 "The works of old done by the Lord, Thy wondrous works I will record; I'll muse on all thy works so vast, And talk of all thy doings past."
- Verse 7 "The holy place is thy abode; What god so great as is our God? Thy wondrous works thou last made known, Thy strength among the people shown."
- Verse 8 "Thy arm the sons of Jacob saved, And Joseph's offspring hen enslaved. The waters saw thee, God of might, The waters saw thee with affright."
- Verse 9 "Then troubled was the mighty main; The clouds poured out abundant rain; The lowering skies send out a sound, And far thy arrows blazed around."
- Verse 10 "Thy lightnings flashed, thy thunders pealed, The trembling earth in terror reeled; Thou through the sea thy way didst keep, Thy path was in the mighty deep."
- Verse 11 "Thy footsteps were to all unknown; Thy goodness to thy flock was shown. By Moses' and by Aaron's hand Thou didst them guide to Canaan's land."

We will begin now with the verse by verse study of the 77th Psalm. Psalms 77:1 "{To the chief Musician, to Jeduthun, A Psalm of Asaph.} I cried unto God with my voice, [even] unto God with my voice; and he gave ear unto me."

This begins with an earnest prayer to God. It possibly was repeated more than once, because of the statement, even unto God. We know also that this was not a silent prayer, but a vocal prayer, because he says, with my voice. The best part of all is, He gave ear unto me. We may pray and pray, until we know God has heard our plea.

Psalms 77:2 "In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord: my sore ran in the night, and ceased not: my soul refused to be comforted."

All believers could take a lesson from this. In his trouble, he went to God for help. The world has no answers for our problems. Only God can help us. It seems that the tribulation he was going through was so terrible, that he did not even get rest from it at night. Perhaps, he had a severe illness in his body. I would tend to believe the problem was a spiritual problem, however. When you are sick to your soul, you can't sleep and your body hurts.

Psalms 77:3 "I remembered God, and was troubled: I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed. Selah."

It appears, to me, that he feels he has done something that terribly displeased God. Even the thought of God made him grieve the more. He was aware that God's blessings were for those who had been obedient. Whatever is wrong, he feels that he has disobeyed God. He knows to disobey God, brings curses. His spirit was overwhelmed with grief. This looks like a man well on his way to repentance. He has admitted he was wrong and is crying out to God to have mercy on him. We truly must pause and think on this {Selah}.

Psalms 77:4 "Thou holdest mine eyes waking: I am so troubled that I cannot speak."

Perhaps, his sorrow had extended to crying so much that words would not come to him. Sometimes sorrow and sobbing are so great that we cannot talk. Even if we could, we would not. This is true depth of sorrow. This is when there is no peace at all. He would not be able to sleep, because of his troubled heart.

Psalms 77:5 "I have considered the days of old, the years of ancient times."

Perhaps, he was looking back to better days. These better days, it seems, were not just his own, but those of his ancestors. Maybe some answer will come to him from looking back.

Psalms 77:6 "I call to remembrance my song in the night: I commune with mine own heart: and my spirit made diligent search."

This appears to be saying that there were better times in the past. He even remembers a joyous time of singing in the night. He is talking to himself here. He is telling his broken heart to look back with him on better times. Then he says, the spirit within him is searching for better times to remember.

Psalms 77:7 "Will the Lord cast off for ever? and will he be favorable no more?"

This is a question that many in our day are having to deal with. They are saying, we belonged to God, and then we got caught up in the desires of the flesh and sinned against God. Will God have us back? Certainly He will not, until there is a truly repentant heart. To repent means to turn completely away from that old sinful life style. We must be a new creature in Christ. Old things {bad habits} must be buried, and the new creature that arises must choose to obey God in all things.

Psalms 77:8 "Is his mercy clean gone for ever? doth [his] promise fail for evermore?"

The answer is no. I Chronicles 16:34 "O give thanks unto the LORD; for [he is] good; for his mercy [endureth] for ever." God has not, and will not, break a promise. We break the covenant that He made, when we deliberately sin. His promise, just like his mercy, endures forever. His promise to us is conditional. If we continue to disobey God, His promise will not be valid in our life.

Psalms 77:9 "Hath God forgotten to be gracious? hath he in anger shut up his tender mercies? Selah."

God never forgets to be gracious. God honors His word. He will not bless us, unless our part of the covenant is kept. He would have to break His word, and He will not do that. These are ridiculous questions. God's anger will subside, if he will but repent. Certainly pause and think on these things.

Psalms 77:10 "And I said, This [is] my infirmity: [but I will remember] the years of the right hand of the most High."

Finally, it seems he has begun to stop this pity party. He is in poor health, but now he remembers that the Right Hand of God is the Healer.

Psalms 77:11 "I will remember the works of the LORD: surely I will remember thy wonders of old."

God, who parted the Red Sea and allowed the Israelites to cross, is surely able to help him in his need. Do not forget the miracles in the past, if you hope to get help now. Just to look back and remember all the wonderful works of the Lord brings courage and hope.

Psalms 77:12 "I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings."

Now, instead of moaning about his problems, he will remember all the miracles God has done for him in the past and tell others of how great the works of God are.

Psalms 77:13 "Thy way, O God, [is] in the sanctuary: who [is so] great a God as [our] God?"

God is Holy God. The sanctuary teaches of the holiness of God. The Israelites, more than any people of the world know that there is no other god like their God. He defamed Pharaoh and all the false gods of Egypt, when He brought the Israelites out of Egypt with His mighty Hand.

Psalms 77:14 "Thou [art] the God that doest wonders: thou hast declared thy strength among the people."

The ten plagues that came upon Egypt declare this very thing. The Israelites celebrated passover every year to remind them of the night when God made a difference between them and the Egyptians. All the first-born of the Hebrew children lived and all the first-born of the Egyptians died.

Egypt symbolizes the world. God always makes a difference between His children and the world.

Psalms 77:15 "Thou hast with [thine] arm redeemed thy people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph. Selah."

This is speaking of the divine intervention of God, when He brought the children of Israel out of Egypt. All of the 12 tribes of Israel were brought out. Their entire families came out with them. Joseph had given instructions to bring His body out with them, also. I believe that is why we see Joseph mentioned separately here. Pause and think on this.

Psalms 77:16 "The waters saw thee, O God, the waters saw thee; they were afraid: the depths also were troubled."

I believe this is speaking of the presence of God which traveled with these Israelites, leading the way. We know the Red Sea parted at the command of God, but the Jordan river opened at the sight of the ark of the covenant, as well.

Psalms 77:17 "The clouds poured out water: the skies sent out a sound: thine arrows also went abroad."

Thundering, and lightning, and rain come on the orders of God. Many times when God spoke the people mistook it for thunder.

Psalms 77:18 "The voice of thy thunder [was] in the heaven: the lightnings lightened the world: the earth trembled and shook."

Isaiah 29:6 "Thou shalt be visited of the LORD of hosts with thunder, and with earthquake, and great noise, with storm and tempest, and the flame of devouring fire." All of the elements of the universe are at the command of Almighty God.

Psalms 77:19 "Thy way [is] in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known."

Psalms 77:20 "Thou leddest thy people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron."

The way of God is past mere mortal finding out. Our desire should be to walk in the path that He has for us to walk, but to walk in the path He has for himself to walk is beyond mortal man. Pharaoh found this out, when he ordered his men to follow in the sea. Moses was symbolic of the great Deliverer, when he brought God's people out of Egypt {world}. Jesus Christ is the Great Deliverer of all who believe.

Psalms 76 Questions

1. How does this Psalm begin?
2. How do we know this prayer was not a silent prayer?
3. What is the best part of all in verse 1?
4. When did he seek the Lord?
5. Why does the author believe this was a spiritual problem?
6. The thought of God made him _____.
7. To disobey God, brings _____.
8. When does sorrow become so great that it is difficult to speak?
9. What is verse 5 speaking of looking at?
10. What is he telling his heart in verse 6?
11. What are many in our day doing that relates to verse 7?
12. What does repent mean?
13. How can we cause God's promises to not be valid in our life?
14. What would cause God's anger to subdue?
15. Who is the Healer?
16. What has he finally remembered in verse 11?
17. In verse 12, instead of moaning, he has begun to do what?
18. Thy way, O God, is in the _____.
19. What does the sanctuary teach us about God?
20. How had God declared His strength among His people?
21. Why is Joseph mentioned separately in verse 15?
22. What led the way for the Israelites?
23. Quote Isaiah chapter 29 verse 6.
24. The way of God is past _____ _____ finding out.
25. What should be the desire of all of us?

We will begin the verse by verse study of the 78th Psalm now. Psalms 78:1 "{Maschil of Asaph.} Give ear, O my people, [to] my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth."

This Psalm is to instruct all people who believe in God on how to please God. Even though the penman of this Psalm is probably Asaph, these instructions are from God. God, throughout all ages, has put the words into the mouth of those He would have to speak to His people for Him. This is saying, open that inner ear of your understanding to my law. Incline thine ear, means that they are leaning toward the message and want to hear what it is saying.

Psalms 78:2 "I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old:"

I have said, over and over, that the Bible, besides being actual happenings, is a parable itself. God did this to keep people from reading the Bible and believing with their mind. God wants us to believe, because we have faith, not because of facts. Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." If you can see something with your natural eye, it takes no faith to believe. God is a Spirit. Since God was the author of the Bible, it is written from a spiritual standpoint. Natural man cannot understand what it is saying. Even the parables that Jesus told, had to be explained to Jesus' disciples. The Holy Spirit of God is our Teacher now. The Spirit reveals to the believers what the Bible is saying. These dark sayings, are just things that have not been revealed by the Light.

Psalms 78:3 "Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us."

As to no other people in the world, God had given His law and His covenant to the Israelites. The main way of learning had been for the father to tell the children.

Psalms 78:4 "We will not hide [them] from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done."

This is explaining how, from generation to generation, the message was handed down. We must always look at these Scriptures and see if there is a lesson for us in them. We see, that not only then, but even now, we should instruct the children coming up in the ways of God. Now we are blessed to have Bibles, but we must teach our children how to study and get the most out of these teachings. Christians should be in the process of building Christian leaders of tomorrow. This is one of the purposes of these Bible studies. We should constantly tell of the wonders of God, to even the very small babies.

Psalms 78:5 "For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children:"

The name Jacob is used in the first part of this verse to show that a family went into Egypt {Jacob's}, and a nation came out {Israel}. Jacob is Israel. The testimony was of God miraculously delivering them out of Egypt. The law was given to them at mount Sinai on the way to the promised land. These were a separated people for God. One of the things that made them separate from all the other people, was the fact that God had given His law to them. The very oracles of God were given to this people that God had chosen for His own. They were to live by God's law themselves and teach God's law to their children and grandchildren.

Psalms 78:6 "That the generation to come might know [them, even] the children [which] should be born; [who] should arise and declare [them] to their children:"

They were not to live like the rest of the world. They were to live a life separated to God. The Word of God is fresh and new every day and should be taught to every generation. The Bible is like a road map to lead us through life victoriously. Without following the teachings in the Bible, we will be a failure of life. When we study the Word of God and live by the teachings in it, we are victorious and have eternal life at the end of this life to look forward to.

Psalms 78:7 "That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments:"

The world, without God, has no hope. Those who live by the instructions in the Bible and believe in Jesus, have hope of the resurrection. Romans 10:17 "So then faith [cometh] by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Romans chapter 10 verses 9 and 10 tell us what we must do to be saved. The very first statement is believe.

Psalms 78:8 "And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation [that] set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not stedfast with God."

This is speaking of the murmuring generation that turned against the teachings of God over and over. They were stubborn and rebellious. God forgave them over and over and gave them another chance. Some of them finally had so little faith in God, that God let them wander in the wilderness 40 years, until that generation died off. That generation played the spiritual harlot. They did not place their trust and hope in God.

Psalms 78:9 "The children of Ephraim, [being] armed, [and] carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle."

They were actually to lead the battle and they fled. I have said so many times that we must see a message in this for us. Christians, we are God's army. We have the most powerful weapon known to man, the Bible. Are we going to stand and fight for God, or are we going to retreat in fear? The world is headed for total destruction. Are we trying to pull as many as we can from the fires of hell? Why aren't we? Are we going to be like Ephraim above? Will you run, when the trials get seemingly too big to handle, or will you stand up for Jesus? The battle is all the same, it is just different circumstances.

Psalms 78:10 "They kept not the covenant of God, and refused to walk in his law;"

These covenant people were God's people, as long as they kept His law. The covenant was conditional. They must live separate from the world. They were not to intermarry, or worship false gods. They turned away from God and wanted to be like all the countries around them. They insisted on having an earthly king, when God wanted to be their only King. They broke His law, as if it were nothing at all. They promised to keep the law of God, but they soon forgot and lived just as all the other people around them in idolatry. Christians, God has separated us out to be His people. We must live exactly the way it pleases Him for us to live. We must not compromise with the world. He has taken us out of the world, don't go back into the world. Christians are in this world, but we should not be of this world.

Psalms 78:11 "And forgat his works, and his wonders that he had shewed them."

Each time a crisis came, they started complaining, instead of depending on God. They soon forgot the Red sea parting and the bondage they had been delivered from in Egypt. It was as if they were saying, what have you done for me today?

Psalms 78:12 "Marvellous things did he in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, [in] the field of Zoan."

God delivered them out of Egypt with his mighty Hand. He brought 10 plagues on the Pharaoh and the Egyptians, and finally the Pharaoh let them leave. The Pharaoh was so upset about the last plague {the death of the first-born}, that he actually insisted on them leaving Egypt. The field of Zoan is another way of saying Egypt.

Psalms 78:13 "He divided the sea, and caused them to pass through; and he made the waters to stand as an heap."

We can see from the following Scripture the exact detail of how this came about. Exodus 14:21 "And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go [back] by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry [land], and the waters were divided." Exodus 14:22 "And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry [ground]: and the waters [were] a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left."

Psalms 78:14 "'In the daytime also he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire."

This was the presence of God that went before them. When it stopped and stood over the camp, they were to camp until the fire or cloud moved again.

Psalms 78:15 "He clave the rocks in the wilderness, and gave [them] drink as [out of] the great depths."

Exodus 17:6 "Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel." This Rock is the Lord Jesus Christ. This is water from God. Jesus

told the woman at the well, if she drank of the water He gave her, she would never thirst again. This miraculous water is from God.

Psalms 78:16 "He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers."

We must remember that there were nearly 3 million people drinking this water that God provided. The real miracle of feeding so many water is, that God fed them miracle water for 40 years in the wilderness. There is a river that flows from God above that never shall run dry. Revelation 22:1 "And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb."

Psalms 78:17 "And they sinned yet more against him by provoking the most High in the wilderness."

Even though God had brought them out of bitter bondage in Egypt, they sinned against God over and over in the wilderness. One of the worst things they did, was build the golden calf and worship it.

Psalms 78:18 "And they tempted God in their heart by asking meat for their lust."

They tired of eating the manna that fell from heaven to feed them, and they insisted on meat. God rained quail on them and made them eat. Numbers 11:31 "And there went forth a wind from the LORD, and brought quails from the sea, and let [them] fall by the camp, as it were a day's journey on this side, and as it were a day's journey on the other side, round about the camp, and as it were two cubits [high] upon the face of the earth." These quail were 3 feet deep all over the camp. They ate them as God commanded, and many of them died.

Psalms 78:19 "Yea, they spake against God; they said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?"

To question the ability of God who brought them out of Egypt and parted the Red sea. would be blasphemy. This is as if they are saying, He is not really God. What a foolish rebellious people they really are. What would God have to do, for them to realize that He is truly God?

Psalms 77 Questions

1. What is the purpose of this Psalm?
2. Who is the penman?
3. What does it mean to give ear?
4. What does incline thine ear mean?
5. In verse 2, he says he will speak in a _____.
6. Besides being actual happenings, what does the author believe about the entire Bible?
7. Quote Hebrews chapter 11 verse 1.
8. God is a _____.
9. Since God was the real author of the Bible, it has to be written from what standpoint?
10. Who did Jesus explain the parables He spoke to?
11. How can we understand the Bible?
12. What are the dark sayings really saying?
13. What had been the main way for Israelites to know about God?
14. What lesson can the Christian learn from verse 3 and 4?
15. He established a testimony in _____.
16. He appointed a law in _____.
17. Why were Jacob and Israel mentioned separately in verse 5?
18. What was different about Israel and the rest of the world?
19. Who have hope of the resurrection?
20. The Bible is like a _____ to lead us through life?
21. Where do we find the Scriptures that tell us what we must do to be saved?
22. What kind of generation were the Israelites, who came across the wilderness, called?
23. Why did they wander in the wilderness 40 years?
24. What did the children of Ephraim do, in verse 9, that disappointed God?
25. How long were these people the covenant people of God?
26. The covenant was _____.
27. Christians are in the _____, but not of the _____.
28. Name some of the marvellous things God did for them.
29. Quote Exodus chapter 14 verses 21 and 22.
30. How did God lead them?
31. What miraculous thing did God do to give them water?
32. What does Revelation chapter 22 verse 1 tell us about where the river comes from?
33. What was one of the worst things these Israelites did to provoke God?
34. What was the desire for meat called in verse 18?
35. Who asked, can God furnish a table in the wilderness?

We will continue Chapter 78 in this lesson. Psalms 78:20 "Behold, he smote the rock, that the waters gushed out, and the streams overflowed; can he give bread also? can he provide flesh for his people?"

Jesus is the Rock, He is the Water that flowed from the Rock, and He is the Bread. What a foolish question to ask. The God, that created this world and all that is in it, can easily furnish meat. This is really blasphemy, to say that God was incapable to do this small thing. It is a denial of Who He is.

Psalms 78:21 "Therefore the LORD heard [this], and was wroth: so a fire was kindled against Jacob, and anger also came up against Israel;"

Psalms 78:22 "Because they believed not in God, and trusted not in his salvation:"

This fire that came up was the wrath of God, or the fury of God, coming up in His face. They did not believe who He was, or that He was their deliverer. Psalms 95:10 "Forty years long was I grieved with [this] generation, and said, It [is] a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways:" I see this same problem today. Our nation is leaning toward not believing in God. There are those who have actually denied Jesus as Saviour. There is only one way to get to heaven, and that is through belief in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 78:23 "Though he had commanded the clouds from above, and opened the doors of heaven,"

Psalms 78:24 "And had rained down manna upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven."

The door of heaven was opened for the believers in Christ on Calvary. To the world, miracles of God and even the miracle of salvation seem like foolishness. To those of us who believe, it is the power unto salvation. The manna that fell from heaven was miracle Bread. Look, with me, at what Jesus said about manna. John 6:58 "This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever."

Psalms 78:25 "Man did eat angels' food: he sent them meat to the full."

Bread from heaven fell on common man. This was food fit for angels. The manna fell every day of the week to feed the approximately 3 million people. The only day it did not fall was on sabbath. The day before sabbath 2 day's food fell. They had all they needed to keep them going.

Psalms 78:26 "He caused an east wind to blow in the heaven: and by his power he brought in the south wind."

God is the ruler of the wind, the same as He is the ruler of all of the elements. We hear people say that Satan is the ruler of the air. He is prince of the air. Jesus is King. God told the wind to blow the fowl over the camp, and the wind obeyed.

Psalms 78:27 "He rained flesh also upon them as dust, and feathered fowls like as the sand of the sea:"

Psalms 78:28 "And he let [it] fall in the midst of their camp, round about their habitations."

Psalms 78:29 "So they did eat, and were well filled: for he gave them their own desire;"

I imagine they wished they had never asked for the fowl to eat. The quail rained on them 3 feet deep. A person has to be very careful what you ask for. God might give you what you want, rather than what you need, like He did here. This is a very good example of asking amiss.

Psalms 78:30 "They were not estranged from their lust. But while their meat [was] yet in their mouths,"

Psalms 78:31 "The wrath of God came upon them, and slew the fattest of them, and smote down the chosen [men] of Israel."

They were still chewing these birds when the judgment of God fell upon them. Their greed would cost them their lives. Just like many other sins, their pleasure was short lived. Their sin cost them their lives. Many a drunk driver has wrecked and not lived to become sober. Be sure your sin will find you out. Sometimes the sin and the judgment for the sin seem as if they happen at the same time.

Psalms 78:32 "For all this they sinned still, and believed not for his wondrous works."

Even this mighty show of the judgment of God did not affect some of them. Sin has not changed in all these years. It is still the same today. Those caught up in sin are blinded and do not see the consequences of their sin.

Psalms 78:33 "Therefore their days did he consume in vanity, and their years in trouble."

These people that He could not make understand, died in the wilderness and the next generation went into the promised land.

Psalms 78:34 "When he slew them, then they sought him: and they returned and inquired early after God."

It is such a shame that it takes drastic measures to frighten people into the knowledge of God. I do not like to have to threaten people out of hell to get them saved. I enjoy telling them of the love of God, more than of the judgment of God. It seems they do not respond as well to the love, as they do to the judgment.

Psalms 78:35 "And they remembered that God [was] their rock, and the high God their redeemer."

What does it take to stir some people. Sometimes I believe that is why we have wars, and famines, and earthquakes, and other natural disasters, is to get people to think about how fragile life really is. Some people never think of God, until they are in some terrible problem. It makes you wonder if they really love God, or perhaps, they are just believing long enough for Him to get them out of the mess they are in.

Psalms 78:36 "Nevertheless they did flatter him with their mouth, and they lied unto him with their tongues."

Psalms 78:37 "For their heart was not right with him, neither were they stedfast in his covenant."

The heart of man is what he really is. This verse above reminds me of those in Matthew that Jesus tells about. Matthew 7:22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? Matthew 7:23 "And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." Just as these people above thought they could fool God by flattering Him with their mouth, but God knows what is in their heart. They had no intention of keeping covenant with God.

Psalms 78:38 "But he, [being] full of compassion, forgave [their] iniquity, and destroyed [them] not: yea, many a time turned he his anger away, and did not stir up all his wrath."

God is longsuffering, not willing that any should perish. He forgave them over and over. They deserved to die, but God forgave them. It reminds us that we deserved to die also, but while we were yet in sin, God sent us a Saviour, Jesus Christ the Righteous.

Psalms 78:39 "For he remembered that they [were but] flesh; a wind that passeth away, and cometh not again."

God had made them of the dust of the earth, and He knew that they were flesh with all the weakness of the flesh. Man is like a vapor, here today and gone tomorrow. The only life that amounts to anything is the everlasting life after we have vacated this old sinful flesh.

Psalms 78:40 "How oft did they provoke him in the wilderness, [and] grieve him in the desert!"

If this is a question, the answer is over and over and over. They would not repent of one sin and be forgiven of God, until another sin was right on the heels of the first.

Psalms 78:41 "Yea, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel."

God was limited in what He could do for them, because of their disobedience. They were always comparing the things in Egypt with their situation out in the desert. They soon forgot they had been slaves in Egypt.

Psalms 78:42 "They remembered not his hand, [nor] the day when he delivered them from the enemy."

The ten plagues that God brought on Egypt to defame the Egyptian gods, and to get the release of them had been of such fantastic nature, it is hard to believe that they could forget, but they did. They act as if God had nothing to do with getting their release.

Psalms 78:43 "How he had wrought his signs in Egypt, and his wonders in the field of Zoan:"

The sign that got them released was the tenth plague, when all the firstborn of Egypt died. The signs were not just for the Israelites, but for the Egyptians, as well. Those who saw, had to know that God was the real God. The idols {nothings} in Egypt had no power at all against God.

In the next few verses the plagues are listed.

Psalms 78:44 "And had turned their rivers into blood; and their floods, that they could not drink."

This particular plague destroyed belief in the false god of the Nile river.

Psalms 78:45 "He sent divers sorts of flies among them, which devoured them; and frogs, which destroyed them."

All sorts of animal life and insects were objects of worship in Egypt.

Psalms 78:46 "He gave also their increase unto the caterpillar, and their labour unto the locust."

Psalms 78:47 "He destroyed their vines with hail, and their sycamore trees with frost."

Psalms 78:48 " He gave up their cattle also to the hail, and their flocks to hot thunderbolts."

All of these, as we said, were part of the ten plagues that came upon Egypt. They were sent by God to cause the Pharaoh to allow the children of Israel to go to their homeland. The number ten has to do with world government. Cattle were specifically mentioned as one of the animals worshipped. The plague on the cattle proved they were not gods.

Psalms 78:49 "He cast upon them the fierceness of his anger, wrath, and indignation, and trouble, by sending evil angels [among them]."

This speaks of evil angels, but they were only evil to the Egyptians. They were acting upon direct orders from God. it was on the orders of God that the firstborn of every Egyptian family died in the tenth plague. This was the climax of God's anger against Pharaoh. We will continue with this in the next lesson.

Psalms 78 Questions

1. He smote the Rock, and the _____ gushed out.
2. Who is the Water and the Bread?
3. To say that God can not do something is really _____.
4. What is the fire in verse 21?
5. Why are the names Jacob and Israel both mentioned?
6. How many years did they have to live in the wilderness?
7. What is the only way to heaven?
8. What does salvation by the cross seem like to the world?
9. Quote John chapter 6 verse 58.
10. Verse 25 calls the manna _____ food.
11. How often did the manna fall from heaven?
12. Who is the ruler of the wind?
13. Verse 27 says the flesh that rained was as _____.
14. Verse 29 says, He gave them their own _____.
15. How deep were the quail?
16. Why must a person be very careful what they ask for?
17. When did the wrath of God fall on them?
18. What happened to these people that God could not make understand?
19. What is the only way to get some people to respond to God?
20. Who was their Rock?
21. Why does the author believe we have wars and earthquakes?
22. The _____ of a man is what he really is?
23. What is Matthew chapter 7 verses 22 and 23 saying about those who are fakes?
24. God is _____ not willing that any should perish.
25. When did God send us a Saviour?
26. What does verse 39 say that He remembered about man?
27. How often did they provoke Him?
28. What does it mean that God was limited in verse 41?
29. It is almost unbelievable to us that the Israelites forgot what?
30. Which sign in Egypt got them released?
31. What does idols mean?
32. What were their rivers turned into?
33. What god of the Egyptians did this discredit?
34. What does the number ten mean?
35. Who were these angels thought to be evil to?

We will continue our verse by verse study of chapter 78 of Psalms. Psalms 78:50 "He made a way to his anger; he spared not their soul from death, but gave their life over to the pestilence;"

In the last lesson, we were discussing how the Lord brought the children of Israel out of Egypt with a mighty hand through 10 plagues. God had given the Pharaoh ample time to respond to His request and when he did not respond positively, God had to take drastic measures. The continued disobedience of the Pharaoh and his people angered God. Even though God destroyed them with this plague, He was justified in doing it, because they were weighed in the balance and found wanting.

Psalms 78:51 "And smote all the firstborn in Egypt; the chief of [their] strength in the tabernacles of Ham:"

This smiting of the firstborn even struck in Pharaoh's home. Pharaoh's first born son died that night. Throughout Egypt, the firstborn died. Some of Ham's descendents settled in Egypt, perhaps this is why tabernacles of Ham was used in the verse above.

Psalms 78:52 "But made his own people to go forth like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock."

We know that an estimated 3 million people left Egypt following Moses {their shepherd}. After they began their journey, God led them by a cloud and a fire. Those counted as God's family are called sheep many places in the Bible. One very important time is when Jesus separates the sheep from the goats. The sheep go to heaven and the goats go to hell.

Psalms 78:53 "And he led them on safely, so that they feared not: but the sea overwhelmed their enemies."

This is speaking of the children of Israel walking through the opening in the Red Sea on dry land, and when their enemies pursued the enemy was drowned.

Psalms 78:54 "And he brought them to the border of his sanctuary, [even to] this mountain, [which] his right hand had purchased."

This, perhaps, is speaking of His holy land. The mountain being the mountain where the temple would be built. The mountain would be mount Zion. It was the land that God had promised Abraham. This land was not won by the Israelites, but by the Right Hand of God.

Psalms 78:55 "He cast out the heathen also before them, and divided them an inheritance by line, and made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents."

Some people, looking at this, might say that God was cruel to cast the heathen out, but God had given them ample time to repent, and they did not. Notice that it was God that cast them out of this land. Each of the twelve tribes of Israel had an allotted land that they were to live in. This inheritance that they received was forever. Some would try to say today that they should give up some of this land, but the Bible says it belongs to the

12 tribes and their descendents forever. To read more about the dividing of the land, read Joshua chapter 13 through chapter 19.

Psalms 78:56 "Yet they tempted and provoked the most high God, and kept not his testimonies:"

It seems that all this that the Lord had done for them was not enough. They still did not obey God and keep the law He had given them.

Psalms 78:57 "But turned back, and dealt unfaithfully like their fathers: they were turned aside like a deceitful bow."

Sometimes I feel so sorry for God. He has done so much for them, and He loves them so much, but they still are rebellious and do things displeasing to Him. A deceitful bow is one that you cannot depend on to shoot accurately. Sometimes to your own injury, the bow will bend in use, and cause the one using it harm. Isn't this just what these people are doing to God? They are turning on Him and breaking His heart. Sometimes I am sure that God felt that He would have been better off if He had not chosen them. We Christians better not point a finger at them, without pointing back at ourselves, as well. Not to stay with the faith that we had in the Lord is one of the things that upsets the Lord worse than anything. I have said it so many times, but it is true. To know God in His fullness, and then to be unfaithful to Him is very dangerous. The 6th chapter of Hebrews tells us a great deal about this. Do not let other things become more important to you than God is.

Psalms 78:58 "For they provoked him to anger with their high places, and moved him to jealousy with their graven images."

The one thing that He just could not overlook is the worship of other gods. Exodus 34:14 "For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name [is] Jealous, [is] a jealous God:" God had a specific place for them to worship Him. The groves and high places had never been pleasing to God. It was really idolatry.

Psalms 78:59 "When God heard [this], he was wroth, and greatly abhorred Israel:"

Abhorred, in this particular instance, means despised. This is really spiritual adultery. They have sinned against God. Again, Christians, we must do it God's way, not our way. To worship God in any other way than the way He chose would be spiritual adultery.

Psalms 78:60 "So that he forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, the tent [which] he placed among men;"

God had dwelt in the midst of His people in the most holy place in the tabernacle. He is so angry with these people that He can not stand their presence, so He leaves the most holy place.

Psalms 78:61 "And delivered his strength into captivity, and his glory into the enemy's hand."

This is speaking of the ark of the covenant falling into enemy hands. Of course, the ark was an earthly house for the power and presence of God.

We find in the following Scripture that really no house can contain God. II Chronicles 2:6 "But who is able to build him an house, seeing the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain him? who [am] I then, that I should build him an house, save only to burn sacrifice before him?" The presence of the Light is in all churches who profess Jesus Christ as Lord today. What a sad day it would be for His presence to leave because of the worldliness we have brought into our churches.

Psalms 78:62 He gave his people over also unto the sword; and was wroth with his inheritance.

Thirty thousand of the Israelites were killed in the battle where they lost the ark. I Samuel 4:10 "And the Philistines fought, and Israel was smitten, and they fled every man into his tent: and there was a very great slaughter; for there fell of Israel thirty thousand footmen." I Samuel 4:11 "And the ark of God was taken; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were slain." When God left their presence, they could not win the battle. God's anger would not allow Him to help them. They must be taught a lesson.

Psalms 78:63 "The fire consumed their young men; and their maidens were not given to marriage."

So many of the young men were killed in battle that there were no men for the maidens to marry.

Psalms 78:64 "Their priests fell by the sword; and their widows made no lamentation."

The Scripture, from 1 Samuel above, told us that 2 sons of Eli died. This does not mean that the widows did not grieve for them, it means they had no body to bury. The bodies were left on the battlefield.

Psalms 78:65 "Then the Lord awaked as one out of sleep, [and] like a mighty man that shouteth by reason of wine."

This sleeping of the Lord was in the spiritual sense. He just wasn't paying any attention to their problems for a while to make them realize what they had done. You might even say God allowed this to happen to them in punishment for their idolatry. God never completely turns His back. Just as we see here, He said it is enough and He will now fight for them again.

Psalms 78:66 "And he smote his enemies in the hinder parts: he put them to a perpetual reproach."

It seems that the Lord struck them from the back and drove these Philistines away. The battle between Israel and the Philistines ran on for years. Goliath {the giant} was a Philistine.

Psalms 78:67 "Moreover he refused the tabernacle of Joseph, and chose not the tribe of Ephraim:"

The natural thing for Him to do would be to choose Joseph's inheritance to dwell in, since Joseph was Israel's favorite. Possibly, it was just because He loved mount Zion so much. It is God's privilege to reject whoever He chooses and, also, to choose whoever He will, without having to explain to us.

Psalms 78:68 "But chose the tribe of Judah, the mount Zion which he loved."

I still believe this was the holy mountain which God loved.

Psalms 78:69 "And he built his sanctuary like high [palaces], like the earth which he hath established for ever."

This is speaking prophetically of the temple that Solomon built in Jerusalem. This beautiful temple was the envy of the whole world.

Psalms 78:70 "He chose David also his servant, and took him from the sheepfolds:"

David was a shepherd boy when Samuel anointed him. I Samuel 16:13 "Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah."

Psalms 78:71 "From following the ewes great with young he brought him to feed Jacob his people, and Israel his inheritance."

Jesus is, of course, the great Shepherd. David is called from the humble job of a shepherder to feed God's people. One of the greatest teachings in the Bible is how God takes those who the world thinks is not capable of doing a job and God shows him, or her, how to do the job the way He would have it done. The people, who can really get something done for God, are those who know they can not do the job, unless God leads them every step of the way. David had not trained to be king. God made him king. David was humble enough that God could show David how He wanted the job done.

Psalms 78:72 "So he fed them according to the integrity of his heart; and guided them by the skilfulness of his hands."

Remember, the anointing and the Spirit of God which came upon David. David was successful at these jobs God had given him to do, because God was working through David. Even though David sinned, he loved God in his heart. He repented and God forgave him.

Psalms 79 Questions

1. The Egyptians were weighed in the balance and found _____.
2. How many plagues were put on Egypt?
3. Why did the smiting of the firstborn touch Pharaoh?
4. What does the statement, tabernacles of Ham, mean?
5. God's people went forth like _____.
6. They were guided in the wilderness like a _____-.
7. How many of the Israelites were there in Egypt, estimated?
8. What is verse 53 speaking of?
9. The border of God's sanctuary was where?
10. Who divided the territory for the Israelites?
11. What is the name of the mount in the holy land that is God's mountain?
12. Why was it not cruel for God to cast out the heathen?
13. How long was the holy land given to the 12 tribes of Israel?
14. Where, in the Bible, do we find the details of the dividing of the land?
15. What does verse 57 compare their unfaithfulness to?
16. What is a deceitful bow?
17. Where do we find the Scriptures that warn unfaithful Christians?
18. What had they provoked God to anger with?
19. Quote Exodus chapter 34 verse 14.
20. What does the word abhorred mean?
21. Where had God dwelt to be near His people?
22. What was His strength speaking of?
23. What was the ark?
24. Give the Scripture from 2 Chronicles chapter 2 verse 6.
25. Where is the Light of God?
26. Why would this Light leave the church?
27. How many Israelites lost their lives in the battle where the ark was lost to the enemy?
28. Who were the 2 sons of Eli who died in this battle?
29. Why were their maidens not given in marriage?
30. Why did the widows not make lamentation?
31. Was the Lord asleep?
32. What does the Scripture mean, smote them in their hinder part?
33. Who was the famous giant of the Philistines?
34. What does the author believe influenced the Lord to choose Judah over Joseph?
35. What is verse 69 speaking of prophetically?
36. What was David doing when God called him?
37. What happened to David when Samuel anointed him?
38. How was David {being untrained} able to do the work God had for him to do?
39. Even though David sinned, what was always right about him?
40. He repented and God _____ him.

We will begin this lesson by giving chapter 79 of Psalms in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 79

- Verse 1 "Into thy heritage, O God, Have heathen entrance made; Thy holy place they have defiled, On heaps Jerus'lem laid."
- Verse 2 "Thy servants' bodies they have cast To fowls of heaven for meat; The flesh of thy dear saints they gave To beasts of earth to eat."
- Verse 3 "Their blood about Jerusalem Like water they have shed; And of their number none remained To bury them when dead."
- Verse 4 "And to our neighbors a reproach Most base become are we; A scorn and laughing-stock to them That round about us be."
- Verse 5 "How long, O Lord? for evermore Wilt thou still keep thine ire? O how long shall thy jealousy Burn like devouring fire?"
- Verse 6 "On heathen pour thy fury forth, That never have thee known, And on those kingdoms which thy name Have never called upon."
- Verse 7 "For these are they who have devoured Thy servant Jacob's race, And they, all waste and desolate Have made his dwelling-place."
- Verse 8 "Against us mind not former sins; Thy tender mercies show; Let them relieve us speedily, For we're brought very low."
- Verse 9 "For thy name's glory help us, Lord, Who hast our Saviour Been; Deliver us; for thy name's sake, O purge away our sin."
- Verse 10 "Why say the heathen, Where's their God? Let him to them be known; When those who shed thy servants' blood Are in our sight o'erthrown."
- Verse 11 "O let the prisoner's sighs ascend Before thy sight on high: Preserve those in thy mighty power That are condemned to die."
- Verse 12 "And to our neighbors' bosom cause It seven-fold rendered be, For that reproach which in their spite, O Lord, they cast on thee."
- Verse 13 "So we, thy people and thy people and thy flock, Will ever thank thy name; And unto generations all We will thy praise proclaim."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 79th chapter of Psalms. Psalms 79:1 "{A Psalm of Asaph.} O God, the heathen are come into thine inheritance; thy holy temple have they defiled; they have laid Jerusalem on heaps."

As we get into this study on the 79th chapter of Psalms, I would like you to consider that there could be 3 messages in this chapter. There was a destruction in the time of Asaph, there was a destruction 70 years after Jesus, and there will be a destruction at the end of the age. Please do not judge me too harshly for seeing this. I am not trying to force this, but ask that you would consider it.

Asaph speaks for all of us when he cries out against the destruction of God's hallowed place. It is a terrible thing for the enemy to destroy our

home, but to destroy our place of worship is unspeakable. Destruction comes so many different ways. Sometimes the buildings are torn down, burned or looted. Another, just as devastating way that actually took place in our lifetime, was when churches all over the world were closed and communism became the state religion. Some of the old saints had to look at the buildings everyday, and yet were not allowed to go inside and worship. The most recent is the destruction of God's house from within. The church is being used for everything. The holiness of the place of worship is being lost. Even though this is a more subtle approach, it is just as devastating.

Psalms 79:2 "The dead bodies of thy servants have they given [to be] meat unto the fowls of the heaven, the flesh of thy saints unto the beasts of the earth."

In the days of Asaph, the bodies of the dead were left on the field of battle for every fowl of prey. It was a similar destruction when the Romans came in and destroyed the temple and the people, as well. The beasts of this world are not satisfied, they even now are in the church trying to devour God's children. The saints of the church today are being attacked and left for dead. The enemy is the same. Old Satan is at the bottom of all three.

Psalms 79:3 "Their blood have they shed like water round about Jerusalem; and [there was] none to bury [them]."

The enemy came and destroyed these people, as if they were nothing. They watched their blood flowing from them, just as if they had poured out water. Someone else's life meant nothing to them.

Psalms 79:4 "We are become a reproach to our neighbours, a scorn and derision to them that are round about us."

The Israelites had always been respected before this. They had no problem with the people around them, because the people feared their God. Now there is a different story. They feel that they do not have to fight Israel's God, just Israel. This was true in Asaph's time and, also, at the battle between Rome and Jerusalem. I really believe there is a prophetic message for our age, as well. The atheists have come out of the closet now. If you are a serious Christian now, you are generally ridiculed by your neighbors and {friends}. It seems they would do anything they could to get you stopped. You are labeled as a fanatic, and they avoid you if they can. Even those church people around you look at you out of the corner of their eye, and many times say, he has gone off the deep end.

Psalms 79:5 "How long, LORD? wilt thou be angry for ever? Shall thy jealousy burn like fire?"

The two times that the place of worship in Jerusalem was destroyed was, possibly, because God allowed it to happen. We know that Asaph is speaking of God being angry, because the people had mixed idolatry up with worship of God. I believe that God allowed the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem after the resurrection of Jesus, because the Jewish believers would not stop sacrificing in the temple. To sacrifice after Jesus died on the cross, would be to say that His sacrifice was not sufficient to wash away the sin of the whole world for all time. They were treating His sacrifice as if it had been no more than the sacrifice of a natural lamb. You can see why this is in

error, and you can see why God allowed the destruction of the temple then. Now to look at the church today. What have we come to? Are the services we conduct pleasing unto God, or are they pleasing unto man? Perhaps, God is allowing the falling away now to make us realize that His house is holy. Remember, judgment begins at the house of God. Just as the temple was built after Asaph's day again, perhaps, God will allow us to rebuild the church now, based on holiness and righteousness.

Psalms 79:6 "Pour out thy wrath upon the heathen that have not known thee, and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon thy name."

The wrath of God is reserved for those who are not His children. Ephesians 5:6 "Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience." Those who have called upon His name, then or now, are God's children.

Psalms 79:7 "For they have devoured Jacob, and laid waste his dwelling place."

I Peter 5:8 "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:" God protected Daniel in the lions den, and He will protect us, if we are as faithful as Daniel was. The holy city, Jerusalem, was destroyed twice. The spiritual holy city is the church, are we going to stand idly by and let Satan destroy the church?

Psalms 79:8 "O remember not against us former iniquities: let thy tender mercies speedily prevent us: for we are brought very low."

This is a prayer for God to forgive and start them all over again. We need to try that same prayer. Hurry and help us Lord, for our nation and our world have sinned against you. Be merciful once again, and save us.

Psalms 79:9 "Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy name: and deliver us, and purge away our sins, for thy name's sake."

Who is the God of our salvation? It is Jesus Christ our Lord. What a prayer this is! We cannot help ourselves Lord, You help us and glorify Thy name in the doing. We see in the Scripture above an earnest prayer for God to intervene in our behalf. This next Scripture shows what we must do for that to happen. II Chronicles 7:14 "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Psalms 79:10 "Wherefore should the heathen say, Where [is] their God? let him be known among the heathen in our sight [by] the revenging of the blood of thy servants [which is] shed."

You have said Lord, in Romans 12:19 "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but [rather] give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance [is] mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." The world even now, is making fun of Christianity. They do not see the power of our God in action. Show them, God, who you are; God Almighty.

Psalms 79:11 "Let the sighing of the prisoner come before thee; according to the greatness of thy power preserve thou those that are appointed to die;"

Jesus not only destroyed sin on the cross, but he destroyed the sting of death when He arose from the grave. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were saved in the fiery furnace, Daniel was saved in the Lions den. Save us, as you did them, O Lord.

Psalms 79:12 "And render unto our neighbours sevenfold into their bosom their reproach, wherewith they have reproached thee, O Lord."

They denied your existence even though they were told over and over. They refused the very Son of God as their Saviour. Seven means spiritually complete. God, your punishment for them will be perfect and complete. I leave them to you.

Psalms 79:13 "So we thy people and sheep of thy pasture will give thee thanks for ever: we will shew forth thy praise to all generations."

The people who have been grafted into the family of God will never stop thanking Him for His goodness and His mercy. We are the sheep of the pasture. Jesus is the Great Shepherd. He will lead me to green pastures, and give me pure water to drink, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalms 80 Questions

1. In verse 1, who has come into the temple and defiled it?
2. Name 2 of the three destructions in chapter 79.
3. What is even worse than the enemy destroying our home?
4. What are some of the ways of destruction?
5. In verse 2, the dead bodies had been what?
6. What are the beasts in the church today trying to do?
7. Who has always been the enemy of God's people?
8. Their blood have they shed like _____.
9. We are become a _____ to our neighbors.
10. Why had the people always respected the Israelites up until this was written?
11. Who have come out of the closet now and are openly opposing Christianity?
12. What are you labeled as now, if you are a serious Christian?
13. Why was the church destroyed in Asaph's time?
14. What is the possible reason the temple was destroyed after the resurrection of Jesus?
15. Why is God allowing the falling away today?
16. Who does Asaph ask God to pour out His wrath upon?
17. Quote Ephesians chapter 5 verse 6.
18. Who does 1 Peter chapter 5 verse 8 say is our adversary?
19. He will protect us, if we are as faithful as _____ was.
20. Are we going to sit idly by and let Satan destroy the church?
21. What is verse 8?
22. Who is the God of our salvation?
23. Quote 2 Chronicles chapter 7 verse 14.
24. What does Romans chapter 12 verse 19 teach us?
25. Jesus destroyed ___ on the cross and _____ by His resurrection.
26. Who were the three that were saved in the fiery furnace?
27. Who are the sheep of His pasture?
28. Who is the Great Shepherd?
29. He will lead me to green _____.
30. I will dwell in the house of the Lord _____.

We will now begin by giving the 80th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 80

- Verse 1 "Hear, Isr'el's Shepherd! like a flock Thou that dost Joseph guide; Shine forth, O thou that dost between The cherubim abide."
- Verse 2 "In Ephraim's, and Benjamin's, And in Manasseh's sight, O come for out salvation, Lord, Stir up thy strength and might,"
- Verse 3 "Turn us again, O Lord our God, Restore us unto thee; O cause thy face to shine on us, And saved we then shall be."
- Verse 4 "O Lord of hosts, almighty God, How long shall kindled be Thy wrath against the prayer which Thy people make to thee?"
- Verse 5 "Thou tears of sorrow giv'st to them Instead of bread to eat; Thou givest tears instead of drink To them in measure great."
- Verse 6 "Thou makest us to neighbors all a strife on every side, Our enemies among themselves With laughter us deride."
- Verse 7 "Turn us again, O God of hosts, Restore us unto thee. O cause thy face to shine on us And saved we them shall be."
- Verse 8 "A vine from Egypt thou hast brought, By thy almighty hand; And thou hast cast the heathen out, To plant it in their land."
- Verse 9 "Before it thou a place didst make, And give it room to stand; Thou causedst it deep root to take, And it did fill the land."
- Verse 10 "Its shadow veiled the highest hills, It covered mountains o'er; And like the goodly cedars were The branches which it bore."
- Verse 11 "Upon the one hand, to the sea, Her boughs she forth did send; Upon the other, to the flood, Her branches did extend."
- Verse 12 "Why hast thou broken down her hedge, And taken it away, So that all passers by do pluck And make of her a prey?"
- Verse 13 "The boar that from the forest comes Doth waste it at his will; The wild beast also of the field Devours of it his fill."
- Verse 14 "O God of hosts, we thee beseech, Return now into thine; Look down from heaven, and behold, and visit thou this vine:"
- Verse 15 "Ev'n this thy vineyard planted here, The work of thy right hand, And that same branch, which for thyself Thou hast made strong to stand."
- Verse 16 "Burnt up it is with flaming fire, It also is cut down: And perished utterly are they, Because thy face did frown."
- Verse 17 "O let thy hand be laid upon The man of thy right hand, The Son of man, whom for thyself Thou hast made strong to stand."
- Verse 18 "So henceforth we will not go back, Nor turn from thee at all: O do thou quicken us, and we Upon thy name will call."
- Verse 19 "Turn us again, Lord God of hosts, Restore us unto thee; O cause thy face to shine on us, And saved we then shall be."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 80th chapter of Psalms. Psalms 80:1 "{To the chief Musician upon Shoshannim-Eduth, A Psalm

of Asaph.) Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a flock; thou that dwellest [between] the cherubims, shine forth."

The Great Shepherd of the Christians, of course, is Jesus. They are spiritual Israel. From a prophetic point of view, then, this is to our Lord. We, also, see in this the Presence of Almighty God who was over the mercy seat in the tabernacle and in the temple. Certainly the physical house of Israel had been led like a flock. The presence of God led them out across the wilderness to the promised land. We, also, know that Jesus is the Light of the world. Wherever there is a presence of God, there is a Light, or Fire, or Clouds. This above, then, is a request for the Light of God to shine forth even brighter than in the past. Some expositors believe this is speaking of the ten tribes who were headed up by Manasseh being led by the Great Shepherd. Manasseh was Joseph's son.

Psalms 80:2 "Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh stir up thy strength, and come [and] save us."

Ephraim and Manasseh were sons of Joseph. The Psalmist here realizes that there was a special anointing on Joseph. God had protected him through all his troubles, and the blessings had passed to his sons. Benjamin is mentioned, because Joseph and Benjamin were the only two sons of Rachel whom Jacob loved more than the others. Even near kinsman sometimes break up and go their separate ways. The Psalmist is crying out for help from God. The Psalmist felt if, perhaps, his name meant very little to God, he would use some names that would get God's attention. Christians are well aware, the way to get the Father to hear your prayer is to ask in the name of Jesus. There is something about that name.

Psalms 80:3 "Turn us again, O God, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved."

The psalmist is very well aware that the only possible hope for any one is God. I have said this before, but it bears saying again. Noah was saved in the flood, Daniel was saved in the lions den, Shadrach Meshach, and Abednego were saved in the fire. None of these people of God were saved from their problem. They were saved in the problem. These people the psalmist is begging for here, may be in captivity, but God can deal with them in captivity, possibly even better than He could when they were having no problems. It is not so important the circumstance you find yourself in, as it is how you handle the circumstance. God is never unaware of our problem. In fact, He is in it with us, like there was the fourth figure in the fire, one like unto the Son of God. To learn more about this, read Daniel chapter 3. We know that God will turn, again, and shine His face upon anyone who loves and follows God.

Psalms 80:4 "O LORD God of hosts, how long wilt thou be angry against the prayer of thy people?"

Sin causes separation from God. This was not just a sin that they had committed, but a grievous sin. This is still speaking of the mixing of false gods in with their real God. God's anger had been kindled hotter, because of what they had done. It seemed their prayers were getting nowhere. Just keep on praying, God will hear and forgive.

Psalms 80:5 "Thou feedest them with the bread of tears; and givest them tears to drink in great measure."

The Israelites had been an openly rebellious people. God had forgiven them over and over. There is a limit to how many times He will forgive them. This seems, it could be that time. They are not only praying, but they are crying with the prayers. Their tears are in everything, because they do not cease to pray and cry to God.

Psalms 80:6 "Thou makest us a strife unto our neighbours: and our enemies laugh among themselves."

Can't you just hear the taunts of the ungodly neighbors, saying, I thought you said you had a God that cared for you, where is He now? If you are His, why is He not answering your prayer?

Psalms 80:7 "Turn us again, O God of hosts, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved."

We see the psalmist actually trying to put the responsibility for change on the Lord. Isn't that really what happened when Jesus came and became our substitute on the cross? We were not worthy to be saved, but He saved us anyway. God of hosts could mean God of your armies.

Psalms 80:8 "Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt: thou hast cast out the heathen, and planted it."

We know that God Himself brought Israel {vine} out of Egypt with the mighty Right Hand of God. Canaan was occupied by heathen people, and the Lord drove them out and planted Israel instead. Israel is the vine that God planted in the promised land. In Egypt the vine could not prosper, because it was denied the necessary things to produce fruit. The law was given to these Israelites on the way to the promised land, and they had the opportunity to produce much fruit for God. They failed. This vine was the same as the natural branch on the tree. They had the opportunity to produce for God, but they failed. Jesus is the true vine, as we see in the following verse. John 15:5 "I am the vine, ye [are] the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." The trouble with the physical house of Israel is they did not abide with God.

Psalms 80:9 "Thou preparedst [room] before it, and didst cause it to take deep root, and it filled the land."

This, also, is speaking of Joshua defeating and removing the heathen from the land. Soon the inheritance was divided and the children of Israel began to live in the land.

Psalms 80:10 "The hills were covered with the shadow of it, and the boughs thereof [were like] the goodly cedars."

This was, indeed, a land of milk and honey. It was fertile land and grew giant trees. The family of God moved in, and the land prospered.

Psalms 80:11 "She sent out her boughs unto the sea, and her branches unto the river."

This land is on the edge of the Mediterranean Sea, and there were many boats and shipping. It seemed nature had cooperated with God, and they now had a warm water port for their shipping.

Psalms 80:12 "Why hast thou [then] broken down her hedges, so that all they which pass by the way do pluck her?"

When Israel began on this journey from Egypt to the promised land, God had been the hedge around them and helped them against their enemies. He had stood between the Red Sea and the Israelites, while the Israelites crossed unharmed. He had been with them in battle and the enemy had run away, knowing that Israel was protected by their God. Now it appears that the protection of God is gone. Their enemy can have free run on them. Now that Israel's God is not protecting her, all of the people around her are taking whatever they want from her.

Psalms 80:13 "The boar out of the wood doth waste it, and the wild beast of the field doth devour it."

This is just saying, the supernatural protection from wild beasts that they had before is, also, gone. God is angry with them, and has removed His protection.

Psalms 80:14 "Return, we beseech thee, O God of hosts: look down from heaven, and behold, and visit this vine;"

This is just another plea to God to not forget His people. It is no need to ask God to look, because His eye is always on His people.

Psalms 80:15 "And the vineyard which thy right hand hath planted, and the branch [that] thou madest strong for thyself."

Let us look at this prophetically and see the church which the Right Hand of God {Jesus} planted. This could even be saying, Father look down and save the church, because of Your Son's great establishment of it. Do not see our sin, see your precious Son's blood. Jesus established the church for us, we did not do it.

Psalms 80:16 "[It is] burned with fire, [it is] cut down: they perish at the rebuke of thy countenance."

We see the destruction of God's people. They will perish, unless God intervenes. Unless God looks down from heaven and has mercy, they are gone.

Psalms 80:17 "Let thy hand be upon the man of thy right hand, upon the son of man [whom] thou madest strong for thyself."

This has to be prophetically speaking of the Messiah, the Christ. The Right Hand is strong, because He is God the Son. We know that man alone could not save himself, or anyone else. God sent the Saviour, Jesus Christ to redeem us.

Psalms 80:18 "So will not we go back from thee: quicken us, and we will call upon thy name."

Romans 10:13 "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Romans 8:11 "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." Jesus Christ, their Messiah, is the quickening spirit they and we need to help us. In Him is Life, and the Life is the Light of men.

Psalms 80:19 "Turn us again, O LORD God of hosts, cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved."

This is said, again, to give impact to the statement. Man is his own worst enemy. We can not save ourselves. God had to send a Saviour to save us from sin and death, but also, to save us from our own blundering mistakes. II Corinthians 4:6 "For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to [give] the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

Psalms 81 Questions

1. What special name is God called in verse 1?
2. How had He led Joseph?
3. Thou that dwellest between the _____.
4. Who is the Great Shepherd of the Christians?
5. What presence was over the mercy seat?
6. Who really led the children of Israel across the wilderness?
7. What are three things that depict God in our presence?
8. Whose son was Manasseh?
9. Why do you suppose the psalmist mentions Ephraim, Manasseh, and Joseph in his prayer?
10. How can a Christian get God's attention to his prayer?
11. The only possible hope for anyone is _____.
12. Who were the three men saved in the fire?
13. Who was saved in the flood?
14. Who was saved in the lions' den?
15. What is more important than the circumstance you find yourself in?
16. Where can you find the message about the fourth man in the fire?
17. _____ causes separation from God.
18. What was meant by the bread of tears?
19. In verse 6, who is laughing at their calamity?
20. Verse 7 says he is putting the responsibility for his salvation on God, relate that to the Christian.
21. Who is the vine in verse 8?
22. Why could the vine not prosper in Egypt?
23. Quote John chapter 15 verse 5.
24. What is verse 9 speaking of?
25. The promised land is on the edge of what great sea?
26. What had been the hedge around Israel?
27. Who planted the vineyard in verse 15?
28. Who is verse 17 speaking of?
29. Quote Romans chapter 10 verse 13.
30. Who is the quickening Spirit?

We will begin this lesson by giving Psalms chapter 81 in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 81

- Verse 1 "Sing loud to God our strength; with To God of Jacob sing.
Take up a psalm, the pleasant harp, Timbrel and psalt'ry
bring."
- Verse 2 "Blow trumpets at new-moon, what day our feast appointed is;
For charge to Isr'el, and a law Of Jacob's God was this:"
- Verse 3 "This testimony he ordained In Joseph, when the land Of Egypt
he passed through, whose speech I did not understand."
- Verse 4 "His shoulder I from burdens took, His hands from pots did
free. Thou didst in trouble on me call, And I delivered
thee:"
- Verse 5 "In secret place of thundering I did then answer make; And at
the streams of Meribah Of theya proof did take."
- Verse 6 "O thou, my people, give an ear, I'll testify to the; To
thee, O Isr'el, if thou wilt but hearken unto me."
- Verse 7 "In midst of thee there shall not beÿA heathen god at all;
Nor unto any god unknown Thou, bowing down, shalt fall."
- Verse 8 "I am the Lord thy God, who did From Egypt land thee guide;
I'll fill thy mouth abundantly, Do thou it open wide."
- Verse 9 "My people would not bear my voice, My presence Isr'el
spurned; I gave them then to stubborn hearts, And where they
would, they turned."
- Verse 10 "O that my people had me heard; Isr'el my ways had chose! I
had their en'mies soon subdued. My hand turned on their
foes."
- Verse 11 "The haters of the Lord to him Submission should have
feigned; But as for them, their time should have For evermore
remained."
- Verse 12 "He should have also fed them with The finest of the wheat;
Of honey from the rock thy fill I should have made thee eat."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of chapter 81 of the Psalms.
Psalms 81:1 "{To the chief Musician upon Gittith, [A Psalm] of Asaph.} Sing
aloud unto God our strength: make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob."

Gittith means winepress. Isn't that interesting, since in the last
chapter they were speaking of the vine? It is so irritating to me that so
many people can get excited about ball games and other worldly things, but
they think it a sin for us to get excited about God. In the verse above, we
see excitement and joy. Sing aloud to God who is our strength. Notice in the
rest of the verse, that noise does not bother God. Luke 9:26 "For whosoever
shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be
ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and [in his] Father's, and of
the holy angels." This Scripture, if nothing else, gives us ample reason to
sing praises to our God publicly. We should never cease praising our God. We
should be a sweet, sweet sound in His ear. In song, it is so easy to tell
God how much you love Him. Have you ever thumbed through and read the
beautiful hymns that men and women of God have written under the anointing
of the Holy Spirit of God? They are so beautiful, pretty soon you will be

crying. Singing is a beautiful way of expressing what you want to say to God, when you can't think of any thing to say orally. I believe worshipful singing brings your spirit in close contact with God. My own personal praise song begins by saying praise 4 times and then says, Praise to the One who sent us His Son. The whole song goes on and on, praising God with words I might not be able to express in prayer.

Psalms 81:2 "Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant harp with the psaltery."

It was the custom of the Jewish people to sing Psalms in their worship. Many churches today have begun to sing the Psalms in the Bible. The song that the Lord and His disciples sang just after the Lord's supper probably was a Psalm. The psaltery was like a lyre. This is saying to play beautiful music with your song.

Psalms 81:3 "Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day."

The blowing of the trumpet was to alert the Israelites to the sacred month. The trumpet was blown on the beginning of feast days, as well. When we were in Israel in 1979 we heard the blowing of the trumpet. Jesus will blow the silver trumpet of redemption when we are called to meet Him in the air. There were appointed times to blow the trumpet. Each time the trumpet blew, it was for a specific purpose. It must be blown a specific way to let the people know what they were to do. One of the times it was blown was for the gathering of the people for worship. It was, also, blown to call them to war. It must give off a certain sound for each occasion. Look, with me, at the following Scripture about the blowing of the trumpet. I Corinthians 14:8 "For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?" You can see why it was important to blow it correctly.

Psalms 81:4 "For this [was] a statute for Israel, [and] a law of the God of Jacob."

In the books of Leviticus and Numbers, the laws and statutes concerning the blowing of the trumpet are given.

Psalms 81:5 "This he ordained in Joseph [for] a testimony, when he went out through the land of Egypt: [where] I heard a language [that] I understood not."

Possibly, the reason Joseph is mentioned here is, because it was Joseph who preserved the family of Jacob {Israel} in Egypt. Another thought is that Joseph's descendents, who were part of the 10 tribes that broke off, are to keep the blowing of the trumpets, as well as Judah who remained. Joseph was not an Egyptian when he went to live there. Perhaps, that is what is meant by a language that I understood not.

Psalms 81:6 "I removed his shoulder from the burden: his hands were delivered from the pots."

God, with His Mighty Hand, removed the burden of slavery in Egypt from the Israelites. The mention of the pots, perhaps, has to do with the mortar they made for bricks. They were in hard bondage, until the Lord delivered them from Egypt.

Psalms 81:7 "Thou calledst in trouble, and I delivered thee; I answered thee in the secret place of thunder: I proved thee at the waters of Meribah. Selah."

The Scriptures say, that God heard the cry of the family of Jacob and He delivered them. We could go through the account of their exodus from Egypt, and we will find time and time again when God heard their cry for help, and He helped them; such as at the Red Sea. God spoke to them at the foot of the mountain, and it sounded like thunder. We have all been {in a sense} to the waters of Meribah. Sometimes when we have had trials and tribulations, we have not been successful in having enough faith to overcome the problem. If we do not find enough faith to overcome the problem, then we must pass by Meribah again, until we do have enough faith to overcome. Selah, again, means stop, and pause, and think on these things.

Psalms 81:8 "Hear, O my people, and I will testify unto thee: O Israel, if thou wilt hearken unto me;"

Trials and tribulations will quickly go away, if we learn that our help is in the Lord. God is speaking. Pay close attention to what He is saying. Do not be like those who have ears and do not hear. Hear and understand. God will give us the answer, if we will just let Him. God is still talking to His people today, most of us are not listening.

Psalms 81:9 "There shall no strange god be in thee; neither shalt thou worship any strange god."

This is the first of the ten commandments of God. God had defamed all the gods of Egypt with the plague. These people, who had known all of this, should have no problem carrying this out. Anything, or anyone, that you elevate above God can be a false god. Not only physical Israel needs to heed this, but spiritual Israel, as well.

Psalms 81:10 "I [am] the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt: open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it."

The first part of the verse above leaves no doubt at all who He is. What will God fill their mouth with? His Word. Matthew 4:4 "But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." We are cautioned to eat the Word. If we are filled with the Word of God {Jesus Christ}, we are filled with Jesus. Galatians 2:20 "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

Psalms 81:11 "But my people would not hearken to my voice; and Israel would none of me."

If you are not filled with God's Word, then you do not know the will of God in your life. Decisions made in your carnal mind, that please your flesh, will not please God.

Psalms 81:12 "So I gave them up unto their own hearts' lust: [and] they walked in their own counsels."

If we are not full of the Word of God, then we have a wicked heart. Walking in their own counsels means that they did what was pleasing to their flesh.

Psalms 81:13 "Oh that my people had hearkened unto me, [and] Israel had walked in my ways!"

I say, one more time, you can not walk in God's ways, unless you know what those ways are. The thing that troubles me about this is, God calls them {my people}. To be Christian in name only is a very dangerous thing. We may call Him my God, but if we do not do the will of God, we are not His. We can not do the will of God, until we know what that will is. Read and study your Bible, let God fill you with His Word, so that you will know what God's will is for you. Obey God's Word, then you can truthfully call Him, MY GOD.

Psalms 81:14 "I should soon have subdued their enemies, and turned my hand against their adversaries."

God loved them enough to bring them out of bondage in Egypt. He removed their enemy before them, until they became unfaithful to Him. He will bring us out of Egypt {the world}, but we must have no other gods before HIM.

Psalms 81:15 "The haters of the LORD should have submitted themselves unto him: but their time should have endured for ever."

They could have repented and come to God. They would have received everlasting life in the process. Christians, this is speaking to us. We must obey God and receive His blessings. The penalty for sin is death, but the gift of life is in believing in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Each person must choose sin and death, or life in Jesus Christ.

Psalms 81:16 "He should have fed them also with the finest of the wheat: and with honey out of the rock should I have satisfied thee."

The Great Shepherd knows where the good grass is and feeds His sheep with the finest. When God's people follow Him and obey Him, there is a wonderful reward awaiting them. They will have access to the tree of Life. Look, with me, at the provisions that have been made for the true believer in Christ. Revelation 22:1 "And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb." Revelation 22:2 "In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, [was there] the tree of life, which bare twelve [manner of] fruits, [and] yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree [were] for the healing of the nations." Revelation 22:3 "And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:" Revelation 22:4 "And they shall see his face; and his name [shall be] in their foreheads." Revelation 22:5 "And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever."

Christians, read God's Book every day and store it in your heart. God's desire is for you to live with Him in heaven. Do the will of God for your life, and you will not miss your reward.

Psalms 82 Questions

1. What does Gittith mean?
2. What are we told to do in verse 1 of this lesson?
3. Who is our strength?
4. Quote Luke chapter 9 verse 26.
5. Have you ever thumbed through the hymnal and read the words to the songs?
6. In verse 2, what were they to bring with the Psalm?
7. When was the trumpet to be blown?
8. What type trumpet will Jesus blow to call the Christians?
9. Quote 1 Corinthians chapter 14 verse 8.
10. Where are the laws and statutes concerning the blowing of the trumpet found?
11. Who is the I, in verse 6, who removed their burden?
12. What caused God to deliver Israel from Egypt?
13. When God spoke, it sounded like _____.
14. What does Meribah symbolize?
15. God is still talking to His people today, we are just not _____.
16. What is the first commandment of God?
17. What is a false god?
18. What will God fill their mouth with?
19. Man should not live by bread alone, but by what?
20. Quote Galations chapter 2 verse 20.
21. How can you know the will of God in your life?
22. What does walking in their own counsels mean?
23. What troubles the author about verse 13 of this lesson?
24. What must we do for God to bring us out of Egypt {the world}?
25. The penalty of sin is _____.
26. What are the provisions God has made for those who are saved?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 82 chapter of Psalms in metre.

THE PSALM OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 82

- Verse 1 "AMONG assembled men of might, The mighty God doth stand:
He stands to order judgment right To judges of the land."
verse 2 "How long will ye, with wrongful aid, Th' oppressor's cause
protect? How long, by gift and favor swayed, The wicked man
respect?"
verse 3 "Protect the fatherless and weak, Defend the poor distressed;
And give deliv'rance to the meek By lawless power oppressed."
verse 4 "They will not know nor understand, In darkness on they go:
Quake all the pillars of the land; That totter to and fro."
verse 5 "True, ye are gods, ye kings, I said; And sons of God most
high; Yet as the sons of men ye fade, And as the princes
die."
verse 6 "Arise, O God, assert thy right, Pronounce thy just decree;
The heritage of earth by right Belongs, O Lord, to thee."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 82nd Psalm. Psalms 82:1 "{A Psalm of Asaph.} God standeth in the congregation of the mighty; he judgeth among the gods."

God standeth, means God continues to stand. The congregation, in the Old Testament, are the Israelites. The congregation of the mighty, perhaps, would be speaking of the high priest and the priests, because they were mighty among their people. They were elevated up as gods by their people. They actually said who was allowed to enter the temple, and who could not. They made many judgments of the people. They really were a government in a government. The high priest was set up, at first, to represent God to the people, and the people to God. They started out just fine, but by the time that Jesus was ministering on the earth, the priesthood had gone down to the point that they were buying and selling the position of high priest. The presence of God was over the mercy seat in the tabernacle in the wilderness.

Psalms 82:2 "How long will ye judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked? Selah."

We find that justice did not prevail. God had given these Israelites the most complete set of laws and ordinances known to man. They covered the civil laws, as well as the religious laws. There was no excuse for judging unjustly. God had given them the way to judge every situation. This does not exactly say so, but favoritism was probably being practiced. The priesthood had really gone down. Of course, Selah means stop and think about this.

Psalms 82:3 "Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy."

From this Scripture, it seems their favors had been done for the wealthy, perhaps, for a bribe. They were doing the very opposite of what the Lord had taught them to do. He reminds them, again here, that they must

defend the fatherless and the widow. They must help the needy. This, of course, would not get them any bribes on the earth.

Psalms 82:4 "Deliver the poor and needy: rid [them] out of the hand of the wicked."

If they are to be a good judge, then they must help those who are not able to help themselves. The wicked seem to pick on the poor and needy, because they cannot help themselves. These judges need to remember that their time is coming. They will have to stand before the Lord Jesus on judgment day. They will be judged in the same manner they judged others.

Psalms 82:5 "They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course."

How dark and full of sin can the world get? The very ones, who are supposed to be upholding that which is right, have gone bad themselves. If those who are supposed to uphold righteousness are gone bad, then it seems that there is great darkness. Matthew 15:14 "Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch." Matthew 6:23 "But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great [is] that darkness!"

Psalms 82:6 "I have said, Ye [are] gods; and all of you [are] children of the most High."

Notice, that gods is not capitalized. They are false gods. They are gods in their own sight. This calling them gods is a mocking of the real Word. They were acting with great authority given them by God. It is such a shame that they abused that authority. God had set up a ruling authority of which they were, but they had misused their office. These were Israelites {children of the most High}.

Psalms 82:7 "But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes."

They will be judged more harshly, because they sinned in full knowledge. Even though they had a high office on this earth, they were but men, and would die as men. The statement like princes, means that their death will be first. God judges the house of God first.

Psalms 82:8 "Arise, O God, judge the earth: for thou shalt inherit all nations."

He is calling for Messiah who will rule all the earth justly. We would say, come quickly Lord Jesus. Jesus will rule as King of kings and Lord of lords. Jesus is the Righteous Judge who all will stand before in judgment. Philippians 2:10 "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of [things] in heaven, and [things] in earth, and [things] under the earth;"

- Verse 1 "Keep not, O God, we thee entreat, O keep not silence now;
Hold not thy peace, O Mighty God, And still be no more thou."
- Verse 2 "For lo! what tumults, in their rage, Thy enemies have made!
And they that haters are of thee Have lifted up the head."
- Verse 3 "Against thy chosen people they Do crafty counsel take;
And they against thy hidden ones Do consultations make."
- Verse 4 "Come on, we'll cut their nation off, We'll blot them out,
and they; And thus shall Isr'el's race and name From mem'ry
pass away."
- Verse 5 "With one consent they have conspired, Against thee they
combined; With Edom's tents, the Ishma'lites, With Moab,
Hagar joined."
- Verse 6 "Gebal, and Ammon, Amalek, Philistia, those of Tyre,
And Assur, joined with them; to help Lot's children they
conspire."
- Verse 7 "To them as unto Midian do, Jabin at Kison strand;
And Sis'ra, which at Endor fell, To fertilize the land."
- Verse 8 "Like Oreb and like Zeeb make Their noble men to fall;
Like Zeba and Zalmunna make their noble princes all."
- Verse 9 "Who said, for our inheritance Let us God's houses take.
My God, them like a wheel, as chaff Before the wind them
make."
- Verse 10 "As fire consumes the wood, as flame Doth mountains set on
fire, O chase and frighten them with storm And tempest of
thine ire."
- Verse 11 "With shame their faces fill, O Lord, That they may seek thy
name. Let them confounded be, and vexed, Yea perish in their
shame."
- Verse 12 "That men may know, that thou, whose name Jehovah is alone.
As God Most High, O'er all the earth, Art seated on thy
throne."

We will begin the verse by verse study of Psalms chapter 83 now. Psalms 83:1 "{A Song [or] Psalm of Asaph.} Keep not thou silence, O God: hold not thy peace, and be not still, O God."

This Psalm of Asaph is an appeal to God to intervene and save Israel. When God speaks, the world listens. Asaph is not asking God to send a warrior to lead them back. Asaph is fully aware that God Himself could bring them back, if He would speak up.

Psalms 83:2 "For, lo, thine enemies make a tumult: and they that hate thee have lifted up the head."

It appears to me that, these enemies of God and God's people are taking advantage of the fact that God is letting them fight their own battles. This is the chance for the enemy to come in and destroy Israel. They have even begun to brag about the conquest.

Psalms 83:3 "They have taken crafty counsel against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden ones."

We have discussed before how the enemies of God try to destroy God's people. This is the case here. God will stop them from destroying them. The hidden ones are hidden by God.

Psalms 83:4 "They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from [being] a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance."

The Israel that they would like to stop are two-fold. They would like to stop the nation of Israel. They want to stop spiritual Israel {the church}, as well. There is just One standing between them and victory, and that is God. Jesus has actually set up habitation in the church. Their memories of Israel are frightening. They knew that in the past they could not overcome Israel, because Israel's God would fight for them. Now that they feel that Israel's God has forsaken them, they think they can whip Israel.

Psalms 83:5 "For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee:"

The enemies of the nation of Israel are many. All of the countries driven out before them are enemies of Israel. It appears from this, that a group of nations have come together against Israel. The main thing they have in common is that they hate Israel. They are a confederacy, not only against Israel, but against Almighty God.

Psalms 83:6 "The tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites; of Moab, and the Hagarenes;"

Esau was the father of the Edomites. He thought so little of his birthright, that he sold it for a bowl of soup. He had always hated Israel, even though he was related to them. Ishmael had been the son of Abraham and the bondwoman. The Ishmaelites descended from him. They had always hated the Israelites, because they were Abraham's children with Sarah. Abraham gave Isaac {Israelite} the right hand {spiritual} blessing and gave Ishmael {son of the bondwoman, Hagar} the left hand blessing [which is of the flesh]. It appears that the Hagarenes were the descendants by Hagar. This group of people felt as if they had been cheated, and they all hated Israel. In fact, this feud is still going on today between the Arabs and the Jews.

Psalms 83:7 "Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre;"

Gebal, Ammon, and Amalek were all foes of Israel and had been for years. We know the Philistines were off and on in war with Israel all the time. The Philistines had blinded Samson, they were, also, the group that captured and desecrated the ark. David had killed the giant from the Philistines. Tyre had many men who worked on the tabernacle, but that was for money. They were really never friends with Israel.

Psalms 83:8 "Assur also is joined with them: they have holpen the children of Lot. Selah."

Assur was just one more evil group to come against Israel. The children of Lot were the nations that formed from Lot practicing incest with his daughters. Genesis 19:36 "Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father." Genesis 19:37 "And the firstborn bare a son, and called his

name Moab: the same [is] the father of the Moabites unto this day." Genesis 19:38 "And the younger, she also bare a son, and called his name Ben-ammi: the same [is] the father of the children of Ammon unto this day." The nations of Moab and Ammon are part of this evil conspiracy. Selah; it is time to pause and think of the evil of all these nations coming against Israel. This battle {in a sense} has never stopped. This is the battle of good and evil.

Psalms 83:9 "Do unto them as [unto] the Midianites; as [to] Sisera, as [to] Jabin, at the brook of Kison:"

We see Asaph looking back at the miraculous destruction God had brought about in the past against those who opposed Israel. Asaph is saying, do the same thing to these enemies.

Psalms 83:10 "[Which] perished at En-dor: they became [as] dung for the earth."

This is speaking of the brook suddenly overflowing its banks and drowning the enemy of Israel

Psalms 83:11 "Make their nobles like Oreb, and like Zeeb: yea, all their princes as Zebah, and as Zalmunna:"

This is just saying, kill the ruler as same as the footsoldier. Gideon captured and killed Zeba and Zalmunna.

Psalms 83:12 "Who said, Let us take to ourselves the houses of God in possession."

The houses of God had great possessions of silver and gold. Their eyes were on the wealth they could loot. They did not realize, to rob God is a fatal mistake. We have people, now, who are breaking into churches and stealing things they can use or sell. This is a very dangerous thing to do. The curse this type of action would bring would be an eternal curse.

Psalms 83:13 "O my God, make them like a wheel; as the stubble before the wind."

Perhaps, this wheel means that they will turn over and over and never stop. The stubble of the field blows away with the wind. This unattached wheel would be like the stubble, it would roll over by the slightest wind, but never get anywhere.

Psalms 83:14 "As the fire burneth a wood, and as the flame setteth the mountains on fire;"

Fire burns the wood and leaves nothing but ashes. Lightning striking a tree in the forest can destroy a large area of trees. Sometimes forest fires look as if the whole world is on fire.

Psalms 83:15 "So persecute them with thy tempest, and make them afraid with thy storm."

Asaph is asking God to let His vengeance come upon these evil people. God really controls the wind, sea, the lightning, and all other things of nature. God could send whatever problem He desired upon them.

Psalms 83:16 "Fill their faces with shame; that they may seek thy name, O LORD."

I guess one of the best examples in all the Bible, about someone being shamed for what they had done, was Paul. He had actually persecuted the Christians. When he came face to face with the Light of this world, he repented and changed. Asaph is saying here, show them your face and make them ashamed for what they have done.

Psalms 83:17 "Let them be confounded and troubled for ever; yea, let them be put to shame, and perish:"

He is saying, here, that since they will not change, bring your everlasting judgment upon them. He is asking the Lord to destroy them, before they destroy Israel.

Psalms 83:18 "That [men] may know that thou, whose name alone [is] JEHOVAH, [art] the most high over all the earth."

So many times in prayer, I have said, Lord, show them who You are. This is what Asaph is saying here. Asaph says to God, defeat these mighty nations that have come against Israel, and all of the nations will glorify your name. We do know that the incident at the Red Sea made many a country reluctant to come against Israel, because of the Mighty God that had done the miracle for them. When this was written a good amount of time had passed since God had brought Israel out of Egypt with His mighty Hand, and these nations around Israel had forgotten that God fights for Israel. If God were to do this for Israel here, Asaph says, all the nations around would know the power of JEHOVAH the Almighty God. JEHOVAH, THE SELF EXISTING ONE, THE ETERNAL ONE, whatever you choose to call Him, there is no greater. He is Supreme Ruler of the universe.

Psalms 83 Questions

1. God standeth in the _____ of the mighty.
2. What does standeth mean?
3. Who were the congregation in the Old Testament?
4. Who were mighty among the people?
5. They were a government in a _____.
6. What was the purpose of the high priest in the beginning?
7. What terrible condition had the priesthood dropped to, in Jesus' time?
8. Where was the presence of God in the tabernacle?
9. God had given these Israelites the most complete set of _____ and _____ known to man.
10. Verse three says, Defend the _____ and _____.
11. What had the priesthood been doing that was opposite to the teachings of God?
12. Who do the wicked seem to pick on?
13. What should these earthly judges remember?
14. How dark and how full of sin can the world get?
15. Quote Matthew chapter 15 verse 14.
16. Quote Matthew chapter 6 verse 23.
17. What are the gods in verse 6?
18. Who are the children of the Most High in verse 6?
19. Even though they had a high office in this world they would die like _____.
20. Who is Asaph calling for in verse 8?
21. What does the Christian cry now?
22. Quote Philippians chapter 2 verse 10.
23. What is the 83rd Psalm asking?
24. The hidden ones, in verse 3, are whom?
25. What Israel are they trying to destroy in verse 4?
26. This group of nations that have come against Israel have one thing in common, what is it?
27. Who was the founder of the Edomites?
28. Who are the Ishmaelites?
29. Who were the Hagarenes?
30. What were two terrible things the Philistines did to Israel?
31. What had Israel done to the Philistines?
32. What were the two evil countries that came from Lot and his two daughters?
33. What happens to those who rob God's house?
34. What happens to wood that is burned?
35. Which natural elements does God control?
36. Who is the best example in the Bible of someone, who was ashamed of what he had done, and then came to Christ?
37. What is God called by in verse 18?
38. What are some other names He goes by, just as powerful?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 84th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALM OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 84

- Verse 1 "Lord God of hosts, how lovely The place where thou dost dwell! Thy tabernacles holy In pleasantness excel."
- Verse 2 "My soul is longing, fainting, Jehovah's court to see; My heart and flesh are crying, O living God, for thee.
- Verse 3 "Behold, the sparrow findeth A house in which to rest, The swallow hath discovered Where she may build her nest;"
- Verse 4 "And where, securely sheltered, Her young she forth may bring; So, Lord of hosts, thy altars I seek, my God, my King."
- Verse 5 "Blest who thy house inhabit, They ever give the praise; Blest all whom thou dost strengthen, Who love the sacred ways."
- Verse 6 "Who pass through Baca's valley, And make in it a well; There rains in showers abundant The pools with water fill."
- Verse 7 "So they from strength unwearied Go forward into strength, Till they appear in Zion, Before the Lord at length."
- Verse 8 "O hear, Lord God of Jacob, To me an answer yield; The face of thy anointed, Behold, O God, our shield."
- Verse 9 "One day excels a thousand, If spent thy courts within; I'll choose thy threshold rather That dwell in tents of sin."
- Verse 10 "Our sun and shield, Jehovah, Will grace and glory give; No good will He deny them That uprightly do live."
- Verse 11 "O God of hosts, Jehovah, How blest is every one, Who confidence reposes On thee, O Lord, alone."

We will begin now with the verse by verse study of the 84th chapter of Psalms. Psalms 84:1 "{To the chief Musician upon Gittith, A Psalm for the sons of Korah.} How amiable [are] thy tabernacles, O LORD of hosts!"

Amiable, in the verse above, means loved or well-beloved. This is the only use of this word in all the Bible. There is so much in this little verse. Let us first look at the tabernacle. The tabernacle in the wilderness was a place where God met with His people. It was patterned after the true tabernacle which is in heaven. When the people could go to the tabernacle, it was a point of contact with Almighty God. Hebrews 8:5 "Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, [that] thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount." As we always do, in these lessons, let us look at what it means to the Christian. Revelation 21:3 "And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God [is] with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, [and be] their God." Let us look at one more Scripture on the tabernacle. II Corinthians 5:1 "For we know that if our earthly house of [this] tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." The most beautiful thing in all the earth is believers worshipping their God. The Jews came to the tabernacle to do just that on feast days.

Christians gather on Sundays. To take away the privilege to worship with others of like faith, would be to tear our heart out. The tabernacle was the center point of the tents when they travelled. This should still be true. Our worship of God should be the center of our life. God's desire is to tabernacle in the very center of our being.

Psalms 84:2 "My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the LORD: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God."

I will begin this by asking, do we long for fellowship with God? Is God the focal point of our life? Are we feeling as if we want to go and worship God, or do we go because it is an obligation? In recent years, an area in China made it illegal to worship God publicly. After years of not being able to go to church, the government allowed the people to worship again. People waited 10 or 12 hours for the privilege of attending church. The problem is, we do not miss the privilege, until it is taken away from us. Perhaps, the psalmist had been forbidden to gather with the Lord and the Lord's people. It was as if he would die, if he could not go to the court of the Lord and worship. His bones ached, his flesh felt dead, in fact, even his heart within him was breaking to be with the living God. You have heard me say before that, I refuse to go to a church where it is apparent that the Spirit of God is not there. Church, to me, is fellowshiping with my Saviour.

Psalms 84:3 "Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, [even] thine altars, O LORD of hosts, my King, and my God."

Everything God created has a place. As the verse above says, for the swallow it is a nest. There is a longing put inside every person, who was ever born, to feel what that swallow feels, when she is in her nest. We all have a desire to worship someone who is better than what this world has to offer. We all have a need of belonging to someone. This someone we are seeking is God. I believe this Psalm is David's and I believe he is saying, I must go to the altar and meet with the LORD of hosts, my King, and my God. This is a longing that can not be satisfied anywhere else.

Psalms 84:4 "Blessed [are] they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee. Selah."

Dwell means to continually live. David is speaking of how blessed are those who never have to leave the temple. They can praise the Lord all the day long. There is something about a church, or a tabernacle, in their case, that causes us to want to worship and praise God. Of course you can praise and worship Him wherever you are, but there is something special about the church.

Psalms 84:5 "Blessed [is] the man whose strength [is] in thee; in whose heart [are] the ways [of them]."

He has already gone into detail about how wonderful it is to live continually in God's house. He now says, also, how wonderful it would be to be allowed to go on the special feast days and worship. It appears for some reason he has been denied this. Those who understand their own weaknesses are more apt to depend on the strength of God. II Corinthians 12:9 "And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made

perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." In my weakness I depend upon the strength of God to get me through. Our heart would be stayed upon Him, if He was our strength.

Psalms 84:6 "[Who] passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools."

This, perhaps, is speaking of journeying to the sanctuary or temple. Many came from miles around on the feast days to the temple in Jerusalem to worship. God had provided wells along the way to keep them from starving for water. Some of the wells of Old Testament time are still giving water today. As they refreshed and got a drink at these wells, they would have an opportunity to visit with others going to or from Jerusalem.

Psalms 84:7 "They go from strength to strength, [every one of them] in Zion appeareth before God."

Three times a year all the males over 12 years old had to attend services in the temple at Jerusalem. It seemed the nearer they got to their place of worship, the stronger they got. In the physical the place of worship was in Zion in Jerusalem. In Revelation we saw that Jesus {the Light} was in all the churches where He was worshipped. You can see that the Christians, too, appeareth before God.

Psalms 84:8 "O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer: give ear, O God of Jacob. Selah."

This seems to be a cry for audience with God. He wants to go to the temple and worship, but if he can not, then hear his prayer where he is. Of course, Selah means pause and think on these things.

Psalms 84:9 "Behold, O God our shield, and look upon the face of thine anointed."

This just must be David {the anointed}. This is a prayer to the protector of all believers to hear their prayer.

Psalms 84:10 "For a day in thy courts [is] better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness."

Whatever humble job God would have him do, would be just fine with him, as long as he could be with God. I have said so many times, I do not care what my mansion in heaven looks like, I just want to be with Jesus. All the splendid living in the world away from God is not worth being away from God.

Psalms 84:11 "For the LORD God [is] a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good [thing] will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."

This is speaking of having protection and Light. The Lord controls the sun and the moon. Jesus brought us grace and glory, when he was crucified. Ephesians 2:8 "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God:" Romans 5:15 "But not as the offence, so also [is] the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead,

much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, [which is] by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many." It is really difficult for us to understand how the crucifixion of Jesus glorified the Father, but it did as we see in the following verse. John 17:1 "These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:" We Christians take on the righteousness of Christ, when we are saved. We are in right standing with God, just as if we had never sinned. If we walk in that righteousness that Jesus purchased for us on Calvary, no good thing will be withheld from us. We will be joint-heirs with Jesus. Romans 8:17 "And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and jointheirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with [him], that we may be also glorified together."

Psalms 84:12 "O LORD of hosts, blessed [is] the man that trusteth in thee."

How much more blessed could you be than to be part of the family of God? To trust in Him, is as if we are resting in the knowledge that all is well with our soul. Ephesians 4:13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: Philippians 2:24 "But I trust in the Lord that I also myself shall come shortly." To trust in God is life everlasting.

Psalms 84 Questions

1. What does amiable, in verse one, mean?
2. What was the tabernacle in the wilderness?
3. What was it patterned after?
4. Quote Hebrews chapter 8 verse 5.
5. Quote Revelation chapter 21 verse 3.
6. What does 2 Corinthians chapter 5 verse 1 call a tabernacle?
7. What would it be like to take away our privilege to worship with others?
8. Do we long for fellowship with God?
9. Why do we go to church?
10. We do not miss the privilege of worship, until it is _____.
11. The someone we are all seeking is _____.
12. What does dwell mean?
13. Who are the blessed in verse 5?
14. Quote 2 Corinthians chapter 12 verse 9.
15. In verse 6, passing through the valley of Baca is speaking of what?
16. How many times a year were all the males above 12 years old required to go to the temple to worship?
17. Where was Zion physically?
18. What book of the Bible tells us that Jesus is in all the churches who believe in Him?
19. What is God called in verse 9?
20. To be near God, David was willing to be what?
21. Quote Ephesians chapter 2 verse 8.
22. Glorify the Son that the Son might _____.
23. Where do we find that Christians will be jointheirs with Jesus?
24. Quote Ephesians chapter 4 verse 13.
25. Quote Philippians chapter 2 verse 24.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 85th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 85

- Verse 1 "Lord, thou hast favor shown thy land, And brought back
Jacob's captive band; Thy people's sins thou pardoned hast,
And all their guilt hast covered o'er, Removed from them
thine anger sore, All thy fierce wrath behind thee cast."
- Verse 2 "Turn us, O God our Saviour, turn, Nor longer let thine anger
burn. Wilt thou forever angry be? Through ages shall thy
wrath survive? Wilt thou not us again revive, That so we may
rejoice in thee?"
- Verse 3 "O Lord, to us thy mercy show, And thy salvation now bestow;
We wait to hear what God will say: Peace to his people he
will speak, And to his saints, but let them seek No more in
folly's path to stray."
- Verse 4 "His saving help is surely near To those his holy name that
fear; Thus glory dwells in all our land. Now heavenly truth
unites with grace, And righteousness and peace embrace, In
full accord they ever stand."
- Verse 5 "Truth springing forth the earth shall crown, And
righteousness from heav'n look down, And God on us his
goodness shed: Our land shall them with plenty flow; Before
him righteousness shall go, And cause us in his steps to
tread.

We will now begin the verse by verse study of chapter 85 of Psalms. Psalms 85:1 "{To the chief Musician, A Psalm for the sons of Korah.} LORD, thou hast been favourable unto thy land: thou hast brought back the captivity of Jacob."

There are many different opinions about the time this happened, and just as many ideas about who the penman was. Since this is the case, could we not think of this as a Psalm for all ages? I look back over the wonderful blessings that the United States has had. We possibly, as no other country in the world, could actually live within our borders. We have been blessed with a land that produces more food than we can use. There has been prosperity for everyone. There has not been a major war fought on this soil since the Civil war, over a hundred years ago. We are blessed far beyond what we deserve. I believe the prosperity and all of the blessings that this land has experienced is because, the blessings of God has been upon us. We must take a close look at our nation now, because it appears that we are out of fellowship with God. Our land is filled with crime of every type. There seem to be no answers to these major problems. We are at the end of our rope. The real reason for our problems, I believe, is that God's blessings have been removed. We are out of fellowship with God. The Israelites would get into a mess just about like the one we have today, and they would repent and pray to God for His blessings to be returned. Perhaps, we should heed the following Scripture. II Chronicles 7:14 "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their

sin, and will heal their land." God will bring our land back to its former greatness, if we will turn back and worship Him. We must, also, look at this from the standpoint of the natural Israelite. Perhaps, the reason the word Jacob was used here, is that Jacob represented all 12 tribes of Israel. Truly there was a returning to the land in the time this Psalm was written, and even today, there is a returning to the holy land. LORD, is Jehovah. This was the same God that had Moses to lead the children out of bondage to the holy land of promise. When God's people have been in terrible situations, there has always been a {Moses} to lead them out of sin and the world, to the promised land.

Psalms 85:2 "Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people, thou hast covered all their sin. Selah."

What has their sin been covered with? The blood of the Lamb. It is amazing to me how many times God forgave these Israelites. On day of atonement, the blood of the lamb was carried into the very presence of God to cover the sins of the people. Christians, your sins are not covered, they are done away with. The precious blood of the Lamb {Jesus Christ} washed you in His blood and made you white as snow. In exchange for our sin, He clothed us in His righteousness. Selah, is a good word here. It is time to pause and think on this.

Psalms 85:3 "Thou hast taken away all thy wrath: thou hast turned [thyself] from the fierceness of thine anger."

The wonderful thing about God is that He is longsuffering. Many times when we deserve to be punished severely, the Lord will give us another chance. It was no different with these Israelites, except it seemed they sinned more often. You would think with the presence of God with them, they would not have sinned. When you come to think of it, we are in His presence, too. When God forgives, His wrath is gone, also.

Psalms 85:4 "Turn us, O God of our salvation, and cause thine anger toward us to cease."

This is saying, We have made such a mess of our life. God you make us different. Who is the God of salvation? Jesus Christ.

Psalms 85:5 "Wilt thou be angry with us for ever? wilt thou draw out thine anger to all generations?"

Sometimes when we have sinned, it seems like forever before we are comforted that all is well. This really is a silly question. The penman knows that God is a forgiving God. He has forgiven them over and over already. Sin remains, until it is forgiven. After it is forgiven, God will remember it no more.

Psalms 85:6 "Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?"

Many of the old hymns speak of a request for God to revive us again. Rejoicing comes when there is a knowing that all is well with my soul.

Psalms 85:7 "Shew us thy mercy, O LORD, and grant us thy salvation."

It is by the mercy of God that any of us are saved. There is no salvation in any, but in Jesus Christ our Lord. Acts 4:12 "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Salvation is available to whosoever will. It is our option to accept, or reject, the offer of salvation. I Timothy 4:10 "For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe." He offers salvation to all, only those who believe receive salvation.

Psalms 85:8 "I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly."

I have said several times in these lessons that, God is still speaking to His people even today, but some of us are not listening. Prayer is a two-way conversation. We should be careful to be still and let God speak to our heart. God brings salvation and salvation brings peace. Notice, the warning not to go back to the sinful ways. Hebrews chapter 6 tells exactly what we can expect, if we go back into our sinful ways.

Psalms 85:9 "Surely his salvation [is] nigh them that fear him; that glory may dwell in our land."

Fear of God is the beginning of wisdom. This fear has to do with holding God in high esteem. When we acknowledge the fact of the holiness of God, it is easier to come to salvation. Possibly, the most reassuring thing to know is that when we repent and accept Jesus as our Saviour, we have established our eternal home in heaven. Heaven is the Christian's promised land.

Psalms 85:10 "Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed [each other]."

Mercy is a gift from God. Romans 9:16 "So then [it is] not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy." James 3:17 "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, [and] easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy." Mercy and truth are both in Jesus Christ. Righteousness {right standing with God} and peace are the gifts the believer receives by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 85:11 "Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven."

The Truth that is in the world is the spoken and written Word of God. Righteousness is bestowed upon every person who has faith in Jesus. We do not buy righteousness, neither do we earn it, it comes as a gift to us from heaven. It belongs to Jesus, but He shared it with us.

Psalms 85:12 "Yea, the LORD shall give [that which is] good; and our land shall yield her increase."

God controls the rain, and the sunshine, and even the soil that grows the plant. When we are in right standing with God, God sends the needed things to make a bumper crop. Jesus removed the curse that was spoken upon

the earth. When we give to God as we should, God takes care of all of our needs. Matthew 6:33 "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Psalms 85:13 "Righteousness shall go before him; and shall set [us] in the way of his steps."

Jesus is Righteousness, and we must walk in His Light to stay in the way. I John 1:7 "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." Jesus has blazed the righteous path before us and has lit the way that we might follow without stumbling and falling.

Psalms 85 Questions

1. Since there are so many opinions on who the penman was and what time it was written, could we not assume that it is for _____ _____?
2. What modern country has tasted of many of God's blessings?
3. Why does the author believe the problems of today are so great?
4. Quote 2 Chronicles chapter 7 verse 14.
5. God will bring our land back to its former greatness, if we do what?
6. Why was the word Jacob used, instead of Israel in verse 1?
7. What is LORD in verse 1?
8. What has their sin been covered with?
9. Christians, your sins are not covered, but _____ _____ _____.
10. In exchange for our sin, Jesus clothed us in what?
11. The wonderful thing about God is that He is _____.
12. When God forgives, His wrath is _____, also.
13. Who is the God of salvation?
14. Sin remains, until it is _____.
15. What is the message of many old hymns?
16. Quote Acts chapter 4 verse 12.
17. Who is Jesus Savior of?
18. God brings salvation, and salvation brings _____.
19. Where do we find Scriptures cautioning not to go back into a sinful way of life?
20. What is the beginning of wisdom?
21. What is the Christian's promised land?
22. Quote Romans chapter 9 verse 16.
23. Mercy and truth are both in _____ _____.
24. What are the two gifts, in verse 10, the Christian receives by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ?
25. What are the two truths in the world today?
26. Quote Matthew chapter 6 verse 33.
27. Quote 1 John chapter 1 verse 7.
28. _____ has blazed the righteous path before us.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 86th chapter of Psalms in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 86

- Verse 1 "O Lord, do thou bow down thy ear, And hear me graciously;
Because I sorely troubled am, I am in poverty."
- Verse 2 "Because I'm holy, let my soul By thee delivered be: O thou
my God, thy servant save, That puts his trust in thee."
- Verse 3 "Since unto thee I daily cry, Be merciful to me. Rejoice thy
servant's soul; for, Lord, I lift my soul to thee."
- Verse 4 "For thou, O Lord, most gracious art, And ready to forgive;
And rich in mercy, all that call Upon thee to relieve."
- Verse 5 "O Lord, my prayer here; the voice of my request attend: In
troublesome times I'll call on thee; For thou wilt answer
send."
- Verse 6 "O Lord, among the heathen gods like thee there is not one;
Nor are there any works, O Lord, Like those which thou hast
done."
- Verse 7 "All nations, Lord, whom thou hast made Shall come and praise
proclaim; Before thy face, they worship shall, And glorify
thy name."
- Verse 8 "Because thou art exceeding great, And works by thee are
done, Which are to be admired; and thou Art God thyself
alone."
- Verse 9 "Teach me thy way, and in thy truth, O Lord, then walk will
I; Unite my heart that I thy name May fear continually."
- Verse 10 "O Lord my God, with all my heart Thy praise I will proclaim;
I will ascribe forevermore All glory to thy name."
- Verse 11 "Because thy mercy toward me In greatness doth excel; And
thou delivered hast my soul Out from the lowest hell.
- Verse 12 "O God, the proud against me rise, And violent men have met,
That for my soul have sought; and thee before them have not
set."
- Verse 13 "But thou, Jehovah, art a God In whom compassions flow; Thy
mercy, grace and truth abound, Thou art to anger slow."
- Verse 14 "O turn to me thy countenance, And mercy on me have; Thy
servant strengthen, and the son of thine own handmaid save."
- Verse 15 "Show me a sign for good, that they Who do me hate may see,
And be ashamed; because thou, Lord, Didst help and comfort
me.

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 86th Psalm. Psalms 86:1 "{A Prayer of David.} Bow down thine ear, O LORD, hear me: for I [am] poor and needy."

Sometimes the penman is obscure, but this Psalm is credited to the pen of David. We know that David was not a poor man in finances, so this, perhaps, is speaking of him being poor in spirit. This is, perhaps, one of the many times that David was suffering persecution. This is a plea for the LORD to turn His ear toward David and hear his request. Consider how badly I need you and listen to my earnest prayer, is, possibly, what he is trying

to say. David is a lot like some of us, in that he prays pretty often and always asks God not to turn away from his request.

Psalms 86:2 "Preserve my soul; for I [am] holy: O thou my God, save thy servant that trusteth in thee."

I believe David is saying, in a sense, {lead me not into temptation, deliver me from evil}. In the {I am holy}, I believe, David has made a definite decision to follow the Lord all the way. His heart is holy, it does not desire to sin. He is, also, aware that it is not in his power alone to remain holy. He asks God to preserve him. Christians should pray that God would place a hedge around us to keep the enemy from attacking us. Satan greatly fears the blood of Jesus, because it was the shed blood of our Lord that defeated Satan. Notice, also, that David calls himself, the LORD's servant. The key word in this is, perhaps, my. David has accepted the LORD as his own personal Saviour. In the verse above, I believe that David is asking the Lord to protect him from his enemies, and to help him live by his spirit which is committed to the LORD.

Psalms 86:3 "Be merciful unto me, O Lord: for I cry unto thee daily."

We are taught, even by the smoke that goes up from the altar in the sanctuary, to pray at least twice a day. The oil is refueled twice a day. The smoke, that goes up from burning this oil, symbolizes the prayers of the saints. David fellowshiped with God in prayer everyday. Every person who ever lived {except Jesus Christ} should cry out for mercy, and not justice. This consistent prayer will get God's attention. James 5:16 "Confess [your] faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Psalms 86:4 "Rejoice the soul of thy servant: for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul."

The soul of man cries out for fellowship with God. The only true joy and peace comes from knowing that all is right with your soul. True rejoicing comes from the inner man.

Psalms 86:5 "For thou, Lord, [art] good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee."

The Israelites {whom David was part of} knew better than anyone else just how forgiving the Lord was, because He forgave them over and over as they journeyed through the wilderness on their way to the promised land. He does the very same thing for us, as we go through our wilderness wanderings on our way to our promised land {heaven}. Acts 2:21 "And it shall come to pass, [that] whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." When I study the journeys of the Israelites and see the mercy and forgiveness the Lords had for these rebellious people, I think, maybe, there is hope for me.

Psalms 86:6 "Give ear, O LORD, unto my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications."

Supplications, in this verse, means prayers. The special thing that we must notice, here, is that David said this aloud. This was not a silent prayer. The word voice lets us know that.

Psalms 86:7 "In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee: for thou wilt answer me."

This is a bold statement of faith by David, here. He is saying, I need not worry, because I know you will answer my prayer, once you have heard.

Psalms 86:8 "Among the gods [there is] none like unto thee, O Lord; neither [are there any works] like unto thy works."

Notice, gods is not capitalized. This, then, is speaking of all the thousands of false gods. God proved this statement to be absolutely true when He defamed all the gods of Egypt. As we have said so many times Egypt symbolizes the world. When He defamed Egypt's gods, it was defaming all the false gods of the world. No one can match the creation of all the world, and everything in it, and around it. No work was ever greater than what God did for all of us. Idols translate {nothings}, if you look them up in the Strong's concordance.

Psalms 86:9 "All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name."

This means that people of every nation will bow down and worship God. The following three Scripture say it better than I possible could. Romans 14:11 "For it is written, [As] I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." Philippians 2:10 "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of [things] in heaven, and [things] in earth, and [things] under the earth;" Philippians 2:11 "And [that] every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ [is] Lord, to the glory of God the Father." The Creator will be recognized and worshipped by His creation.

Psalms 86:10 "For thou [art] great, and doest wondrous things: thou [art] God alone."

There is only One good, or great, and that is God. The wonderous things He has done are so many, that all the books in the world could not hold them if they were all written down. One of the most wonderous things of all, to me, is purchasing our salvation for us. Only God can forgive sin. Sin brings the sentence of death to the sinner. God the Son became my substitute and paid in full my sentence of death. The word {doest} means continues to do. Hebrews 9:12 "Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption [for us]." Hebrews 9:13 "For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:" Hebrews 9:14 "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" Hebrews 9:15 "And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions [that were] under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance."

Psalms 86:11 "Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name."

We know that David is not saying, teach me thy law, because David was already aware of God's law. I can see David saying in this, I want to know

you better O LORD. The very best way to know the LORD and His Truth is to read the Word. The Bible reveals the secrets of life. It, also, teaches more about our Lord, and what His wishes for us are. David is saying , in the word unite, make my heart stayed upon you. I do not want to have a heart that listens to the flesh. I want my heart stayed upon the Lord. Fear, or reverence of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. The Holy Spirit of God is the Teacher in heavenly things.

Psalms 86:12 "I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify thy name for evermore."

In verse 11 above, David had requested the Lord to cause his heart to be united in the Lord. David had asked for a pure heart. Now, we see this heart totally committed to the Lord praising the Lord. Again David says, my God. In this verse, you can easily see that God is a person's personal God. He may be God of the masses, but He is our God, one at a time. It is so good to know that He is my God, too. To each individual, He is my God. With a heart stayed on God, knowing that all is well with my soul, would bring overwhelming praise from my inner most being. We should be like David, and glorify his name for evermore.

Psalms 86:13 "For great [is] thy mercy toward me: and thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell."

The fate of every living creature would be hell, had it not been for the Saviour. He not only delivered David, but you and me as well. It is difficult to understand the great mercy of the Lord. We all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, but His mercy endureth forever and He sent His Son to save us.

Psalms 86:14 "O God, the proud are risen against me, and the assemblies of violent [men] have sought after my soul; and have not set thee before them."

We have discussed before, how evil men hate the servants of God. I believe it pricks their conscience greatly. It is a shame, but many times, those in great earthly authority are the very ones who ridicule the servant of God. Let's look at what Jesus said about this. It might give us some consolation. John 15:18 "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before [it hated] you." The world and its people are really not hating David, but are hating the God within David. That is true of the servant of God today. The world hates the Christ within you. The Christ within you causes them great concern for their soul. The only out they think they have, is to attack the servant of God.

Psalms 86:15 "But thou, O Lord, [art] a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth."

We know that the Lord is delaying His coming back right now, hoping that a few more will be saved. II Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." God has always had mercy on those who cry to Him for help. The Israelites in Egypt, are possibly one of the best examples of His mercy. Their rebellious deeds, and being forgiven over and over, is a perfect

example of God's longsuffering and mercy. Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth and the Life. God cannot lie, He is the Truth.

Psalms 86:16 "O turn unto me, and have mercy upon me; give thy strength unto thy servant, and save the son of thine handmaid."

Possibly, the handmaid referred to would show, that even though Samuel came and anointed David, he had been serving God since birth. It, possibly, means that he had a mother who loved God and taught him from infancy. It does appear that David's mother belonged to God {thine handmaid}. I can, also, see that he does not want God to look on him in judgment, but in mercy. In speaking of the strength, lets look at how much strength the Christian receives from Christ. Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Psalms 86:17 "Shew me a token for good; that they which hate me may see [it], and be ashamed: because thou, LORD, hast holpen me, and comforted me."

David is asking for God to do something of the nature that would show all of these doubting Thomases, that he belongs to God. David knows his help and comfort are in the Lord. He just wants all his enemies to know it, too. The best example in all the Bible of this is when Elijah came against the hundreds of Baal's prophets. I Kings 18:24 "And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken." Of course, Baal never answered. God answered by fire and the people killed all of the false prophets. I Kings 18:36 "And it came to pass at [the time of] the offering of the [evening] sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou [art] God in Israel, and [that] I [am] thy servant, and [that] I have done all these things at thy word." I Kings 18:37 "Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou [art] the LORD God, and [that] thou hast turned their heart back again." I Kings 18:38 "Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that [was] in the trench." I Kings 18:39 "And when all the people saw [it], they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he [is] the God; the LORD, he [is] the God." I Kings 18:40 "And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them: and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there." To get the whole story, read the entire chapter 18 of 1 Kings.

To summarize this lesson, I would say, it emphasizes the fact that God is God of individuals. He is longsuffering and full of mercy. He will forgive and deliver all who call on His name.

Psalms 86 Questions

1. What two reasons does David give for the Lord hearing his prayer in verse 1?
2. What was the poor, in verse 1, probably speaking of?
3. How is David like most believers in verse 1?
4. What is David saying, in a sense, in verse 2?
5. What does he mean by, I am holy?
6. Why did David ask God to preserve him?
7. Satan greatly fears the _____ of Jesus.
8. David calls himself the Lord's _____.
9. How often did David cry unto the Lord?
10. What, in the tabernacle, symbolizes the prayers of the saint?
11. What does the fact that David speaks of God as my God indicate?
12. Quote James chapter 5 verse 16.
13. What does the only true joy and peace come from?
14. Why did the Israelites, more than anyone else, know how forgiving God is?
15. Quote Acts chapter 2 verse 21.
16. What does supplications, in verse 6, mean?
17. What one word, from verse 6, lets us know David's prayer was spoken aloud?
18. Why is gods, in verse 8, not capitalized?
19. What symbolic meaning can we find in God defaming the gods of Egypt?
20. What does the word idols mean?
21. Quote Romans chapter 14 verse 11.
22. Philippians chapter 2 verse 10 says, _____ knee shall bow.
23. Verse 11 of the same chapter says, every tongue confesses what?
24. Sin brings what sentence to the sinner?
25. Quote Hebrews chapter 9 verse 14.
26. What was David asking the LORD to teach him, in verse 11?
27. How is the best way to know the Lord better?
28. What did David mean by unite my heart?
29. Who is the Teacher in heavenly things?
30. God is God of the masses, but _____ at a time.
31. Had it not been for our Saviour, the fate of every human being would be _____.
32. How long does God's mercy last?
33. Quote John chapter 15 verse 18.
34. They are not really hating David, but whom?
35. Who is the Lord willing to lose?
36. What was intended by David calling himself, son of thy handmaid?
37. Quote Philippians chapter 4 verse 13.
38. Who was the prophet who called on God to show His people whether God, or Baal, is God?
39. What was the outcome of his prayer?
40. What does this lesson emphasize?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 87th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 87

- Verse 1 "Upon the hills of holiness He his foundation sets. And more than Jacob's dwellings all, The Lord loves Zion's gates.
- Verse 2 "Things glorious are said of thee, Thou city of the Lord. Rahab and Babel I, to those That know me, will record;"
- Verse 3 "Behold ev'n Tyrus, and with it The land of Palestine, And likewise Ethiopia; This man was born therein."
- Verse 4 "Of Zion they shall say, this man And that man born were there, And he that is the highest shall Himself establish her."
- Verse 5 "When God the people writes, he'll count That this man born was there. There they shall be, who sing and play; My well-springs in thee are.

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 87th Psalm. Psalms 87:1 "{A Psalm [or] Song for the sons of Korah.) His foundation [is] in the holy mountains."

I believe this is the holy mountain of Zion in Jerusalem, spoken of here. Zion, of course, symbolizes the church. This could be speaking of the foundations in the church, as well as the foundation of holy mount Zion. The foundation of the church is on the Rock that can not be moved {the Lord Jesus Christ}. This mount in Jerusalem has been important to many different servants of God. This mountain was the dwelling place of King David. Whether calling these mountains Moriah or Zion, the mountains are holy.

Psalms 87:2 "The LORD loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob."

Jacob was the father of the twelve tribes of Israel. In the sense it is used here, Zion is the city of Jerusalem. Jerusalem is a walled city with gates. This has been God's holy city, since He first promised it to Abraham and his descendents. The temple was built here in Jerusalem. Jerusalem, Zion, and the church really are all intended here. In the sense that Zion is the church here, it would indicate that God loves the church. We do know that the Candlestick {Jesus the Light} is in all churches who profess Him as the Christ. So many now are having church at home, but I think this is saying, God likes for us to worship in His house. Not forsaking the gathering together to worship Him in unity of the Spirit. Jesus is the door, or the gate, that we should enter into the holy city.

Psalms 87:3 "Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. Selah."

There have already been many glorious things that have taken place in the physical city. This could be looking forward to that glorious new Jerusalem {Zion} that comes down from God out of heaven, as well. To look at the physical side of this city, we know that it was the place chosen where Solomon built the magnificent temple of God. It was so famous, that people came from far countries to see the magnificence of Jerusalem and its temple.

It really was the birth place of Christianity. The church of Jesus Christ was born when He suffered and died on Calvary for all of us. This city has so much Bible history surrounding it that even today, tourist from all over the world come to see it. With God, this city is the center of the earth. All roads measure from Jerusalem. This is the eternal city. I have been to Jerusalem, and can truthfully say, there is something very special about this city. Once you have seen it, you will never forget.

Psalms 87:4 "I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to them that know me: behold Philistia, and Tyre, with Ethiopia; this [man] was born there."

This Rahab is not Rahab the harlot woman, bur Rahab, the harlot country. It, perhaps, is speaking of Egypt. I believe the mention of Babylon, Philistia, Tyre, and Ethiopia are showing the countries who were opposed to the religion of the Jews. They worshipped all types of false gods, because they did not know the true God. This is saying, that there will come a time when the scales will be removed from their eyes, and they will know and worship the true God. These had been heathen nations, but now they will accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour and will worship with all people in Jerusalem, the holy city. This is, possibly, some great evangelistic move that causes this.

Psalms 87:5 "And of Zion it shall be said, This and that man was born in her: and the highest himself shall establish her."

Perhaps, this is speaking of the new birth in the Lord Jesus Christ. This Zion could certainly be the church. The church is established on the Rock that can not be moved {Jesus Christ the Righteous}. God himself establishes the church, no man can destroy her.

Psalms 87:6 "The LORD shall count, when he writeth up the people, [that] this [man] was born there. Selah."

To have your name written in the Lamb's book of life, you must be born in the church. Every Christian, who ever lived, is counted as a citizen of that holy city of God. We can prove our right to the inheritance. Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

Psalms 87:7 "As well the singers as the players on instruments [shall be there]: all my springs [are] in thee."

This is describing a beautiful procession of singing and playing beautiful music as we march into Zion, that holy city. The springs mentioned, could be the springs of living water which will bring great peace and joy. Just to be allowed to enter into the city, will be joy beyond compare. We will continue on with this lesson by giving the 88th Psalm in metre.

- Verse 1 "Lord God, my Saviour, day and night Before thee cried have I. Before thee let my prayer come; Give ear unto my cry. "
- Verse 2 "For troubles great do fill my soul; My life draws nigh the grave. I'm numbered with the buried dead And such as no strength have. "
- Verse 3 "But like the slain in grave that lie, Among the dead I'm free; Like slain, whom thou forgotten hast, Who are cut off from thee. "
- Verse 4 "Thou hast me laid in lowest pit, In deep and darksome caves. Thy wrath lies hard on me, thou hast Me pressed with all thy waves. "
- Verse 5 "Thou hast put far from me my friends, By them I am abhorred. I am shut up, and there is none Who freedom can afford. "
- Verse 6 "By reason of my deep distress, Mine eye mourns dolefully; to thee, O Lord, I call, and stretch my hands continually. "
- Verse 7 "Wilt thou show wonders to the dead? Shall they rise, and thee bless? Shall in the grave thy love be told? In death thy faithfulness? "
- Verse 8 "Shall thy great wonders in the dark, Or shall thy righteousness be known to any in the land Of deep forgetfulness? "
- Verse 9 "But, Lord, to thee I cried; my prayer Each morn shall rise to thee. Lord, why dost thou cast off my soul, Why hide thy face from me? "
- Verse 10 "Distressed am I, and from my; youth I ready am to die; thy terrors I have borne; I am Distracted fearfully. "
- Verse 11 "By thy fierce wrath I'm overwhelmed; Cut off by dread of thee Like water they around me come, They daily compass me. "
- Verse 12 "My friends thou hast put far from me, And him that did me love; And those that my acquaintance were To darkness didst remove. "

We will now begin the verse by verse study of chapter 88 of Psalms. Psalms 88:1 "{A Song [or] Psalm for the sons of Korah, to the chief Musician upon Mahalath Leannoth, Maschil of Heman the Ezrahite.) O LORD God of my salvation, I have cried day [and] night before thee:"

This Psalm speaks of tribulations. We must remember that tribulation comes to make us strong in the Lord. Jesus Christ {their Messiah} is the God of salvation. Note again here, that the Psalmist calls God, my God. Whatever the prayer, it was of a very urgent nature, since he prayed night and day. This Psalm is very sad.

Psalms 88:2 "Let my prayer come before thee: incline thine ear unto my cry;"

The Psalmist is begging the Lord not to look the other way, but to consider his prayer. Turn your ear toward me and hear my pleas.

Psalms 88:3 "For my soul is full of troubles: and my life draweth nigh unto the grave."

The psalmist is saying that his soul is sick. Perhaps, even death is very near. Whether this be physical death, or death of his soul, it does not say.

Psalms 88:4 "I am counted with them that go down into the pit: I am as a man [that hath] no strength:"

This verse makes it clear that the sickness of his soul is because he has sinned and feels that God will not hear. The pit he speaks of is hell. His strength comes from the Lord, and he is out of contact with the Lord, so his strength is gone.

Psalms 88:5 "Free among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, whom thou rememberest no more: and they are cut off from thy hand."

He is saying here, that once you die in your sin, there is no more help for you. He, also, is saying that he is like that man, because he cannot seem to hear from God. He feels all is lost. There is no hope for him. He should remember what he said in the first verse. He called God, God of my salvation. We must have faith to be able to reach God. His problem is, that he has given up.

Psalms 88:6 "Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the deeps."

He believes that God's wrath has already begun for him. He is blaming God for laying him in the pit. His darkness is caused, because he chose to walk in the dark.

Psalms 88:7 "Thy wrath lieth hard upon me, and thou hast afflicted [me] with all thy waves. Selah."

To feel God's wrath would be unbearable for anyone. He feels as if the wrath of God is coming over him, one after the other, as the waves of the sea, when it is angry.

Psalms 88:8 "Thou hast put away mine acquaintance far from me; thou hast made me an abomination unto them: [I am] shut up, and I cannot come forth."

In this verse, he has lost all of his friends. Notice in everything that happens to him, he thinks God is punishing him. He either had fair weather friends, or he has done something so dreadful that no one wants to be associated with him. Whether he is shut up like in prison, or whether this is symbolic of the way he feels, we are not told.

Psalms 88:9 "Mine eye mourneth by reason of affliction: LORD, I have called daily upon thee, I have stretched out my hands unto thee."

It appears that he cried until no more tears would come. He is saying that he has continued to pray everyday. He has reached out to God, but he feels God has not responded to him.

Psalms 88:10 "Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? shall the dead arise [and] praise thee? Selah."

Of course, the righteous dead will rise and praise Him, but I do not believe he is speaking of the righteous here. He is speaking of those who died in their sin. He is saying, forgive me, before I die and it is too late. It is time to pause and think on these things.

Psalms 88:11 "Shall thy lovingkindness be declared in the grave? [or] thy faithfulness in destruction?"

He is going on and on about the futility of getting help after he dies. The lovingkindness is for those here on the earth who seek God early. The lovingkindness of God showed mercy on God's people. After you are in the grave, it is too late to repent.

Psalms 88:12 "Shall thy wonders be known in the dark? and thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?"

This is speaking of Hades. The only known time that Jesus went into hell, and preached, and brought out captivity captive was immediately after he was crucified. The verse here, is not speaking of that time. He is just saying, over and over, that after a person has died and gone to hell, there is no hope.

Psalms 88:13 "But unto thee have I cried, O LORD; and in the morning shall my prayer prevent thee."

It appears that he will not stop praying, until he gets a positive answer from the LORD. That is the very best thing to do. God does hear. If God feels he is sincere in his repentance and will live uprightly, He will answer his prayer.

Psalms 88:14 "LORD, why castest thou off my soul? [why] hidest thou thy face from me?"

Some might say, is it alright to question God? I think it is alright, if done for the right reason, and if you are earnestly seeking answers from God. This verse appears that this person, at one time, knew God. He is asking, Lord have you turned me over to a reprobate mind?

Psalms 88:15 "I [am] afflicted and ready to die from [my] youth up: [while] I suffer thy terrors I am distracted."

There is no terror of death to those who know they are in right standing with God. From the time we are born, we are dying. We live on the world a very short time, even if we live the allotted time.

Psalms 88:16 "Thy fierce wrath goeth over me; thy terrors have cut me off."

Whatever the punishment is, it is from a loving Father. He may be feeling completely destroyed, but he is not dead yet. It will be too late after he dies, but he is still alive. I believe the terror that he is feeling here, is the fact that he is cut off from God. I can not imagine anything any worse, than to feel you were cut off from God.

Psalms 88:17 "They came round about me daily like water; they compassed me about together."

These are troubles that have come around him. It, also, means the punishment that God has brought upon him, to make him repent are all around him.

Psalms 88:18 "Lover and friend hast thou put far from me, [and] mine acquaintance into darkness."

He has no one, not even his lover, or his friend stayed with him. He is totally alone.

Psalms 87 Questions

1. In verse 1 of chapter 87, what mountain is spoken of as holy mountains?
2. What does Zion symbolize?
3. Where was the dwelling place of king David?
4. Who was Jacob?
5. Describe Jerusalem.
6. Which churches have the Light of Jesus in them?
7. Jesus is the _____, or _____ into the holy city.
8. What could verse 3 be looking forward to?
9. Where was the birthplace of Christianity?
10. Who is Rahab in verse 4?
11. Who were some of the countries mentioned, who were opposed to the Jews?
12. What is verse 5 speaking of, about people being born in Zion?
13. What must happen for you to have your name written in the Lamb's book of life?
14. Quote Galatians chapter 3 verse 29.
15. What is verse 7 describing?
16. What does Psalms chapter 88 speak of?
17. Who is the God of salvation.
18. What is the tone of this Psalm?
19. What does the psalmist say is sick, in verse 3 of chapter 88?
20. What are the two kinds of death, he could be speaking of?
21. Why is he sick in his soul?
22. What is the pit in verse 4?
23. Can you be saved, after you die without repenting?
24. Who is the psalmist blaming for his problems?
25. Why has darkness come upon him?
26. In verse 7, what does he compare God's wrath, on him, to?
27. What has happened to him in verse 8?
28. Shall thy lovingkindness be declared in the _____?
29. In verse 12, what is the dark?
30. What would cause God to answer his prayer?
31. At what time do we begin to die?
32. Who is there no terror of death for?
33. In verse 18, who are the two that have been put away from him?

We will begin this lesson by giving chapter 89 of Psalms in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 89

- Verse 1 "My song shall evermore record In praise the mercies of the Lord; thy faithfulness my mouth shall show, While ceaseless ages onward flow."
- Verse 2 "For I have said, eternal years Shall crown the temple mercy rears; And in the heavens, firm and sure, Thy faithfulness thou wilt secure."
- Verse 3 "With David I a cov'nant made, And to my servant sware and said, Thy seed forever I'll extend, And build thy throne till time shall end. "
- Verse 4 "The wonders done by thee, O Lord, The heaven shall in praise record; Thy faithfulness shall praise command, When holy ones assembled stand."
- Verse 5 "For who in heaven' mid dwellers there, Can to the Lord himself compare? Or who, among the mighty, shares The likeness that Jehovah fears?"
- Verse 6 "Great fear and dread to God belong, Where holy ones in council throng; Yea, he inspires great dread and fear, In all who round his throne appear."
- Verse 7 "O thou Jehovah. God of hosts, What mighty one thy likeness boasts? Thy faithfulness is ever found, Encircling all thy path around. "
- Verse 8 "The swelling sea thou dost control, And still its billows when they roll; Rahab, as slain thou didst subdue, Thine arm of strength thy foes o'erthrew. "
- Verse 9 "The earth belongs to thee alone, The heavens, too, are all thine own; The world and all that it contains, By thee established, thine remains. "
- Verse 10 "The north and south thy hands did frame; Tabor and Hermon praise thy name: Great strength within thy arm doth He, Thy hand is strong, thy right hand high."
- Verse 11 "On righteousness thy throne is stayed, On justice its foundation laid; Before thy face, thy way to show, Shall truth and mercy ever go. "
- Verse 12 "How blest the realm with favor crowned, Who hear and know the joyful sound; They in the light, O Lord, shall live, The light thy face and favor give. "
- Verse 13 "They in thy name shall joyful be, Yea, all the day be glad in thee: And in thy just and righteous ways To honor great thou wilt them raise. "
- Verse 14 "Thou art the glory of their strength, Thy grace will lift our horn at length; For Israel's Holy One, who reigns As Lord, our shield and King remains. "
- Verse 15 "Then thou in vision didst make known, And thus address thy Holy One: On one with mighty strength arrayed Great help and succor I have laid. "
- Verse 16 "Yea, I have raised to honor great, One chosen from the people's state; My servant David I have found, And him as my anointed crowned."

- Verse 17 "With him my hand shall still remain, Mine arm with strength shall him sustain; The foe shall never him annoy, Nor son of wrong his peace destroy. "
- Verse 18 "I'll crush before him every foe, His haters smite and overthrow; My faithfulness to him I'll prove, And ne'er from him my grace remove. "
- Verse 19 "Yea, he shall triumph in my name, And great shall be his power and fame; I'll set his hand upon the sea, His right hand on the floods shall be.
- Verse 20 "Thou art my Father, he shall cry, My God, my Rock, my Saviour nigh; As my first born I will him own, O'er kings of earth will set his throne."
- Verse 21 "My grace for him I'll keep secure, My covenant to him is sure; His seed forever I'll maintain, His throne while days of heav'n remain. "
- Verse 22 "But if his sons my law forsake; If they my holy statutes break; If from my judgments they shall stray, And my commands will not obey;"
- Verse 23 "Then with a rod their sins I'll smite, Their guilt with stripes will I requite; Yet him my grace shall not forsake, My truth I will not falsehood make. "
- Verse 24 "My cov'nant I will not evade, Nor change the promise I made; Once in my holiness have I To David sworn, and will not lie."
- Verse 25 "His seed forever shall endure, And as the sun his throne is sure; Eternal as the moon on high, The faithful witness in the sky. "
- Verse 26 "Yet now thine anger hotly burns, And thine anointed loathes and spurns; Thy servant's covenant we see Made void as if abhorred by thee. "
- Verse 27 "Thou to the earth hast trampled down, And thus profaned his sacred crown; His walls all prostrate thou hast laid, His fortresses a ruin made. "
- Verse 28 "The passers-by upon him prey, His neighbors turn in scorn away; His foes' right hand hast thou made strong, And giv'n to them the victor's song. "
- Verse 29 "His blunted sword hast thou repelled, Nor in the battle him upheld; His glory now no more is known, And thou to earth hast cast his throne. "
- Verse 30 "His days of youth so quickly past, The garb of shame is o'er him cast; How long, Lord, hide thyself in ire? Shall wrath forever burn like fire?
- Verse 31 "Think on my life, 'tis but a span, Why thus in vain hast thou made man? What man that lives, has power to save His soul from death, and from the grave?"
- Verse 32 "Where are thy former mercies? Where? Which thou in truth to David sware? Remember, Lord, thy servant's scorn, And mine, from mighty people borne. "
- Verse 33 "The scorn, O Lord, thy foes have shown, On thine Anointed's footsteps thrown; Remember, let it be redressed: Forever let the Lord be blessed."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 89th Psalm. Psalms 89:1 "{Maschil of Ethan the Ezrahite.} I will sing of the mercies of the LORD for ever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations."

What a sharp contrast to the gloom of chapter 88, is chapter 89. This begins with a determination of the psalmist to praise the LORD. God's mercies never change. The availability of those mercies in our lives are under our control. The mercy of God continues forever. The key word of this verse is, possibly, forever. Just as God's mercy, is never ending, so should our praise be. We should not be influenced by the circumstances around us, with our praise. The praise of our God's mercy should be continually in our mouth. The world rejoices when everything is going good. If we are to be different from the world, then we praise God in the good times and in the lean times. The psalmist is saying, that he will speak of the faithfulness of God to the generations after him. Of course, he speaks to all generations after him through this written Word, the Bible. Every Christian should do the same thing as the psalmist here. We should determine in our heart to worship and praise God forever, in all kinds of circumstances.

Psalms 89:2 "For I have said, Mercy shall be built up for ever: thy faithfulness shalt thou establish in the very heavens."

God can not, and will not lie. His faithfulness is not conditional. It is absolute. People on this earth make a promise to be faithful, and they may, or may not, keep their promise. God is not like fickle man. God will keep every promise He ever made. You can see from the following verse, that God's mercy is caught up in the covenant He made with Abraham. Luke 1:72 "To perform the mercy [promised] to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant;" We must be part of the covenant agreement to receive mercy from God. Romans 9:15 "For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion." Romans 9:16 "So then [it is] not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy." This mercy has to do with all of Abraham's seed. Christians are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise. Just as salvation is offered to whosoever will, mercy is offered to those, as well. The bottom line is you must be of the household of God.

Psalms 89:3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant,"

God made a covenant with David forever. This covenant included showing mercy and being faithful. This is just a renewal of the covenant made with Abraham, which came through Isaac, and Jacob. Let's look at two verses from the New Testament on the chosen. II Thessalonians 2:13 "But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:" I Peter 2:9 "But ye [are] a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:" God's covenant is with those He has chosen, those who will be His children. Not predestined to be His, but God foreknew who would choose to be His.

Psalms 89:4 "Thy seed will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations. Selah."

The seed of David spoken of here, is in Jesus Christ. The throne spoken of here, as well, is the throne of the Lord Jesus Christ who will be King of kings and Lord of Lords. Jesus is Eternal King and His kingdom shall never end. Just as Abraham did not receive the promised land in his lifetime, the

kingdom spoken of here that is eternal, will not be fulfilled fully until the Lord Jesus Christ sets up His everlasting kingdom.

Psalms 89:5 "And the heavens shall praise thy wonders, O LORD: thy faithfulness also in the congregation of the saints."

Not only do the angels in heaven sing praise about the mighty wonders of God, but saints of all ages are thankful for the faithfulness of God. The congregation of the saints, possibly, is speaking of the church of the Lord Jesus Christ. The wonders of God are in heaven, and earth, and are far too numerous to try to list. Look around you on earth, and on a clear night look into the heaven, and see just a few of these wonders.

Psalms 89:6 "For who in the heaven can be compared unto the LORD? [who] among the sons of the mighty can be likened unto the LORD?"

The answer is no one. Look, with me, at the next verses of Scripture. Philippians 2:10 "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of [things] in heaven, and [things] in earth, and [things] under the earth;" Colossians 1:16 "For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether [they be] thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:" Colossians 1:17 "And he is before all things, and by him all things consist." We can see, there is no question what this is speaking of. We Christians are all sons of the Mighty, but we are not the Son of the Mighty. We belong to the Son of God. We have been bought and paid for with His precious blood.

Psalms 89:7 "God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all [them that are] about him."

The assembly of the saints is the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ. What has happened to our holy fear of God? Where is there reverence? The more we get to know God in His fulness, the more we will humbly reverence Him. If God were to visit your church this Sunday, would He find you bowing humbly before Him? There is a time for a Christian to be bold, but it is not in the presence of God. We are to be bold in our witness to others. We must not stand stiff-necked before our Lord.

Psalms 89:8 "O LORD God of hosts, who [is] a strong LORD like unto thee? or to thy faithfulness round about thee?"

Just the name of God used, above, lets us know that He alone is God. There is no other like Him. We have spoken about not worshipping angels, even though they are heavenly spirits. They are part of God's creation, and are not to be worshipped. Not anything, or anyone, on this earth should be worshipped because we were the created and not the Creator. Once again, I will say we must not only make Jesus our Saviour, but we must make Him our Lord, as well. He has supreme authority over all of His creation. That creation includes everything. Read of the creation in Genesis, and read who that Creator is, in John chapter 1.

Psalms 89:9 "Thou rulest the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them."

This was proven beyond a shadow of doubt when Jesus spoke to the angry sea, and told it to be still, and it obeyed. Mark 4:39 "And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm." The He, of course, is Jesus. The winds and the waves obey His will.

Psalms 89:10 "Thou hast broken Rahab in pieces, as one that is slain; thou hast scattered thine enemies with thy strong arm."

Rahab, here, is speaking of Egypt. Not only did the Lord destroy the false gods of Egypt in the 10 plagues, but the army of Egypt was drowned in the Red Sea. The Right Hand of God and His holy Arm are the one you and I call Jesus.

Psalms 89:11 "The heavens [are] thine, the earth also [is] thine: [as for] the world and the fulness thereof, thou hast founded them."

The heaven and the earth belong to their Creator. They were created by the Word of God. He is Creator and Protector of His creation.

Psalms 89:12 "The north and the south thou hast created them: Tabor and Hermon shall rejoice in thy name."

The Creator of this universe, has made order in it. That is why we have a north and a south. Tabor and Hermon are both mountains in Israel. These 2 mountains are on opposite sides of the Jordan. Tabor is on the west, and Hermon on the east. The same God that established a north and south, established an east and west.

Psalms 89:13 "Thou hast a mighty arm: strong is thy hand, [and] high is thy right hand."

We have discussed this over and over. The one you and I call Jesus is the Right Hand and the mighty Arm. He is the doer part of the Godhead.

Psalms 89:14 "Justice and judgment [are] the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face."

The following Scriptures tell us for sure, who is the Just One. Acts 3:14 "But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you;" Acts 7:52 "Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers:" This leaves no doubt that this, too, is the one you and I call Jesus Christ. Only mercy and truth can pave the way to God for any of us. We cannot stand before the Judge in our own right. We must be clothed in the righteousness of Christ {our Merciful God}. He is Truth.

Psalms 89:15 "Blessed [is] the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O LORD, in the light of thy countenance."

Notice, the singular verb that is used with people here. We are blessed, one at a time. We are saved one at a time. The Lord will light the path for us, but we must walk in His Light. Ephesians 5:8 "For ye were sometimes darkness, but now [are ye] light in the Lord: walk as children of light:" What do you suppose the joyful sound is? Could it be what is in this

next Scripture? Ephesians 5:19 "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;" The joyful sound could, also, be the trumpet blowing, calling all believers to Jesus.

Psalms 89:16 "In thy name shall they rejoice all the day: and in thy righteousness shall they be exalted."

All believers in Christ have been given the authority to use the name of Jesus. It is the power in this name that makes them rejoice. The Christian is exalted to sonship in the righteousness of Jesus, that He has provided for them.

Psalms 89:17 "For thou [art] the glory of their strength: and in thy favour our horn shall be exalted."

We must remember that the horn means strength, or power. Our strength is in our Lord. The power we have is in the name of Jesus.

Psalms 89:18 "For the LORD [is] our defence; and the Holy One of Israel [is] our king."

When we belong to Jesus, He is our defence. The Holy One of Israel, is Jesus Christ our Lord. He is coming back to reign on the earth as KING.

Psalms 88 Questions

1. What does this Psalm begin with the psalmist determined to do?
2. How long do the mercies of God continue?
3. What should not influence us in our praises?
4. How does this psalmist speak to all generations after him?
5. God's faithfulness is not _____.
6. God's mercy is caught up in the covenant He made with _____.
7. We must be part of what to receive the mercy of God.
8. Who are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise?
9. What is the bottom line in all of this?
10. Who has God made covenant with?
11. What is this covenant agreement a renewal of?
12. God hath chosen you from the beginning to receive salvation through what?
13. Quote 1 Peter chapter 2 verse 9.
14. Is this predestination? Explain.
15. Who is the seed of David, spoken of in verse 4?
16. When will this throne to all generations be set up?
17. Who is the congregation of saints?
18. Who, in the heavens, can be compared to the LORD?
19. Quote Philippians chapter 2 verse 10.
20. What does Colossians chapter 1 verse 16 tell us that He made?
21. Who are the sons of the Mighty?
22. Where is God to be greatly feared?
23. Why should you not worship angels?
24. Where are 2 places you can read about the creation?
25. What does Mark chapter 4 verse 39 tell us Jesus has authority over?
26. Who is Rahab in verse 10?
27. Who is the Holy Arm of God?
28. The heaven and the earth were created by whom?
29. What are Tabor and Harmon?
30. What Scriptures tell us that Jesus is the Just One?
31. Why is a singular verb used with a plural subject in verse 15?
32. What are 2 things the joyful sound, in verse 15, could be?
33. How are believers in Christ exalted?
34. What does the horn symbolize?
35. Who is the Holy One of Israel?

We will continue the verse by verse study of chapter 89 beginning with the 19th verse. Psalms 89:19 "Then thou spakest in vision to thy holy one, and saidst, I have laid help upon [one that is] mighty; I have exalted [one] chosen out of the people."

In the physical, the holy one on the earth at this time would have been the prophet Nathan. He represented God to the people. He would even be the one to speak of God to king David. Of course, David was chosen out of the people and anointed to be king. I believe this Scripture to be prophetic, as well. The true Mighty One who came to help us all is our Lord Jesus Christ. He, too, was assumed to be out of the people. He had a somewhat normal boyhood in the home of His mother Mary and her husband Joseph.

Psalms 89:20 "I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him:"

We know that David was just a shepherd boy when Samuel sought him out and anointed him to be king. He did not immediately take over as king. He lived with Saul {the present king} at first. David knew and loved God, while he was yet a shepherd. This oil was not just any oil, but a special oil that only appointed servants of God could use. Let us look at a picture of the prophetic meaning of the Scripture above. Jesus, Himself, spoke this, because it is in red in our Bible. Luke 4:18 "The Spirit of the Lord [is] upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised," Luke 4:19 "To preach the acceptable year of the Lord."

Psalms 89:21 "With whom my hand shall be established: mine arm also shall strengthen him."

The Hand and the Arm are Jesus, as we said before.

Psalms 89:22 "The enemy shall not exact upon him; nor the son of wickedness afflict him."

We know that this is speaking, in one sense, about David who had been hunted of Saul and had really no place of rest. In the latter days of David, his enemies did not dare to come heavily against him, for fear of what God might do to them. Speaking prophetically of this verse, we know that the enemy, Satan, never had any power over Jesus. Satan did not take the life of Jesus on the cross. John 10:17 "Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again." John 10:18 "No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father." Jesus was never under the control of Satan.

Psalms 89:23 "And I will beat down his foes before his face, and plague them that hate him."

Look, with me, to the promises that God made to David in the next few verses. II Samuel 7:8 "Now therefore so shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I took thee from the sheepcote, from following the sheep, to be ruler over my people, over Israel:" II Samuel 7:9

"And I was with thee whithersoever thou wentest, and have cut off all thine enemies out of thy sight, and have made thee a great name, like unto the name of the great [men] that [are] in the earth." II Samuel 7:10 "Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as beforetime," Read all of this chapter to get the whole idea.

Psalms 89:24 "But my faithfulness and my mercy [shall be] with him: and in my name shall his horn be exalted."

This is speaking of David, to whom the promise of the everlasting kingdom was given. The horn symbolizes strength. The throne of David, through his natural sons and grandsons, became contaminated, but the seed that is really intended is through Jesus.

Psalms 89:25 "I will set his hand also in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers."

The rule of David was a reign of the land of Israel, but the seed of David, Jesus', reign was as wide as the east is to the west and the north is to the south. It reached for beyond the rivers of Israel, even across the sea.

Psalms 89:26 "He shall cry unto me, Thou [art] my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation."

David prayed to the Father, and he was established on the everlasting Rock. Jesus prayed, also, to the Father. Jesus was the Rock of my salvation.

Psalms 89:27 "Also I will make him [my] firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth."

This is most assuredly speaking of Jesus, who was the firstborn Son of the Father. He alone is elevated higher than the kings of the earth. He is King of kings and Lord of lords. I Timothy 6:15 "Which in his times he shall shew, [who is] the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;"

Psalms 89:28 "My mercy will I keep for him for evermore, and my covenant shall stand fast with him."

The covenant was first given to Abraham, it was restated to David, and fulfilled in Jesus. David, as well as all other earthly kings, had to live by the mercy of God, because they were not perfect men. This is true of all believers in Jesus, too. It is only by the mercy of God that we are heirs to the promises.

Psalms 89:29 "His seed also will I make [to endure] for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven."

David's seed, spoken of here, is in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal One. The days of heaven are all of eternity.

Psalms 89:30 "If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments; "Psalms 89:31 "If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments;"

This is a perfect description of the natural children of David. They did not keep the law of God. They did break His statutes and His commandments. How then can God fulfill the covenant agreement? In Jesus Christ. He was known as the son of David.

Psalms 89:32 "Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes."

We do know that punishment came from God. The ten tribes broke away from the two tribes and became almost obscure. Both groups were captured by their enemies and suffered greatly. Even though for a very long time they were scattered, in the last few years they have been gathering again in the holy land.

Psalms 89:33 "Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail."

God's love for His own never will cease. They may wander and get into all sorts of sin, but He will forgive them and help them again, if they cry out to Him. He is longsuffering, not willing that one should perish. Their foolishness does not affect God's faithfulness.

Psalms 89:34 "My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips."

This covenant, that God is speaking of, is not a covenant that man has made. This is a covenant that God made. God speaks absolute truth. Once God has said something, it is fact, and He will not change it. The Word of God is true.

Psalms 89:35 "Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David."

We see from the words above, that God swore by His own holiness. God does not lie to anyone, much less David. As we said, the absolute Truth cannot lie. Whatever God says, He will do. God swore by Himself, because there was no greater.

Psalms 89:36 "His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me."

The seed of David, spoken of here, is Jesus Christ and His followers. The throne is Jesus' throne. He is even now seated at the right hand of the Father.

Psalms 89:37 "It shall be established for ever as the moon, and [as] a faithful witness in heaven. Selah."

This kingdom may seem to weaken from time to time, but it will never fail. Jesus is eternal King. He will reign forever and ever. It appears from this that God is saying, that the sun and moon are witness to His promise.

We know that this world may pass away, but God's Word will never pass away. Selah, it is time to pause and think on this.

Psalms 89:38 "But thou hast cast off and abhorred, thou hast been wroth with thine anointed."

God has promised that David's throne would last forever, and yet He sees all of the troubles coming on the anointed of God. God is angry, and with good cause. Just because he is anointed, does not give him license to sin. The anointed of God should be a good example to all the rest, not caught up in fleshly sin. There is more expected of the anointed, than of the people who have not been trained of God.

Psalms 89:39 "Thou hast made void the covenant of thy servant: thou hast profaned his crown [by casting it] to the ground."

It appears to the servant of God, that God has broken covenant with him. He does not know His God very well, or He would know that God does not break His covenant. The king, because of the sin in his life, had suffered much humiliation. Sometimes he felt as if God had taken his crown and thrown it to the ground. David deserved this for the sin in his life. The sad thing is that Jesus felt, and is still feeling, that rejection, and He did nothing to deserve such punishment. Jesus, who created everything and everyone, must truly feel pain, when His very creation denies that He is God the Son.

Psalms 89:40 "Thou hast broken down all his hedges; thou hast brought his strong holds to ruin."

The protection, that he had known for so long, is now gone. Anyone can take a shot at him. This is surely true of the church today. It seems the hedge is gone, and every wind of doctrine can creep into the church. It is really difficult to tell the church from the rest of the world.

Psalms 89:41 "All that pass by the way spoil him: he is a reproach to his neighbours."

When the hedge was gone, the king was spoiled by passers by, and by even members of his own family, who wanted to destroy him. This is pretty much the way it is in the church today. It is ridiculed on television. People even think you are not all with it, if you love and worship God. The worst is not the world attacking the church, it is members inside the church, who are tearing at the fabric of true belief.

Psalms 89:42 "Thou hast set up the right hand of his adversaries; thou hast made all his enemies to rejoice."

He is pointing a finger at God, and saying that God, Himself, has caused this calamity to come upon him. He is really saying, God, you have broken your covenant with me. This is the opposite of what Job said in his troubles. God may have removed the blessing for a moment, but He has not broken His covenant.

Psalms 89:43 "Thou hast also turned the edge of his sword, and hast not made him to stand in the battle."

When he realizes that God is not fighting his battle for him, he loses his confidence in battle. It seems, as if even his weapons are not up to par. This is a man longing for the presence of God.

Psalms 89:44 "Thou hast made his glory to cease, and cast his throne down to the ground."

The once mighty powerful rule, that was known for its greatness, is gone. Even the world around him realizes that God has left for awhile.

Psalms 89:45 "The days of his youth hast thou shortened: thou hast covered him with shame. Selah."

Shame really comes from guilt. It seems to him as if suddenly he is an old man. His shame is in that he feels he has failed God and God has removed his blessing. It is time to pause and think on these things, Selah.

Psalms 89:46 "How long, LORD? wilt thou hide thyself for ever? shall thy wrath burn like fire?"

He does not deny that he deserved to be punished, but now he is saying, LORD, how long will your presence and blessings of the past be gone? You won't hide yourself from me forever, will you? Always the person feeling the chastisement of God, feels that it lasts too long. Even the martyrs in heaven are asking, how long until the reign of Jesus will take place?

Psalms 89:47 "Remember how short my time is: wherefore hast thou made all men in vain?"

He is trying every excuse, now he says, you know you allotted me but a short time on this earth. He is saying that without the blessings of God, he has lived in vain. We all feel that we would like to accomplish something good in this life, before it drifts away and is gone.

Psalms 89:48 "What man [is he that] liveth, and shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave? Selah."

He is saying, Lord we all must die in this life. He knows that, if God does not turn back to him in this life, it is too late to get forgiveness in the tomb. Again, think on these things.

Psalms 89:49 "Lord, where [are] thy former lovingkindnesses, [which] thou swarest unto David in thy truth?"

I personally would be afraid to talk to God like this psalmist is. He reminds God Almighty that He promised to bless David. Not only did He promise, but He swore to help David. He really is saying, where is this God that I once knew that was so kind and loving?

Psalms 89:50 "Remember, Lord, the reproach of thy servants; [how] I do bear in my bosom [the reproach of] all the mighty people;"

We see the psalmist is saying, that all the people around were mocking not only him personally, but his nation as well. This sounds just like a child complaining to a parent, that others are laughing at them.

Psalms 89:51 "Wherewith thine enemies have reproached, O LORD; wherewith they have reproached the footsteps of thine anointed."

Now, the psalmist goes back and reminds the Lord that these are His enemies, as well. He is saying, your enemies are attacking your anointed.

Psalms 89:52 "Blessed [be] the LORD for evermore. Amen, and Amen."

Thank goodness, he finally gets back to praising God in the end. God always deserves our praise. Amen, means, so be it.

Psalms 89 Questions

1. In the physical realm, who was the holy one they were talking about in verse 19?
2. David had been chosen out of the people and anointed to be _____.
3. Who is the true Mighty One?
4. Jesus had a somewhat normal boyhood in the home of his mother _____ and _____.
5. Who anointed David?
6. What was David, before he was anointed?
7. Quote Luke chapter 4 verse 18.
8. Who are the Hand and Arm in verse 21?
9. Did Satan ever have any power over Jesus?
10. Quote John chapter 10 verse 18.
11. What were some of the promises God made to David?
12. What type kingdom was David promised?
13. Where did David rule?
14. Where is the rule of Jesus?
15. Who is the Rock of my salvation?
16. Who is God's firstborn mentioned in verse 27?
17. What is He called in 1 Timothy chapter 6 verse 15?
18. The covenant was first given to _____, it was restated to _____, and fulfilled in _____.
19. What does, days of heaven, mean?
20. What were the natural children of David like?
21. What punishment soon came to the 12 tribes of Israel?
22. Their foolishness does not affect God's _____.
23. The Word of God is _____.
24. Why did God swear by himself?
25. The seed of David, in verse 36, is who?
26. What were two witnesses of God's promise?
27. In verse 39, how was the crown profaned?
28. What is his protection called in verse 40?
29. The world is not the worst threat to the church, what is?
30. Has God broken covenant, as the psalmist thinks He has?
31. What does shame come from?
32. What did the Psalmist remind God of in verse 47?
33. In verse 51, what does the Psalmist remind God of?
34. Thank goodness, he finally got back to _____.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 90th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 90

- Verse 1 "Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place From age to age,
from race to race. Before the mountains were brought forth,
Or ever thou hadst formed the earth. From years which no
beginning had to years unending, thou art God."
- Verse 2 "Thou turnest man to dust again, And sayst, Return, ;ye sons
of men. As yesterday, when past appears, So in thy sight a
thousand; years, They like a day are in thy sight, Yea, like
a passing watch by night. "
- Verse 3 "As with a flood thou mak'st them pass; They like a sleep
are, like the grass, That in the morning may be seen To grow
and flourish, fresh and green; At evening by the hand of
death, It is cut down, and withereth.
- Verse 4 "For in thine anger we're consumed, And by thy wrath to
trouble doomed; Thou in thy sight our sins dost place, Our
secret sins before thy face. For in thy wrath our days we
spend, Our years like tales which quickly end. "
- Verse 5 "Our days are threescore years and ten, And if, through
strength, fourscore, Yet then'tis labor, sorrow and decay;
'tis soon cut off;-we fly away. Who knows the pow'r thine
anger hath? As is thy fear so is thy wrath. "
- Verse 6 "O teach thou us to count our days, And set our hearts on
wisdom's ways. Return, O Lord, at length relent, And for thy
servants'sake repent. How long-how long-thus shall it be?
Return, that we may joy in thee. "
- Verse 7 "O do thy mercy soon impart To satisfy our longing heart, So
we rejoice shall all our days, And happy be in thee always.
For days of grief that we have had, And years of evil, make
us glad. "
- Verse 8 "Thy work unto thy servants show, Thy glory let their
children know, And let there be on us bestowed The beauty of
the Lord our God: The work accomplished by our hand Let it by
thee established stand.

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 90th chapter of Psalms. Psalms 90:1 "{A Prayer of Moses the man of God.} LORD, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations."

Now we see a totally different penman and a totally different time. We clearly see the children of Israel on the way to the promised land in this chapter. Moses was God's anointed leader to take them out of Egypt {world} to the promised land. We see him spoken of as the man of God, in the verse above. All men and women of God depend heavily upon prayer. Moses was known to be very meek. He depended entirely upon God. They may be in the wilderness when Moses wrote this, but for a fact they were securely in the LORD's hands every step of the way. As we go through our wilderness on the way to our promised land, we had better be dwelling in the hands of the Lord, if we plan to make heaven. Just as the LORD provided all of their needs in their journey, He will provide our needs, if we are stayed in Him.

He truly was Jehovah Jirah, their provider. We must learn a lesson from this. God is our shelter from the storm, He is our protector, He is our comfort, He loves us as no other one ever has. He loves us like He loved these Israelites, in spite of our faults. He loved us so much, that He sent us our Saviour.

Psalms 90:2 "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou [art] God."

In the beginning, God, says it all. Even the word, in, means surrounded by the beginning God. There was not anything, or any one, when God existed in the beginning. The first few chapters in Genesis tell us that He existed before anything else. In John Chapter 1, we read about this, also. Let me give one or two verses, but you read it all. John 1:1 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1:2 "The same was in the beginning with God." John 1:3 "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made." Now, let us look at who we are talking about. I John 5:7 "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." You see God made it all. He is Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the Everlasting One.

Psalms 90:3 "Thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest, Return, ye children of men."

From dust thou art, and to dust thou shalt return. Man was but a clump of clay, until God breathed the breath of life in him, and he became a living soul. Man, without God, is but dust. We can see from the next Scripture that our eternal life came from Jesus {the second Adam}. I Corinthians 15:45 "And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam [was made] a quickening spirit." Without God we are as the first Adam, flesh that will return to dust.

Psalms 90:4 "For a thousand years in thy sight [are but] as yesterday when it is past, and [as] a watch in the night."

With God, time is nothing. It is only in His dealing with men that He regards time. II Peter 3:8 "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day [is] with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." God is not controlled by time, as we are, but is rather the controller of time. Days and weeks and months are for this life, not for eternity. In heaven where God dwells, there is but one eternal day. There is no night at all.

Psalms 90:5 "Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are [as] a sleep: in the morning [they are] like grass [which] growth up."

This is undoubtedly speaking of the life span of a person. It is in time as a blink of His eye. We do not live very long. We are like grass that comes up in the spring and is gone in the fall. The wonder of it all, to me, is that if we are so insignificant, why did He love us so much that He sent His Son to die on the cross, that we might be saved to live eternally with Him.

Psalms 90:6 "In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth."

This is very much like our life. We bloom when we are children and teenagers, but very soon old age comes, and we are gone. This life is like a wind that blows and then is gone. The only life worth living for is that eternal life with our Lord. Let that second Adam {Jesus Christ} quicken your spirit that you might live forever, with Him. I love the sound of {forever}.

Psalms 90:7 "For we are consumed by thine anger, and by thy wrath are we troubled."

God never intended for mankind to live so short a time. Sin brought death. The sad thing is that man knows he is destined to die. In fact, man begins to die the day he is born. All the smart people in all the world have not figured out how to live very long. Thank goodness, God provided a way for us to live for ever; Jesus is the Way. Now when God looks at us, He is not angry. He sees the beautiful white linen garment of righteousness that Jesus gave us in exchange for our sins. He sees His adopted children.

Psalms 90:8 "Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret [sins] in the light of thy countenance."

There is no sin ever committed that God is not aware of. You may hide them from the world, but God knows them everyone. His Light searches the heart and soul of man and reads us like a book.

Psalms 90:9 "For all our days are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale [that is told]."

When our life is nearing the end, we can look back, and it is like a short story that has been told. Praise God! believers do not feel the wrath of God. When a believer dies, it is like stepping out of one room and going to a beautiful room awaiting for us. Jesus is the Door we enter by.

Psalms 90:10 "The days of our years [are] threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength [they be] fourscore years, yet [is] their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away."

Moses is saying that 70 years is the natural life span of a person on this earth. Some stronger people even live to be 80, but even at that, it is very short. In our day, a few are living to be 100 years old, but even that, when measured against all of eternity, is but one tick on God's clock. I love the part that says {we fly away}. Christians, to be absent from this body, is to present with the Lord. What a wonderful homecoming we have. This world is not our home. We are but passing through.

Psalms 90:11 "Who knoweth the power of thine anger? Even according to thy fear, [so is] thy wrath."

In Exodus, we saw just a small glimpse of God's wrath, when He drowned the Egyptians in the sea. We, also, saw just a little of God's wrath when the children of Israel made the golden calf, and God killed many. We know, also, that God, at one point, even regretted that He had made man, and He sent the flood to destroy them. In the flood, God saved Noah and his family. God never forgets His own. God makes a separation between His people and

those who refuse to follow Him. I greatly fear the wrath of God for those who refuse to follow Jesus.

Psalms 90:12 "So teach [us] to number our days, that we may apply [our] hearts unto wisdom."

This is saying, to me, that we are to treasure each moment and do good in that moment. Take stock of how much time you have, and use that time wisely for the Lord. The beginning of wisdom is the fear of the Lord. All of us can look back and see time we wasted on foolish things of the flesh. You can not do anything about that, it is past and gone. Use the time you have left to do the will of God.

Psalms 90:13 "Return, O LORD, how long? and let it repent thee concerning thy servants."

When God looked down and saw that the children of Israel had made the golden calf, God wanted to destroy them all. Moses pled with God for them, and God repented of His desire to kill them all. Perhaps, this is what is intended here. The cry of all mankind for ever has been for mercy. We do serve a merciful God, who loves us. He made a way for everyone to be saved. I Timothy 4:10 "For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe."

Psalms 90:14 "O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days."

What a wonderful thing to make your decision to follow Jesus at a very early age. There is a special peace that the people who know they are saved have. It makes their life a joy to live, and even death has lost its sting for them, because they know they are headed for their heavenly home.

Psalms 90:15 "Make us glad according to the days [wherein] thou hast afflicted us, [and] the years [wherein] we have seen evil."

Even the children of God have tribulation in this life. Sometimes I believe, the more tribulation you have, the more blessed will the heavenly reward be. One of the beautiful things, I remember pertaining to this, is the wonderful welcome that Jesus gave Stephen after he had been stoned to death. No other place in the Bible do we read of Jesus standing at the right side of the Father. I believe Jesus stood to welcome Stephen home.

Psalms 90:16 "Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children."

This is not speaking of man's work, but God's work. I believe this, perhaps, is prophetically speaking of the 6 hours Jesus worked on the cross for you and me. The glory of God is from generation to generation. These children of Israel would possess the promised land from generation to generation. They did nothing to get it. God gave it to them. We did nothing to receive our home in heaven either. The only thing required was that we believe, as Abraham had believed God. Our belief, and his belief, is counted unto us for righteousness.

Psalms 90:17 "And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it."

Galatians 2:20 "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." The real beauty, that we have, is Christ in us. I mentioned before, that He has clothed us in beautiful snow white linen garments of His righteousness. Moses wanted his work to be pleasing unto God. So do I want my work to be pleasing unto Him. Moses, along with all of us, wanted to hear the Lord say, well done, thy good and faithful servant.

Psalms 90 Questions

1. Who was the penman of chapter 90 of Psalms?
2. What is this Psalm?
3. What is Moses called?
4. What is this psalm all about?
5. Even though the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they were securely in _____.
6. If we plan to make heaven, where must we be dwelling?
7. He was clearly _____ their provider.
8. Name at least 3 things that the Lord is for us.
9. From _____ to _____, thou art God.
10. Where are 2 different places we can read that God created all things?
11. Quote 1 John chapter 5 verse 7.
12. What are some of the names of God that show His eternity?
13. From _____ thou art, and to _____ thou shalt return.
14. The first Adam was made a _____.
15. The second Adam was made a _____.
16. A thousand years in God's sight is as a watch _____.
17. Quote 2 Peter chapter 3 verse 8?
18. God is not controlled by time, He is the _____ of time.
19. In heaven where God dwells, there is one _____.
20. Verse 5 is speaking of what?
21. We are like _____ that comes up in the spring and dies in the fall.
22. What brought death to man?
23. When God looks at a believer in Christ, what does He see?
24. His Light searches the heart and soul of man and reads us like a _____.
25. What is it like when a believer dies?
26. How many years does verse 10 say we should live, if we have a normal life?
27. What could cause some to live longer?
28. To be absent from the body, is to be present _____.
29. What are some examples of God's wrath?
30. So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts _____.
31. What was an example of God changing His mind about destroying someone?
32. Who is Jesus the Saviour of?
33. Who did Jesus honor by standing to greet him into heaven?
34. What does the author believe verse 16 is speaking of prophetically?
35. Quote Galations chapter 2 verse 20.

PSALMS LESSON 91

We will begin this lesson by giving the 91st Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 91

- Verse 1 "The man who once has found abode Within the secret place of God, Shall with Almighty God abide, And in his shadow safely hide."
- Verse 2 "I of the Lord my God will say, He is my refuge and my stay; To him for safety I will flee; My God, in him my trust shall be."
- Verse 3 "He shall with all protecting care Preserve thee from the fowler's snare; When fearful plagues around prevail, No fatal stroke shall then assail."
- Verse 4 "His outspread pinions shall thee hide; Beneath his wings shalt thou confide; His faithfulness shall ever be A shield and buckler unto thee."
- Verse 5 "No nightly terrors shall alarm, No deadly shaft by day shall harm, Nor pestilence that walks by night, Nor plagues that waste in noon-day light."
- Verse 6 "A thousand at thy side shall lie, At thy right hand ten thousand die, But thou unharmed, secure, shalt see What wicked men's reward shall be."
- Verse 7 "Because thy trust is God alone, Thy dwelling-place the Highest One, No evil shall upon thee come, Nor plague approach thy guarded home."
- Verse 8 "O'er thee his angels he commands, To bear thee safely in their hands; To keep thee in thy ways each one, Nor dash thy foot against a stone."
- Verse 9 "Thy foot shall crush the adder's head, On lions and on dragons tread; And since on me he set his love, I will his constant Saviour prove. "
- Verse 10 "Because to him my name is dear, I'll save him, and with honors bless; With life he satisfied shall be, And my salvation he shall see."
- Verse 11 "I will be near when troubles press; I'll save him, and with honors bless; With life he satisfied shall be, And my salvation he shall see."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of one of the most loved one of the Psalms. Psalms 91:1 "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."

I feel so inadequate to even attempt to explain this most beautiful of Psalms. This, more than most Scriptures, brings great hope, and promise to those who believe. We have discussed before that dwelleth means to continually dwell. This, then, is not speaking of a nominal believer, but of a believer in long standing who is sheltered in the secret place of the most High. If this was written by Moses, as many believe, he could speak first hand at how wonderful it is to be in such close fellowship with God. Moses was the only one who went near unto God on the mount where he received the

Ten Commandments. At one point, God put his hand over Moses and passed by, and Moses saw the back side of God. On two different occasions, Moses was in the very presence of God for 40 days and nights. Moses had a fellowship with God that all true believers would like to have. He had been so close that his head shined brightly when he came down the mountain. No wonder, he was known as man of God. David was another that God took supernatural care of. The psalmist could have been either man. This would be my prayer today, O Lord that I might abide in Christ and Christ might abide in me. To fellowship with God on this level would be as heaven itself. Jesus opened the way for us into the most holy place. Where the shadow of God is means that you are very near unto God. To be seated in heavenly places with Christ Jesus is heaven. What a wonderful comfort to be close enough to God for His shadow to cover you.

Psalms 91:2 "I will say of the LORD, [He is] my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

We have spoken before about trust. To trust goes beyond ordinary faith. It is like saying, I will rest in the Lord knowing all is well. Notice, the determination of the psalmist in saying, I will say of the Lord. He has made a definite stand. Notice, also, the use of my. He may not be refuge and fortress for the world, but He is my refuge and my fortress. Shadowed by the Lord, no harm will come near you. To feel absolutely secure in the knowledge that God is protecting you, brings perfect peace. I will not fear what man can do, with God my refuge and fortress.

Psalms 91:3 "Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, [and] from the noisome pestilence."

The key to all of this is abiding. If we are continuously with the Lord, and Him with me, I have no worry of faulting and falling into sin. The enemy, Satan, is constantly trying to trap the believer. He would not dare come this close to the Lord, to let His shadow cover him. Part of the Lord's prayer says, deliver us from evil. This is saying just that. He will deliver us from all evil, if we abide with Him.

Psalms 91:4 "He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth [shall be thy] shield and buckler."

The mother hen protects her little chicks by spreading out her wings and hiding them under her wings. We are certainly not saying that the Lord is like a fowl, but His love and care for His little ones {all believers} is described as protecting us with His feathers. This just means that His protection shadows over His own. His truth is what we base our belief upon. It is a solid foundation that we can build upon. His truth will be a shield against the false doctrines of this world. This shield and buckler is not just a protection, but is more like a fort that protects. The shield, of course, would protect your heart, but the buckler is the fortress. It appears that He gives double protection to His own.

Psalms 91:5 "Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; [nor] for the arrow [that] flieth by day;"

To know that you are protected by the Lord, would mean that you would have perfect peace. There is no fear, where there is perfect peace. Look, with me, at the following Scripture and know that no weapon of the devil, or

his crowd, can hurt you. Isaiah 54:17 "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue [that] shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This [is] the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness [is] of me, saith the LORD." Terror is an extreme form of fear. Fear is the opposite of faith. If you trust God, you have an extreme form of faith. There is no terror in extreme faith.

Psalms 91:6 "[Nor] for the pestilence [that] walketh in darkness; [nor] for the destruction [that] wasteth at noonday."

Many crimes are committed at night, because the criminal wants the cover of darkness to hide them. Some are so full of drugs, that they do their dirty work right out in the brightness of day. This is a sign of the times we live in. Crime is rampant, but what a comfort to know that we will be spared all of this.

Psalms 91:7 "A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; [but] it shall not come nigh thee."

I am just sure this is the way Noah felt when the flood came. Many were drowned all around him and his family, but God had made provision for Noah. I said it before, but it bears repeating. Noah was saved in the flood, not from the flood. Just as God made provision for Moses, He will make provision for His own now. When the 10 plagues came on Egypt, the plagues did not harm the Hebrews. God made provision for them, and they were not harmed by all of these plagues. Again they were safe in the midst of the plagues. It is like God has drawn boundary lines around you and the enemy can not cross those boundaries. We are in this world of problems, but we are not part of this world of problems. I have thought so many times, how some doctors work among hundreds of people with contagious diseases and never catch the disease. Perhaps that is a little of what this is saying.

Psalms 91:8 "Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked."

The wrath of God is stored up for the wicked. Christians have tribulations in this life, but they do not feel the wrath of God. Rewards come in two different ways. The reward of the righteous is eternal life in heaven. The reward of the wicked is the lake of fire.

Psalms 91:9 "Because thou hast made the LORD, [which is] my refuge, [even] the most High, thy habitation;" Psalms 91:10 "There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling."

Many a minister of God has been called to the death bed of those with all sorts of dread diseases. The promise of God is that, if we live with God continually, there shall no plague overtake us. What if he did take some terrible disease, it would just hurry the time when he would be with the Lord forevermore. The promise is that the plague will not come near your house, if your house is a habitation of God. God would feel very uncomfortable in many homes today. Praise God! He is welcome in our home.

Psalms 91:11 "For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways."

Notice from the next two verses, that angels are ministering spirits. They are to minister to those who are the saved. Hebrews 1:13 "But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?" Hebrews 1:14 "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?" Every person who is a believer has angels who minister to him. These are to help the believer and to protect them, as well.

Psalms 91:12 "They shall bear thee up in [their] hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone."

This just means that they help us in our walk through life. Many times the nudging we feel, is an angel warning us of disaster ahead. The road through life might be pretty rough, but there hands lift us above the problems, so that we can make it to the other side.

Psalms 91:13 "Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet."

Our enemies may be ferocious, but God has sent us help to walk right over these adversaries. The dragon and the adder is speaking of Satan. With the help of the angels God has dispatched, we can withstand the devil, and he will flee from us. David knew that no mere lion could defeat him, because he had God on his side. The main thing we must remember, is that the devil is a defeated foe. Walk over and past these problems that crop up in this life. We are more than conquerors through Christ who strengthens us. Those of us, who have been born again in Christ Jesus, need not fear what the world can do to us. Jesus won our victory at Calvary.

Psalms 91:14 "Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name."

Many bear the name who really do not truly love Him. This does not mean that those of us, who have given our love to Jesus, are perfect, it means that we have taken on His righteousness. He delivers us for no other reason than that we love Him. Jesus gave us permission to use that wonderful name. There is power in the name of Jesus. The 14th chapter of John tells us so much about the power in that name. I will give just one here. John 14:13 "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." When you pray in that name, believe that ye receive, and you shall have whatever you ask. Just one more Scripture on this, and we will go on. John 16:24 "Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full."

Psalms 91:15 "He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I [will be] with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him."

Notice this does not say, maybe I will answer. It says I will answer. Notice, also, that there will be trouble, but God will be with us in the trouble. He will deliver us out of our trouble. As a Father cares for a child, is what we can expect. We are His children. Saints are first called of God, then we must accept that call. When we answer His call we become His children. Now we can call on Him to help us, for we are His. He will answer the call of His children, when they use the name of His firstborn, Jesus Christ.

Psalms 91:16 "With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation."

Whatever the amount of years for this earth, there will be an eternal life in heaven for those who are the saved. Salvation is for whosoever will. The long life mentioned here is forever.

Psalms 91 Questions

1. He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall do what?
2. What does dwelleth mean?
3. What type of a believer is verse 1 speaking of?
4. Who do many believe wrote the 91st Psalm?
5. Why could Moses express this from first hand knowledge?
6. What was Moses known by that showed close fellowship with God?
7. What did the author say would be her prayer today concerning this relationship with God?
8. What a wonderful comfort to be close enough to God for His _____ to _____ you.
9. How is trust different from faith?
10. To feel absolutely secure in the knowledge that God is protecting you, brings what?
11. What is the key to God taking care of us?
12. He will deliver us from all evil, if we _____ with Him.
13. Does verse 4 mean that God is a bird?
14. What does it mean?
15. What will God's truth be a shield against?
16. What is the shield and buckler, more than just simple protection?
17. The shield protects the _____.
18. The buckler is the _____.
19. Thou shalt not be afraid of the _____ by night.
20. Quote Isaiah chapter 54 verse 17.
21. What is terror?
22. What is trust?
23. Why are many crimes committed at night?
24. Quote Psalms chapter 91 verse 7.
25. Noah was saved ___ the flood, not _____ the flood.
26. The wrath of God is stored up for the _____.
27. What are we promised will not come near our dwelling, if we make God our habitation.
28. What are angels?
29. Who do they minister to?
30. What will they do, so that you won't dash your foot against a stone?
31. The enemy may be ferocious, but ___ sent us help.
32. Where do we find Scriptures telling us of the power in the use of the name of Jesus?
33. Quote John chapter 16 verse 24.
34. Saints are first _____ of God.
35. When we use the name of His _____ _____, God will answer our prayer.

We will begin by giving the 92nd. Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 92

- Verse 1 "To render thanks unto the Lord It is a comely thing, And to thy name, O thou Most High, Due praise aloud to sing."
- Verse 2 "Thy loving-kindness to show forth When shines the morning light; And to declare thy faithfulness With pleasure ev'ry night."
- Verse 3 "Upon a ten-stringed instrument, And on the psaltery, Upon the harp with solemn sound, And grave sweet melody."
- Verse 4 "For thou, Jehovah, by thy work, Hast made my heart right glad; And I will triumph in the works Which by thy hands were made."
- Verse 5 "How great, O Lord, are all thy works! A deep thy ev'ry thought. A brutish person doth not know, Fools understand it not."
- Verse 6 "When they that wicked are, spring up As grass upon the ground, And they that work iniquity Do flourish and abound;"
- Verse 7 "It is that they forevermore May be destroyed and slain; But, O Jehovah, thou Most High, Shalt evermore remain."
- Verse 8 "For lo, thy foes, yea, all thy foes, Shall be destroyed, O God! And all that work iniquity Shall be dispersed abroad."
- Verse 9 "But like the horn of unicorns, My horn thou wilt exalt, And raise on high; thou with fresh oil anoint me also shalt."
- Verse 10 "My eye shall also my desire See on my enemies; My ears shall of he wicked hear, That do against me rise."
- Verse 11 "But like the palm-tree flourishing shall be the righteous one; And shall like the cedar grow That is in Lebanon."
- Verse 12 "Those that within the house of God are planted by his grace, They shall grow up, and flourish all In our God's holy place."
- Verse 13 "And in old age, when others fade, They fruit still forth shall bring; They shall be fat, and full of sap, And always flourishing; "
- Verse 14 "To show that upright is the Lord; He is a rock to me; And he from all unrighteousness Is altogether free."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 92nd. Psalm. Psalms 92:1 "{A Psalm [or] Song for the sabbath day.} [It is a] good [thing] to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High:"

We have mentioned before that it was their custom to sing all the way to the temple, and then sing, also, in the temple. This 92nd Psalm was sung on the Sabbath by the Jews. Some believe that this Psalm was written by Adam, but I believe along with most scholars of the Bible, that this was written by David. As we said before, it really doesn't matter who penned this. The message is what we must concentrate on. Many churches today sing this Psalm in their services. LORD is Jehovah. We have discussed many times, that the easiest way to feel the presence of the LORD, is to praise Him. He inhabits the praises of His people. This is really not an obligation, but is like a freewill offering. It is such a little thing to praise God, for all

the blessings He has bestowed upon us. There are a number of ways to praise Him, and they are all good. I really enjoy singing praises to God. You can just get lost in praise and worship of God singing the praises. Prayer, of course, is another way to praise Him. Some lift their hands toward heaven with palms lifted up and praise Him. One of the really beautiful ways to praise Him, is to testify aloud of His goodness and majesty. Share something really wonderful He has done. He loves all of these ways.

Psalms 92:2 "To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night,"

I have found that one of the very best times to sing praises, talk to God, or pray is very early in the morning, before all the other members of the family get up. Of course, everyday should end with praises for the Lord seeing us through the day. We really should have a prayer in our heart all the time. There is never a wrong time to pray.

Psalms 92:3 "Upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the psaltery; upon the harp with a solemn sound."

Since there will be harps in heaven, I would think we should get practiced up here. No instrument is evil, in and of itself. It is the use of the instrument that can either be evil, or good. An instrument is just a tool for our use. What we use it for determines what type of person we really are. Instruments can be used to set a mood. Notice in the verse above, it was to be solemn.

Psalms 92:4 "For thou, LORD, hast made me glad through thy work: I will triumph in the works of thy hands."

We mentioned in a previous lesson, that there is no end to the wonderful works of the Lord. He is the Creator of everything and everyone. To look at the beautiful mountains, the sunset, the rivers and streams are enough to make you shout for joy. The wonderful thing is that God created this earth, and all that it holds for man to use. The greatest work, that is beyond compare, is the 6 hours that Jesus worked on the cross and bought our salvation for us. When I think of all He has done for us, I cry tears of joy that He loved us enough to do this for us. God did not need the earth. He already existed before there was an earth. He made the earth for the habitation of man. Hebrews 2:6 " But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man, that thou visitest him?" The answer is someone to fellowship with God. Revelation 4:11 "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."

Psalms 92:5 "O LORD, how great are thy works! [and] thy thoughts are very deep."

When someone gets too proud of himself, just ask him has he created any worlds lately? The thoughts of God are so deep that we will never really understand Him fully, until we stand before Him in heaven. Even the Bible {God's Word} is never fully understood. Each time we study it, we learn more, and we will still be learning more when the trumpet blows.

Psalms 92:6 "A brutish man knoweth not; neither doth a fool understand this."

A brutish man, if he read the Bible, would be reading it with a carnal mind. He would not understand it at all, because it is Spirit. A fool really has no desire to learn. He is unteachable.

Psalms 92:7 "When the wicked spring as the grass, and when all the workers of iniquity do flourish; [it is] that they shall be destroyed for ever:"

It seems as if this is describing the day that we live in. There are millions and millions of people who are just living day to day with no thought for tomorrow. This is the same thing that happened in Noah's time. Genesis 6:1 "And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them," Genesis 6:5 "And God saw that the wickedness of man [was] great in the earth, and [that] every imagination of the thoughts of his heart [was] only evil continually." Genesis 6:6 "And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart." I do not need to tell you that all of these evil people were destroyed in the flood and only Noah and his family were saved. God will not put up with this type of sin, He will destroy them forever.

Psalms 92:8 "But thou, LORD, [art most] high for evermore."

The psalmist pauses a moment here, to expound on the greatness of God. God is God forevermore.

Psalms 92:9 " For, lo, thine enemies, O LORD, for, lo, thine enemies shall perish; all the workers of iniquity shall be scattered."

As this is spoken twice, we see a confirmation. The enemies of God shall surely perish. The enemies of God are bound for an eternity in hell.

Psalms 92:10 "But my horn shalt thou exalt like [the horn of] an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil."

This is in direct contrast to the enemies of God. The unicorn symbolized power that was so great it could not be conquered. He is saying, his strength will be so great that the enemy will not be able to defeat him. This anointing with fresh oil means, that he will be filled with God's Spirit over and over, and that grace and mercy of God shall abound toward him so much that he cannot be defeated.

Psalms 92:11 "Mine eye also shall see [my desire] on mine enemies, [and] mine ears shall hear [my desire] of the wicked that rise up against me."

This is just saying, to me, that he is leaving his enemies in the hands of the Lord to do with as He sees fit. He may see and hear their punishment, but I do not believe he is trying to tell God what that punishment should be.

Psalms 92:12 "The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon."

We see a great contrast here to the wicked, who were spoken of as grass. The palm tree lives to be a very old tree. The cedar in Lebanon was a very strong and beautiful tree. These trees have strong roots and live a very long time not easily destroyed by the winds.

Psalms 92:13 "Those that be planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God."

This is just speaking of being grounded and rooted in the Lord. Christians, who spend their time in the presence of God, shall grow mightily and produce much fruit.

Psalms 92:14 "They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing;"

What is old age anyhow? The longer I serve Him, the sweeter He grows. The one thing that age has going for it, is the wisdom of many years with the Lord. God does not ever feel we are too old to do a job He has for us, or He would not have called Moses when he was 80 years old. Sometimes youth does not stay with their call, because the call of the world is great in their life. As long as you can speak, you can win souls for the harvest.

Psalms 92:15 "To shew that the LORD [is] upright: [he is] my rock, and [there is] no unrighteousness in him."

No one knows as well as the aged about all the wonderful blessings through the years that God has brought. God is upright. He never fails us. He is the Rock of our salvation. He is called Jesus Christ the righteous.

Psalms 92 Questions

1. When was the 92nd Psalm sung?
2. Who do some believe wrote this Psalm?
3. Who does the author believe wrote this Psalm?
4. What is the word LORD here?
5. How is the easiest way to feel the presence of the Lord?
6. Why is this true?
7. How are some of the ways we praise Him?
8. When was His lovingkindness shewn forth?
9. When is the wrong time to pray?
10. What are some of the instruments, to praise the Lord on, mentioned in verse 3?
11. What makes an instrument evil?
12. How was the harp to be heard in verse 3?
13. What are some of the works of the Lord?
14. What does the author believe to be His greatest work?
15. Quote Hebrews chapter 2 verse 6.
16. Why was all of this created by God?
17. A _____ man knoweth not.
18. Why would the brutish man not understand the Bible?
19. The wicked spring as the _____.
20. What does the 6th chapter of Genesis teach us about the evil populating the earth?
21. What grieved God in His heart?
22. In verse 9, why was the message repeated?
23. What did the unicorn symbolize?
24. What did he mean by being anointed with fresh oil?
25. The righteous shall flourish like the _____.
26. What do the palm tree and the cedar of Lebanon have in common?
27. Verse 14 says, they will do what in old age?
28. Who was 80 years old when God called him to the ministry?
29. Quote Psalms chapter 92 verse 15.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 93rd Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 93

- Verse 1 "Johovah reigns, and clothed is he With majesty most bright
Himself Jehovah clothes with strength, And girds about with
might."
- Verse 2 "The world is also firmly fixed, That it cannot depart. Thy
throne is fixed of old, and thou from everlasting art."
- Verse 3 "The floods have lifted up, They lifted up their voice, The
floods have lifted up their waves, And made a mighty noise."
- Verse 4 "But yet the Lord, that is on high, Is mightier by far Than
noise of many waters is, Or great sea-billows are."
- Verse 5 "Thy testimonies ev'ry one In faithfulness excel; And
holiness forever, Lord, Thy house becometh well.

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 93rd Psalm. Psalms 93:1 "The LORD reigneth, he is clothed with majesty; the LORD is clothed with strength, [wherewith] he hath girded himself: the world also is stablished, that it cannot be moved."

This appears to have been written to calm the fears of the people. LORD again is Jehovah. The psalmist is saying, the LORD reigns over everything and everyone, do not worry. Sometimes today we must remind ourselves that God is forever, and that He alone is supreme ruler of it all. Notice above, that this is God Himself who clothed Himself with strength. He is telling His people, this is not the end of the world. God established the earth, and He alone will decide when He is through with it. He is clothed with majesty. This does not mean that the garment He put on was a majestic garment, it means it was majesty itself. We know the high priest wore his beautiful garments with the 12 stones on the breast when he represented God to the people. We have discussed before, that Satan has no more power than what God allows him to have for the moment. God controls Satan, the same as He controls everything and everyone else.

Psalms 93:2 "Thy throne [is] established of old: thou [art] from everlasting."

This, too, is an encouragement to the people that God is still on His throne. Perhaps, he was showing the people how crumbly the thrones of man were compared to God who existed from before the foundation of the earth. He is supreme ruler over everything and always has been.

Psalms 93:3 "The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their waves."

We see the voices of these violent men are coming in waves like the sea raging. It seems, they do not get through making one threat, until here comes another. It appears the psalmist did not answer them back, but came to God with his problem.

Psalms 93:4 "The LORD on high [is] mightier than the noise of many waters, [yea, than] the mighty waves of the sea."

Many times, waters, spoken of in this manner, can mean people. That is the case here. Then and even now, when people try to overthrow God's work, it's just a noisome noise to the Lord from out of the multitude. All He has to do is say, peace be still, and it will have to obey Him.

Psalms 93:5 "Thy testimonies are very sure: holiness becometh thine house, O LORD, for ever."

The storm may rage, but it has no power at all on our God. The throne of God is set for all generations to come, there is no tearing it down. His Word is established forever. He is Truth, and Truth is established forever. Holiness is surely being questioned in our day. God never changes. His laws are the same. He is Holy, and that will never change. He is Righteous, and that will never change. We can not say, we are living in modern times and God has changed His Word to fit our day. God's Word is established from everlasting to everlasting. Just because we are saved by grace, does not give us a license to sin. God is Holy. We will be judged by a Holy Judge {Jesus Christ}.

We will continue on in the 94th chapter of Psalms, by giving it in metre.

- Verse 1 "O God the Lord, to whom alone All vengeance doth belong; O mighty God of vengeance, come; Shine forth, avenging wrong."
- Verse 2 "Lift up thyself, thou of the earth The sov'reign Judge that art; And unto those that are so proud, A due reward impart."
- Verse 3 "How long, O mighty God, shall they Who work iniquity--How long shall they who wicked are Thus triumph haughtily?"
- Verse 4 "How long shall things so hard by them still uttered be and told? And all that work iniquity To boast themselves be bold?"
- Verse 5 "For they thy people crush, O Lord, Thy heritage oppress; The widow and the stranger slay, They kill the fatherless."
- Verse 6 "And yet they say, God will not see, Nor God of Jacob know. Ye brutish people! understand; Fools! when wise will ye grow?"
- Verse 7 "The Lord did plant the ear of man, And hear then shall not he? He also formed the eye, and then Shall he not clearly see?"
- Verse 8 "He that the nations doth correct, Shall he not chasten you? He knowledge unto man doth teach, And shall himself not know?"
- Verse 9 "Man's thoughts to be but vanity The Lord doth well discern. Blest is the man thou chast'nest, Lord, And mak'st thy law to learn:"
- Verse 10 "That thou mayst give him rest from days of sad adversity, Until the pit be digged for them That work iniquity."
- Verse 11 "Because the Lord will not cast off His people utterly, Nor shall his own inheritance By him forsaken be."
- Verse 12 "But judgment unto righteousness Shall yet return again; And all shall follow after it That are right-hearted men."
- Verse 13 "O who will rise for me against Those that do wickedly? And who will stand for me against those That work iniquity?"
- Verse 14 "Unless the Lord had been my help When I was sore oppress, My soul had almost in the house of silence been at rest.
- Verse 15 "When I through fear had spoken thus, "My foot doth slip away," Thy mercy held me up, O Lord, Thy goodness did me stay."
- Verse 16 "When anxious thoughts my heart oppress, And fill my soul with grief, The consolations of thy grace To me afford relief."
- Verse 17 "Shall of iniquity the throne Have fellowship with thee, Which mischief, cunningly contrived, Doth by a law decree?"
- Verse 18 "Against the righteous souls they join, They guiltless blood condemn. But of my refuge God's the rock, And my defence from them."
- Verse 19 "On them their own iniquity The Lord himself shall lay. He'll cut them off in their own sin: The Lord our God them slay."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of chapter 94 of Psalms. Psalms 94:1 "O LORD God, to whom vengeance belongeth; O God, to whom vengeance belongeth, shew thyself."

This is an age old problem. We see the psalmist reminding God that vengeance belongs to God. It appears that the righteous are being oppressed

by the evil ones, and the psalmist is asking God to go ahead and do something that will stop their onslaught of the believers. In our day, this would be the atheist seeming to gain ground in the courts, when the believers know it is wrong. If God would but show Himself, the atheist, and the evil in this verse, would crumble and fall. Someday we will understand why these things happened, and why God did not immediately react and punish the evil. We do know that He is longsuffering, not willing that any should perish. Perhaps, He is giving them time to repent. Another thought is, perhaps, He is seeing if we will fall under heavy opposition.

Psalms 94:2 "Lift up thyself, thou judge of the earth: render a reward to the proud."

The Judge of all the earth is the one we know as Jesus. The psalmist, here, is asking Him to go ahead to His judgment seat and judge those who are proud. The Lord loves an humble heart. The proud shall be cast down.

Psalms 94:3 "LORD, how long shall the wicked, how long shall the wicked triumph?"

The psalmist looks around him in the world, and it looks, in the natural, as if the wicked are winning. This is just asking, Lord how long will you allow this to be the case? The earth is the home of the wicked. Most rewards for the righteous are for their time in their home, heaven.

Psalms 94:4 "[How long] shall they utter [and] speak hard things? [and] all the workers of iniquity boast themselves?"

We know that the enemies of God have no compassion on others at all. Since they do not believe in God, they do not believe His laws either. They have no conscience, so they do whatever it takes to put them ahead, and they say anything it is convenient to say. The worst part, is after they have done their dirt and been successful at it, then they begin to brag. We must remember, that they had better really enjoy this few years they live here, because their future has nothing but sorrow.

Psalms 94:5 "They break in pieces thy people, O LORD, and afflict thine heritage."

The truth of the matter is, they had rather cheat a man, or woman, of God than anyone else. They think, if they can do that it makes their atheism more believable. They say, if there is a God that you talk about so much, why is He not helping you now?

Psalms 94:6 "They slay the widow and the stranger, and murder the fatherless."

These people are easy prey, because they have no one to stand up for them. They are weak, and can not help themselves. These are the very people that God has told all believers to help.

Psalms 94:7 "Yet they say, The LORD shall not see, neither shall the God of Jacob regard [it]."

We discussed before that these people do not believe in the living God, so how can He see and punish them? Notice in the following verse, that even

though these things appear to be hidden, they are not hidden from God. I Corinthians 4:5 "Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God." God sees everything and it is recorded for future reference. He may not punish immediately for every little thing, but there will be a day of punishment for all sin that has not been forgiven.

Psalms 94:8 "Understand, ye brutish among the people: and [ye] fools, when will ye be wise?"

This is just saying, when will they ever learn? Wicked men are fools. There seems to be a never-ending cycle with them. The more wicked they are, the more foolish they are and on and on. A wicked foolish man is unteachable, so the answer is, they will never learn until the end, and then it is too late.

Psalms 94:9 "He that planted the ear, shall he not hear? he that formed the eye, shall he not see?"

I love the statement God made to Moses, when Moses said he would not be able to speak to the Pharaoh and the people. God asked him, who made your mouth? The person that made the ear to hear, can and does hear everything. God made our eyes and believe me, He sees everything. He has an all seeing eye. There is nothing that He misses seeing.

Psalms 94:10 "He that chastiseth the heathen, shall not he correct? he that teacheth man knowledge, [shall not he know]?"

God not only chastises individuals, but whole nations. The very best example of this, is what He did to Pharaoh and the country of Egypt.

Psalms 94:11 "The LORD knoweth the thoughts of man, that they [are] vanity."

We are told that the mind is at enmity with God. Romans 8:7 "Because the carnal mind [is] enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be." Man's mind must be controlled by the spirit to be right with God. God not only knows the sins we commit, but He knows even the evil thoughts that we have.

Psalms 94:12 "Blessed [is] the man whom thou chastenest, O LORD, and teachest him out of thy law;"

Hebrews 12:6 "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth." It seems to me many times, that the more chastening the Lord does of us, the more He loves us. He is forming us as near as possible into the image of His precious Son Jesus. If we are in the image of Jesus, we would have to be like Him in every way. If He suffered, so will we. Remember, that tribulation comes to make you strong. I say with the psalmist, blessed is the man whom the Lord chasteneth.

Psalms 94:13 "That thou mayest give him rest from the days of adversity, until the pit be digged for the wicked."

There is a rest for the believer that far surpasses all the problems. There is a work to do, and then a rest from that labor. Some of the trials, that we have, teach us to rest in the Lord. Noah waited in the ark, after God closed the door. There was a rest from his labor.

Psalms 94:14 "For the LORD will not cast off his people, neither will he forsake his inheritance."

Many a saint has wondered if the LORD had left them for good, when it appeared all was lost, but in the end, the LORD always comes through for them. The Israelites thought this very thing, when their task masters required them to search for the raw material to make their brick with. If you have read of the exodus, you know that even this was a step in getting them released.

Psalms 94:15 "But judgment shall return unto righteousness: and all the upright in heart shall follow it."

The world seems to be going in the wrong direction and it seems there is no way to turn it around. The prayers of the saints can turn even this evil world we live in around. The only problem in our nation today, is we are out of fellowship with God. Those of you who know how to pray, pray that revival will sweep across the nation. That is the answer to all of the problems we face as a nation.

Psalms 94:16 "Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? [or] who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?"

When I see this, tears well up in my eyes, because that is what I am saying. Who is willing to rise up and call this nation back to God? Who is willing, in the face of ridicule and persecution, to stand up and call this nation back to God?

Psalms 94:17 "Unless the LORD [had been] my help, my soul had almost dwelt in silence."

If you are waiting until help comes from the people around you, that help will never come. God is the only help you can depend on. Please do not remain silent. Speak out for what is right, and do what you can where you are to raise a banner of righteousness across our land.

Psalms 94:18 "When I said, My foot slippeth; thy mercy, O LORD, held me up."

We are not able to stand alone, but the strength of God within us can be the stay that keeps us from slipping and falling. Thy mercy, O Lord is my very present help and my strength.

Psalms 94:19 "In the multitude of my thoughts within me thy comforts delight my soul."

When our thoughts become the thoughts that He placed there, there will be such a comfort and a peace that comes over us, that it will delight our souls.

Psalms 94:20 "Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with thee, which frameth mischief by a law?"

The original laws of the United States were based upon God's law. Some of the amendments to those laws are made by the enemies of God. Even the reading of the law we have, can be so twisted and perverted that it makes it appear the law was bad. Christians, go back to the laws in God's book {the Bible} and do not fellowship with those of unbelief, who would change God's law.

Psalms 94:21 "They gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous, and condemn the innocent blood."

Christians, you can not go along with the crowd and be on God's side. Even now, there is a conspiracy by the devil and his crowd to destroy everything that uplifts God. They condemned the innocent, when they condemned our leader Jesus Christ. The tactics of the enemy have not changed, they are still out to destroy the followers of the LORD. Stand up and be counted as the righteous.

Psalms 94:22 "But the LORD is my defence; and my God [is] the rock of my refuge."

Praise God! I do not need the world to be on my side. The LORD is my defence. He is the Rock that I stand firm upon. He is my refuge from the storms of life.

Psalms 94:23 "And he shall bring upon them their own iniquity, and shall cut them off in their own wickedness; [yea], the LORD our God shall cut them off."

The wicked soon turn upon each other, and they destroy themselves. We know that God will take care of even this situation. He destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah for sin, and there is always a payment to be made for sin. His delay in punishing, sometimes, is giving them a chance to repent and be saved. To those who do not repent and be saved, I have but one thing to say; the wages of sin is death.

Psalms 93 Questions

1. What is the LORD clothed with in verse 1?
2. Who clothed the Lord?
3. Why is it God's decision when the world will end?
4. When did the high priest wear his fine garment with the breastplate of twelve stones?
5. How much power does Satan have?
6. How _____ are the thrones of man compared to the throne of God.
7. The voices of these evil men are coming up like what?
8. Waters are sometime speaking of whom?
9. The Word of God is established _____.
10. Who is our Holy Judge?
11. In verse 2 of chapter 94, what is God called?
12. How long shall the wicked triumph?
13. Why do the enemies of God have no compassion on others?
14. Why should the wicked make sure they have fun now?
15. In verse 6, who are they slaying?
16. Quote 1 Corinthians chapter 4 verse 5.
17. What is verse 8 saying?
18. What is the quote the author loves that God made to Moses, pertaining to verse 9?
19. How could you describe the eye of God?
20. What is a good example of God chastising a nation?
21. Quote Romans chapter 8 verse 7.
22. For whom the Lord loveth, He _____.
23. When did the Israelites think that God had cast them off for sure?
24. _____ of the _____ can turn this evil world around?
25. Who is willing to rise up and call this nation back to God?
26. Who is the only help that we can depend upon?
27. What is the devil and his crowd trying to do now?
28. I do not need the _____ to be on my side.
29. The Lord is my _____.
30. The wages of sin is _____.

We will begin by giving the 94th Psalm in metre, to show how easily it could be sung.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 95

- Verse 1 "O Come, let us in songs to God, Our cheerful voices raise,
In joyful shouts let us the rock Of our salvation praise."
- Verse 2 "Before his presence let us come With praise and thankful
voice; Let us sing psalms to him with grace, And make a
joyful noise."
- Verse 3 "For God, a mighty God, and King, Above all gods he is. The
depths of earth are in his hand, The strength of hills is
his."
- Verse 4 "To him the spacious sea belongs, For he the same did make;
The dry land also from his hands Its form at first did take."
- Verse 5 "O come, and let us worship him, Let us bow down withal, And
on our Knees, before the Lord Our Maker, let us fall."
- Verse 6 "Because he only is our God; And we the people are Of his own
pasture, and the sheep Of his almighty care."
- Verse 7 "To-day, if ye his voice will hear, Your hearts then harden
not; As they in desert did provoke And tempt his anger hot."
- Verse 8 "Your fathers did me tempt and prove, They did my working
see; And for the space of forty years This race hath grieved
me."
- Verse 9 "I said, This people errs in heart, My ways they do not know:
To whom I sware in wrath, that to My rest they should not
go."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 95th Psalm. Psalms 95:1 "O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation."

In Hebrew the 4th chapter verse 7, the penman speaks of this, Psalm in David. We can safely assume then, that this Psalm is of David. This Psalm is an appeal to worship God in song and praise. It is just as important for believers in Christ, as for the Hebrew children, or else it would not have been mentioned in Hebrews in the New Testament. This Scripture is like most in the Bible. It has a past tense, a present tense, and a future tense. We have so much to thank God for. It appears from this verse above, that the object of our praise in song should be the Rock of our salvation. Jesus is the Rock of our salvation. We should shout it from the rooftops, that we are saved by the grace of God. The greatest gift in all the world, that could be given to any one, is the gift of eternal life. This is what we should be singing praises of.

Psalms 95:2 "Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms."

It was the custom of the Jewish people to come into His presence with singing of the Psalms. The presence of God was with the Israelites, in a very special way, in the tabernacle in the wilderness. This same presence was in the cloud and in the fire that led them. God is omnipresent

{everywhere all the time}. This, however, is speaking of a special presence. Many times in prayer, we are in that special presence of God. We must remember to be in a spirit of praise and thanksgiving at those times. Salvation of our soul is a free gift. In fact, all the gifts of God are free. You can not purchase the things of God. Praise causes the presence of God to be with you. God inhabits the praises of His people.

Psalms 95:3 "For the LORD [is] a great God, and a great King above all gods."

The Egyptians were shown, beyond a shadow of doubt, that the LORD God is above all the false gods of the earth. God swore by Himself, because there was no greater. Elijah proved to the prophets of Baal that the LORD, He is God. Mark 12:30 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this [is] the first commandment." Acts 4:24 "And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou [art] God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is:" I could put a hundred Scriptures in here to show that God is God, and greatly to be praised, and that all the gods of the earth are nothing. He is our God, our King forevermore.

Psalms 95:4 "In his hand [are] the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills [is] his also."

God is God of the whole universe. There is no mountain tall enough that He is not God of. There is no depth {even hell} that He is not God of. Remember, Jesus went and took the keys of Hell and death away from the devil. He brought captivity captive out with Him. Don't let anyone deceive you, the devil does not control the earth or anything else, God controls it all. The devil has just as much power as God will allow him. In all of this, He has you in His hand. He is as big as the universe, but small enough to care for you and me.

Psalms 95:5 "The sea [is] his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry [land]."

Genesis 1:9 "And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry [land] appear: and it was so." Genesis 1:10 "And God called the dry [land] Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that [it was] good." The Scripture above shows that all of this belongs to God. It is all His creation. The sea is at His command, as we saw when the Red Sea parted, and when Jesus told the sea to be still, and it obeyed Him.

Psalms 95:6 "O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker."

All of the things we have studied in this lesson should humble us before our maker. We should bow down before Him, and worship, and adore Him. He is our Creator, and we are His creation.

Psalms 95:7 "For he [is] our God; and we [are] the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. To day if ye will hear his voice,"

What an humbling thought to know that our God, our Creator, made the earth as a habitation for man. How can anyone with the facts before them, refuse Him? The only thing that He asks of us is that we would hear and believe. How can we not believe?

Psalms 95:8 "Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, [and] as [in] the day of temptation in the wilderness:"

It is hard for me to believe that the children of Israel did not believe after seeing, with their own eyes, the Red Sea part. How could they hear the voice from heaven speaking the 10 commandments, and still not believe? How could they see water flow from a Rock, and still not believe? How could they see Manna fall from the sky, and still not believe? How can we live in the earth and see all the beauty around us that God has provided, and still not believe? How could we neglect so great salvation?

Psalms 95:9 "When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my work."

If you follow the movement of Israel across the wilderness, you will see that, over and over, they fell away from God. They murmured against the very God that saved them. He forgave them over and over. As we said before, there were so many miracles done in their behalf, that they became almost commonplace. It is like Jesus. He did so many miracles, that if they were all written down, there would not have been enough books in the world to contain them. How could they not believe?

Psalms 95:10 "Forty years long was I grieved with [this] generation, and said, It [is] a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways:"

For forty years they walked through the desert, and their shoes did not wear out. No wonder God was grieved with them. I wonder at people today who see the miracle of the earth just hanging out in space with nothing to hold it up, and they do not recognize the God that did this. Why are we so blind that we do not see? The problem with this people and the people then, also, was that they had a hard heart. They had hardened themselves against God. God wants your heart. He loved them then, and He loves us now. He just wants us to love Him back. To the carnal mind, God's ways are beyond finding out. The only way to understand God's ways, is with your heart.

Psalms 95:11 "Unto whom I swear in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest."

God let them wander in the wilderness 40 years, until that evil generation perished. It is such a shame that we can not learn from them. God's wrath is building up against those who do not know Him now. There is very little time left to hang on the fence. The believers in Christ will be saved from the wrath to come. Make a decision today to love God in your heart and be saved.

Psalms 94 Questions

1. What makes us believe this Psalm is David's?
2. What is this Psalm an appeal for?
3. How do we know this Psalm is for believers, as well as for the Hebrews?
4. Who is the object of the praise?
5. What is the greatest gift anyone could receive?
6. How are we to come before His presence?
7. How was the presence of God with the Israelites in a very special way?
8. God _____ the praises of His people.
9. Who were shown beyond a shadow of doubt that God was God?
10. Who did God swear by and why?
11. Quote Mark chapter 12 verse 30.
12. In Acts chapter 4 verse 24, what did God create?
13. When did Jesus take the keys to hell away from the devil?
14. How much power does the devil have?
15. How big is God?
16. What does Genesis chapter 1 verses 9 and 10 tell us about God?
17. When were two separate times, we saw that God was ruler over the sea?
18. Why should we bow down before God?
19. God made the earth as a _____ for man.
20. What are some of the things the author thought should have been ample evidence to make the children of Israel believe?
21. How many miracles did Jesus do?
22. How long was God grieved with the children of Israel in the wilderness?
23. How is the only way to understand God's ways?
24. What did God swear in His wrath?
25. Believers in Christ will be saved from the _____ to come.

We will begin this lesson by giving chapter 96 of Psalms in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 96

- Verse 1 "O SING a new song to the Lord; Sing all the earth and bless him from day to day his praise record, name. The Lord's redeeming grace proclaim. "
- Verse 2 "Tell all the world his wondrous ways, Tell heathen nations far and near; Great is the Lord, and great his praise, Feared more than gods that nations fear. "
- Verse 3 "The heathen gods are idols vain; He made the heavens, and he supports. Both light and honor lead his train, While strength and beauty fill his courts."
- Verse 4 "O give the Lord, ye tribes and tongues, O give the Lord due praise, and sing; Give strength and glory in your songs, come, throng his courts, and offerings bring. "
- Verse 5 "O fear and bow, adorned with grace, And tell each land that God is King. He fixed the earth's unchanging base; Just judgment to the world he'll bring. "
- Verse 6 "Let heav'n exult, Let earth rejoice, Let seas and all their fulness roar; Let waving fields lift high their voice, The wood's wild joy in songs shall soar. "
- Verse 7 "So let them shout before our God, For lo, he comes, he comes with might, To wield the sceptre and the rod, To judge the world with truth and right."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 96th chapter of Psalms. Psalms 96:1 "O sing unto the LORD a new song: sing unto the LORD, all the earth."

This new song that we are to sing to Jehovah {LORD}, is a prayer of thanksgiving and praise in song. This could be the song of all who have been redeemed. Salvation is for all the earth. Everyone of every nation of the world could sing this beautiful song of redemption. I believe the new song has to do with grace, and not the law. The time for mourning is over. It is time we sing joyful songs unto the God of our salvation.

Psalms 96:2 "Sing unto the LORD, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day."

This is the third mention of the Lord, could this have to do with the three in one from I John 5:7? "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." We see, above, that this is not to be one day and then forgotten. Every day is the day to praise God for our salvation. It is such a little thing for us to praise His name. He has done marvellous things.

Psalms 96:3 "Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people."

We are instructed to go into all the world and preach the gospel {good news} to every creature. In our time, this is more possible than it has ever

been with satellite television. One of the very best ways of sharing this with other people, is to get a Bible into their hands, and show them how to study the Word. I believe these Bible studies to be a very good way of spreading the gospel. The Bible speaks for itself. The miracle of creation, and all the later miracles as well, are in God's Word.

Psalms 96:4 "For the LORD [is] great, and greatly to be praised: he [is] to be feared above all gods."

God is not just God of a handful of people, but of all mankind. Over, and over, and over, in the Bible God discredited the false gods around Him, and showed that He is the One true God. We find, even now, there are false doctrines on every hand. We are to try the spirits, and see whether they be of God, or not. I John 4:1 "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world." I John 4:2 "Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:" I John 4:3 "And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that [spirit] of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world." The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom.

Psalms 96:5 "For all the gods of the nations [are] idols: but the LORD made the heavens."

The translation of idols is nothings. When gods is not capitalized, it is speaking of false gods. People of the day that the Bible was written, carved gods out of wood and stone, and they were really nothing. Elijah proved to the prophets of Baal, and God proved to the Pharaoh that these false gods had no power at all. The LORD {Jehovah} made the heavens. John 1:1 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1:2 "The same was in the beginning with God." John 1:3 "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."

Psalms 96:6 "Honour and majesty [are] before him: strength and beauty [are] in his sanctuary."

Even the tabernacles here on the earth had much beauty and majesty connected to them, but it is beyond our wildest dream how beautiful heaven is. I Corinthians 2:9 "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." Think of the beauty of a place where even the streets are paved with gold! The gate is one giant pearl. The walls have precious stones. I could go on and on. The majesty of it all is the throne of God. This is the holy of holies that the tabernacle in the wilderness was a miniature of. Jesus opened the way for you and me to this magnificent throne of God. All majesty and power are His. He is supreme ruler of the universe. All must bow to Him.

Psalms 96:7 "Give unto the LORD, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the LORD glory and strength."

This verse is for all of mankind, kindreds of the people. Everything we are is His. We are His creation. He is our Creator. What can we give Him,

but ourselves? We can praise, and worship Him with the voice that He placed within us. We should never cease praising and glorifying His name.

Psalms 96:8 "Give unto the LORD the glory [due unto] his name: bring an offering, and come into his courts."

The only offering that we can give Him is the sacrifice of our praise. Hebrews 13:15 "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of [our] lips giving thanks to his name."

Psalms 96:9 "O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth."

God does not regard material things of this earth as beauty. Beauty, to Him, is in the life of holiness that we are attempting to live. Moral and spiritual beauty from within is what moves Him. Praise God! When He looks at us, He sees the garment of righteousness that His precious Son has clothed us in. This garment, white as snow has been made white by washing it in His blood.

Psalms 96:10 "Say among the heathen [that] the LORD reigneth: the world also shall be established that it shall not be moved: he shall judge the people righteously."

There is a chorus, taken from the Bible that I love to sing. It says, Our God Reigns. Reigneth, means to continually reigns. The reign of the Lord Jesus Christ as King of kings and Lord of lords will bring perfect peace to the earth. He is the righteous Judge that each of us stands before.

Psalms 96:11 "Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof."

We know that the angels in heaven rejoice over one sinner who is saved. At the fulness of times when all the problems are over, even all of heaven and all the natural elements will rejoice together.

Psalms 96:12 "Let the field be joyful, and all that [is] therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice"

There will be no more destruction of the earth, or the grass burning up, or the trees being burned up. As I said, even all the elements of nature will rejoice because the King of peace will reign and there will be a sabbath of rest for all the land and trees, as well as for the people.

Psalms 96:13 "Before the LORD: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth."

I personally believe that the coming of the Lord is very near. The desire of every true Christian should be for the Lord to come quickly. We are promised a great peace for all the people when the Lord returns. He will rule with a rod of iron. There will be no problems during His reign, because Satan will be locked up for a thousand years. He will judge with truth, because He is the Truth. He will judge righteously, because He is the righteous Judge. Those who believe in the Lord will be judged righteous, because we have taken on His righteousness. The sad thing, here, is that He

is, also, just and will judge those who refused His salvation, with justice.
Unrepented sin brings death.

Psalms 95 Questions

1. Sing unto the LORD a new _____.
2. What is this song that we are to sing?
3. The author believes this has to do with _____ and, not the ____.
4. Quote 1 John chapter 5 verse 7.
5. When is the time to praise the Lord?
6. Who are we to declare His glory to?
7. What is the gospel?
8. What is the best way to declare the glory of the Lord to the heathen?
9. God is to be feared above all _____.
10. How can we try the spirits, to see if they are of God?
11. The gods of the nations are _____.
12. What is an idol?
13. Quote John chapter 1 verse 3.
14. Quote 1 Corinthians chapter 2 verse 9.
15. What are we to give unto the Lord?
16. How do we know that all people are intended in verse 7?
17. Where do we find the Scripture that says, the sacrifice we are to give is praise?
18. What is beautiful to God?
19. What does reigneth mean?
20. What will the reign of Jesus bring to the earth?
21. What are some of the unusual things spoken of as rejoicing in verses 11 and 12?
22. Verse 13 says, He will judge _____.

We will begin by giving the 97th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 97

- Verse 1 "JEHOVAH reigns; let earth be glad, And all her islands clap their hands; With clouds and darkness be is clad, His throne in right and judgment stands."
- Verse 2 "A fiery stream before him goes, And burns around him all his foes; His lightning shafts, in vengeance hurled, Blaze lurid o'er the trembling world."
- Verse 3 "Like wax the mountains melt away, Before his majesty divine; The heavens his righteousness display, All nations see his glory shine."
- Verse 4 "Be shamed who idols serve and boast, Fear him, ye gods with all your host; When Zion glad, thy judgments heard, Then Judah's daughters praised the Lord."
- Verse 5 "Exalted is thy throne, O Lord, Above all gods, above all lands; Hate evil, ye who love his word, His saints he frees from wicked hands."
- Verse 6 "For all the righteous sown is light, And joy for men in heart upright, Ye saints rejoice in God; him bless, When musing on his holiness. "

We will now begin the verse by verse study of Psalms chapter 97. Psalms 97:1 "The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad [thereof]."

Jesus has come and set up His kingdom, and all the earth should rejoice and be glad. Jesus brings perfect peace to the nations of the earth. All power has been given to Him in heaven and earth. That at the name of Jesus, every knee will bow and every tongue confess. The Christians will rejoice with great joy. The only ones who will not be happy with this, will be the ones who have totally rejected Him. This is when there will be peace throughout all the land. Isles be glad, just means all the nations everywhere, even though they are across the sea.

Psalms 97:2 "Clouds and darkness [are] round about him: righteousness and judgment [are] the habitation of his throne."

Jesus is the Light of the world. Whether this means that He is a Light in a darkened world, or whether it means that a cloud must surround Him, I am not sure. We do know that in this wicked world, there is great darkness surrounding the church on every side. The church has the Light of Jesus. It has always interested me that even Moses, coming from the presence of God, had his head so bright that he must have his head veiled to keep from blinding the people. We know that the Light of Jesus is so much brighter than that. Perhaps, the Light of Jesus must be seen from the cloud to keep us from being totally blinded by His brightness. We, also, know that in heaven there is no need for the sun and the moon, because Jesus is the Light. Whatever be the case, the brightness of His glory displays His righteousness and His judgment. God dwelleth in thick darkness to conceal Himself from mankind, lest man be consumed.

Psalms 97:3 "A fire goeth before him, and burneth up his enemies round about."

We know that our God is a consuming fire. We, also, know that the gospel of Jesus Christ is a fire that burns out the evil and leaves the good. Whether we are to take this literally, or not, I can not say. We, also, know that the baptism of John was water, and that the baptism of Jesus was of fire of the Holy Ghost. In the spiritual realm, it would not be too far wrong to say, that the words of the Lord Jesus going before Him could burn up all the evil before Him, and leave just the good. Jesus fights with the two-edged sword that proceeds out of His mouth. The Word set on fire of the Holy Ghost could be what is spoken of here. In the individual life, God will purge the floor with fire.

Psalms 97:4 "His lightnings enlightened the world: the earth saw, and trembled."

This, again, is probably speaking from the spiritual standpoint. We do know that lightnings and thunders proceed from the throne of God. Revelation 4:5 "And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunders and voices: and [there were] seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God." Matthew 28:3 "His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow:" It is from the light of Jesus, that the gospel has grown around the world. We know that the source of all Light is Jesus. You can not even look at the sun directly, so you know the sun pales in comparison to the Light of the Son. You can easily see how a look at the source of all Light, would frighten you.

Psalms 97:5 "The hills melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth."

Again, I would say, I do not know whether this is speaking of literal mountains that will melt like wax at the presence of the source of all Light, or whether this is speaking of mountains of problems that will disappear at His presence. We do know, that this light is so great that nothing can withstand it. I would tend to believe that this is speaking of problems, that will disappear when the knowledge of God fills the earth.

Psalms 97:6 "The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory."

Man's sin has brought near destruction to the whole earth, and this is, possibly, speaking of the truth of Almighty God restoring the earth and its people. Even now, before all of this has been revealed, we have nothing to do but look into a clear night sky, and see His glory all around us. The order of the entire universe speaks of His great righteousness and wisdom.

Psalms 97:7 "Confounded be all they that serve graven images, that boast themselves of idols: worship him, all [ye] gods."

The gods of this earth are nothings. They, too, must bow down and worship the Creator of this whole universe. When the Lord reveals Himself to all the people, there will be many who will be terribly embarrassed that they worshiped the false gods of this earth.

Psalms 97:8 "Zion heard, and was glad; and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of thy judgments, O LORD."

The literal Zion will greatly rejoice, because He will dwell in Jerusalem. The spiritual Zion, the church will rejoice, because we will reign with Him as His subordinates. Daughters of Judah, probably mean each individual believer.

Psalms 97:9 "For thou, LORD, [art] high above all the earth: thou art exalted far above all gods."

This will be so evident when the reign of Jesus begins upon the earth. Just the fact of Jesus appearing in the eastern sky, will be evidence enough of who He is. This is not just a local thing. He is not just ruler in Israel, but in all the earth. We have discussed before that idols and false gods are nothings. The Creator of everything, and everyone, will rule over His creation.

Psalms 97:10 "Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked."

As you have previously noted, we have named these Bible studies {Love The Lord}. This is not associated with any particular denomination, but is for all who truly love the Lord. The Scripture above is saying the same thing. Whatever denomination you are, you are acceptable to God, if you love the Lord. The believer {saints} belong to Him. We have been purchased by His precious blood. He protects His own. He delivered us from the curse of sin, and He will deliver us from our enemies. We believers hate evil, because we know evil separates a man from God. God will totally destroy evil. We hate evil, because our Leader hates evil.

Psalms 97:11 "Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart."

The righteous love the light, because they have nothing to hide. My prayer is that the Light of Jesus will light my path that He has chosen for me to walk. I can stay in the path easier, if I can easily see where the path is. Gladness fills our very being, when we are satisfied that we are doing the will of God. This is not just for one believer, but for all who love His appearing. There will be joy unspeakable, when we are in the presence of our blessed Lord.

Psalms 97:12 "Rejoice in the LORD, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness."

Be ye holy for I am holy, is a very interesting statement of God to man. We are not holy, and really never will be. Those of us who are saved, are righteous. We have taken on the righteousness of Christ. Notice in the last part of the verse above, it is His holiness. He set the perfect standard which imperfect man cannot do. Praise God! There is a standard of excellence. We know we can trust Him completely, because He is holy and can not lie. There would be no good news of the gospel, if we could not depend on every word to be true. He is holy and will set up His reign of holiness on this earth, bringing perfect peace with it. Won't it be wonderful to have no fear at all, because the holiness of God will reign? The word holy means

separate and apart. He is not part of the universe, He is the Creator. God is not part of the creation. It is His property. He can restore it, or destroy it whichever He chooses.

Psalms 96 Questions

1. What has happened in verse 1 that would cause rejoicing?
2. Who will be the only ones who will not rejoice?
3. What does, isles be glad, mean?
4. Who is the Light of the world?
5. What surrounds the church today?
6. Who is the Light in the church?
7. Who had his head so bright {after a close encounter with God} that it had to be covered with a veil?
8. Why is there no need for the sun and moon in heaven?
9. Where does God dwell?
10. Why is this important to man?
11. Our God is a consuming _____.
12. What was the difference in the baptism of John the Baptist and the baptism of Jesus?
13. In the individual life, God will _____ the floor with fire.
14. What effect did His lightnings have on the earth?
15. Quote Revelation chapter 4 verse 5.
16. His countenance was like lightning, and His raiment _____ as _____.
17. Who is the source of all light?
18. What 2 things could verse 5 mean?
19. The _____ declare His righteousness.
20. What has brought near destruction to the whole earth?
21. The order of the universe speaks of what?
22. The gods of this earth are _____.
23. Why will literal Zion rejoice in verse 8?
24. Why will spiritual Zion rejoice?
25. The Creator of all the earth and everyone will rule over His _____.
26. What do those, that love the Lord, hate?
27. Why do the righteous love the light?
28. When will there be joy unspeakable for the believer?
29. Is man holy?
30. Will he ever be holy?
31. If not holy, what are the believers in Christ, that make them acceptable?
32. What does the word holy mean?
33. God is not part of the universe, He is the _____.

We will begin this lesson by giving chapter 98 of Psalms in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 98

- Verse 1 "O SING a new song to the Lord, For wonders he hath done; His right hand and his holy arm Him victory hath won."
- Verse 2 "The great salvation wrought by him, Jehovah hath made known; His justice in the heathen's sight He openly hath shown."
- Verse 3 "He mindful of his grace and truth To Isr'el's house hath been; The great salvation of our God All ends of earth have seen."
- Verse 4 "Let all the earth unto the Lord Send forth a joyful noise; Lift up your voice aloud to him, Sing praises, and rejoice."
- Verse 5 "With harp, with harp, and voice of psalms, Unto JEHOVAH sing: With trumpets, cornets, gladly sound Before the Lord the King."
- Verse 6 "Let seas and all their fulness roar; The world, and dwellers there; Let floods clap hands, and let the hills Together joy declare."
- Verse 7 "Before the Lord; because he comes, To judge the earth comes he; He'll judge the world and people all With truth and equity."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of chapter 98 of Psalms. Psalms 98:1 "{A Psalm.} O sing unto the LORD a new song; for he hath done marvellous things: his right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory."

Jesus is the Right Hand of God. He is, also, the Holy Arm. This Psalm is, possibly, a praise of the One who set up His kingdom with such awe in the last Psalm. Now, we are looking at the personage of the Holy One who is the LORD. We know that Jesus won the victory over Satan on the cross at Calvary. Sin was defeated on the cross, and death was defeated when Jesus rose from the grave. The victory of both were actually won on the cross. When Jesus said, it is finished, all of His work was done. The rising from the grave just gave a visual example that death could not hold Him or His followers. There is much to sing for. This setting up of His kingdom means joy unspeakable for His followers. We really should be singing and joyful now because the victory is already won. All of the great and wonderful preparations He has made for His followers, speak of His marvellous workings.

Psalms 98:2 "The LORD hath made known his salvation: his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen."

When Jesus came and opened the way for the Gentiles to be saved along with the Jews, it was a new day. Salvation is a free gift from God to man. Man [of his own efforts] could never have been saved. God saw the frailty of man and made a way for us to be saved. The salvation through belief in Jesus Christ was offered to all {whosoever will}. The righteousness of Christ that we take upon our being is, also, a free gift. We give Jesus our sin upon His

body, and He gives us His righteousness to be clothed in. Praise God! What a wonderful trade.

Psalms 98:3 "He hath remembered his mercy and his truth toward the house of Israel: all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God."

Not just Israel, but every nation of the world, can partake of the salvation that Jesus offered us. Revelation 5:9 "And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;" Jesus came first to the house of Israel. He preached, healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, delivered them from evil spirits, and even gave His flesh on the cross for them. Romans 11:25 "For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in." God is not finished, He will remove the scales from their eyes, and they will believe. Some from all nations will be saved, even Israel.

Psalms 98:4 "Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise."

We must not sing half-hearted praises to our God. We should sing with everything within us. Great honor and praise must go to the Lord of all the earth, when He takes over to reign. We get excited about other things, why not get the most excited with the One who purchased your eternal life for you? It would not even be out of line to shout a little with your rejoicing. What a glad day that will be, when we see Jesus. I get excited now just talking about it. It seems to me that mankind better expresses himself in song than any other way. Music sets the pace for what is in your heart.

Psalms 98:5 "Sing unto the LORD with the harp; with the harp, and the voice of a psalm."

Some believe that musical instruments should not be used to worship God, but I believe that is what musical instruments were made for. One of the most touching things that I have experienced in my Christian walk, was one night when a young man played {The Old Rugged Cross} on his harmonica. I cried unashamedly.

Psalms 98:6 "With trumpets and sound of cornet make a joyful noise before the LORD, the King."

We should proclaim joy throughout the land on the trumpet, and the coronet. There should be mighty playing of the trumpet to proclaim our Lord King. There should be such power in our praise and worship with song and instrument that it would be heard in heaven itself.

Psalms 98:7 "Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein."

The sea, many times, means the masses of people. I believe even the physical sea will rejoice. The waters had been turning to wormwood, and I believe the sea will be restored to freshness at this time. Why would it not rejoice with all the world. Let everything that hath breath, praise the

Lord of all. This will not be just mankind but all of God's creation will rejoice.

Psalms 98:8 "Let the floods clap [their] hands: let the hills be joyful together"

God has promised never to destroy the whole world with a flood again. We know that even the rocks would have shouted out praises, if David had not danced and praised God before the ark of the covenant. Why could not a mountain praise God, as well? There will be no more battles where the blood runs in the mountains. There is peace on all the earth. The King of Peace reigns.

Psalms 98:9 "Before the LORD; for he cometh to judge the earth: with righteousness shall he judge the world, and the people with equity."

All of this rejoicing has been before the Lord of all the earth. The angels proclaimed His coming to the shepherds in the field when He came as a baby in a manger. Now this is to announce His coming as King, so trumpets must blow, and voices must praise, and knees must bow to the King of all the earth. There will be no unequal judgment from Him. His judgment will be righteous. There will be no special favors to the rich and those in high office. All will be judged with the same set of rules. His judgment is true and fair and forgiving. The believers in Christ who stand before Him will be judged by the righteousness they are clothed with. Those who refused Him as their Saviour will be judged by the law of God. Our cry should be Hallelujah to our King.

Psalms 97 Questions

1. Why are we to sing unto the Lord a new song?
2. What has gotten Him the victory?
3. Who is the Holy Arm?
4. When did Jesus win the victory over Satan?
5. Why should we already be singing joyful songs to the Lord?
6. His righteousness had been openly shown before whom?
7. Salvation is a free gift from ____ to ____.
8. Who was salvation offered to?
9. What was the wonderful trade that Jesus made with us?
10. Quote Revelation chapter 5 verse 9.
11. Who was the salvation message first brought to?
12. Who is to make a joyful noise unto the Lord?
13. How does He want us to sing to Him?
14. How does mankind better express himself than any other way?
15. Verse 5 says to use what kind of instrument?
16. What does the author think that musical instruments were made for?
17. What two instruments are specifically mentioned in verse 6?
18. There should be such power in our praise and worship that it could be heard where?
19. What does the sea have to rejoice about?
20. What does the sea symbolize many times?
21. Let everything that hath _____, praise the Lord.
22. God has promised never to destroy the world again by a _____.
23. What would have praised God, if David had not?
24. How will He judge the earth?
25. Will some be shown special favor?
26. What will He judge those who rejected salvation with?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 99th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 99

- Verse 1 "THE Lord Jehovah reigns as King, Let all the people quake:
He sits between the cherubim, Let earth be moved and shake."
- Verse 2 "Jehovah is in Zion great, Above all people high; Thy
fearful, great, and holy name, O let them magnify."
- Verse 3 "The King's strength also judgment loves; Thou settlest
equity: Thou judgment just dost execute In Jacob
righteously."
- Verse 4 "The Lord our God exalt on high, And rev'rently do ye Before
his footstool worship him: The Holy One is he. "
- Verse 5 "Moses and Aaron, with his priests, Samuel, with them that
call Upon his name: theseycalled on God, And he them answered
all."
- Verse 6 "Within the pillar of the cloud He unto them did speak: His
statutes they observed; the laws He gave they did not break."
- Verse 7 "O Lord, our God, thou wast a God, Who didst them answer
send; Though punishing their deeds, to them Thou pardon didst
extend."
- Verse 8 "Do Ye exalt the Lord our God, And at his holy hill Do ye him
worship: for the Lord, Our God, is holy still. "

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 99th chapter of Psalms. Psalms 99:1 "The LORD reigneth; let the people tremble: he sitteth [between] the cherubims; let the earth be moved."

The subject of this Psalm is the holiness of the reign of the Lord. The people have always trembled at the presence of the Lord. We know the fear that gripped their hearts, when God spoke to them from the mountain, when He spoke the 10 commandments. They asked Moses to speak to God for them, because of their great fear of God. Saints tremble in thanksgiving to God. The worldly are struck with sheer terror at what they are facing in the judgment. In the tabernacle in the wilderness, the presence of God was over the mercy seat, between the cherubims. There is a very similar situation in heaven. The cherubims cry Holy, Holy, Holy before the Lord day and night. All of God's creation is moved by His holy Presence.

Psalms 99:2 "The LORD [is] great in Zion; and he [is] high above all the people."

The temple was the favorite place of the Jewish people to go and commune with the Holy God. Now the place that most Christians go to commune with Holy God, is the church. Among those who believe, there is no greater. He is our all in all. He is not only our Saviour and Lord, but He is our leader, as well. The greatest thoughts we could have of Him are not really high enough. He should be High and lifted up.

Psalms 99:3 "Let them praise thy great and terrible name; [for] it [is] holy."

All should praise Him, from the least to the greatest. He is the Maker of us all. He is the quickening Spirit, which brought us everlasting life. Acts 4:12 "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." The believers know it to be great, above all other names. We must, also, rejoice in the terribleness of that name to those who reject Him. We have said all through these lessons, that there are blessings abundant for those who love Him and keep His commandments. There are, also, punishments beyond our comprehension for those who rebel against the love of God. Those who utterly refuse Him will be judged guilty of sin, and be thrown into the lake of fire.

Psalms 99:4 "The king's strength also loveth judgment; thou dost establish equity, thou executest judgment and righteousness in Jacob."

We may slip by the judges on this earth, but the righteous Judge, we can not lie to. He knows even our thoughts. He really wants to save us all. That is why He has waited so long to bring judgment to the earth. He wants to save us, but He will not force His will upon us. If we insist on refusing to follow Him, then we will be judged by the law and found guilty of sin. The same One who came as Saviour, is the righteous Judge of all the earth.

Psalms 99:5 "Exalt ye the LORD our God, and worship at his footstool; [for] he [is] holy."

He will not force anyone to worship Him. Those of us who have chosen to worship Him, should lift Him up to the very highest. We should fall at His feet in humble adoration of Him. He is our very Life. God's holiness is the standard of holiness. There is no other who deserves the cry Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty.

Psalms 99:6 "Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among them that call upon his name; they called upon the LORD, and he answered them."

It was said of Moses, that he was the humblest man living. Moses acted as God's connection with the Israelites. Moses led this rebellious house out of Egypt to the promised land. Aaron was the first high priest of these people. God spoke to the people through the high priest. Samuel was a great judge of the people. All three of these men of God came into the very presence of God and represented the people to God. Their pleas to God were for the people. God spoke to the people through these men. These men begged the God of all this earth to stay His hand of judgment over and over, and God answered their prayer.

Psalms 99:7 "He spake unto them in the cloudy pillar: they kept his testimonies, and the ordinance [that] he gave them."

They were in the presence of God, but never really saw His face. The cloud was to protect them from the awesomeness of God. No one could actually see the face of God and live. The Israelites, as we said, were a rebellious house and did not obey God, but these 3 men of God kept God's law. Over and over, it is said of Moses that he did everything according to what he was shown.

Psalms 99:8 "Thou answeredst them, O LORD our God: thou wast a God that forgavest them, though thou tookest vengeance of their inventions."

The inventions above just mean their sins. They imagined them in their heart, and then they carried them out. God forgave the people over and over. They murmured and God forgave. Sometimes just before He forgave them, they felt His punishment. He always came back and forgave them, after the prayers of Moses.

Psalms 99:9 "Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy hill; for the LORD our God [is] holy."

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised. Worship Father, Son and Holy Ghost. LORD above is Jehovah. His holy hill, in the physical, is in Jerusalem. His holy hill, in the spiritual, is wherever His followers are. The tabernacle of God is with men. Not only is it with men, but within, as well. Possibly, what is intended by his holy hill for the believers, is the house of worship where we go to fellowship with God. Never stop worshipping Him, for He is HOLY.

We will now continue this lesson with chapter 100 of the Psalms in metre.

Chapter 100

Verse 1 "ALL people that dwell on the earth, Your songs to Jehovah now raise; O worship Jehovah with mirth, Approach him with anthems of praise."

Verse 2 "Know ye that Jehovah is God, Our sov'reign and Maker is he; His people who bow to his rod, And sheep of his pasture are we."

Verse 3 "O enter his temple with praise, His portals with thankful acclaim; Your voices in thanksgiving raise, And bless ye his glorious name."

Verse 4 "For good is Jehovah the Lord, His mercy to us never ends; His faithfulness true to his word, Through ages unending extends."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 100th Psalm. Psalms 100:1 "{A Psalm of praise.} Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands."

This Psalm is a call to praise. This call is to all the nations. God hears the praise of the Negroid, the Caucasion, and the Oriental with the same regularity. We are all His children, and He hears our praise. We are told in the Scriptures, that He actually inhabits the praises of all His people. Psalms 22:3 "But thou [art] holy, [O thou] that inhabitest the praises of Israel." Israel is all of the children of God, Jew and Gentile.

Psalms 100:2 "Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing."

If we do not truly enjoy serving God, we are not right with God. It should be a joyful thing to go to church and fellowship with God. One of the things that I believe has turned the world off to Christianity, is that we do not show them the joy in worshipping. We should even enter the church singing praises to our God. If we truly are the bride of Christ, should we not sing the praises of the Groom?

Psalms 100:3 "Know ye that the LORD he [is] God: [it is] he [that] hath made us, and not we ourselves; [we are] his people, and the sheep of his pasture."

There should never be a question in our mind to who God is, or why we worship Him. We are His creation and owe our very existence to Him. Read the 23rd Psalm again, and see the glorious provision the great Shepherd has made for His sheep.

Psalms 100:4 "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, [and] into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, [and] bless his name."

The Jewish people did enter the gates on their way to the temple and entered His courts with praise on their lips. This goes much further than that to the believers now. We should never go to church grouchy and finding fault with everyone and everything. Have a joyful heart ready to worship Him who saved us. Show your thanks by the sacrifice of praise flowing from your lips, coming from a thankful heart.

Psalms 100:5 "For the LORD [is] good; his mercy [is] everlasting; and his truth [endureth] to all generations."

The Bible is just as current today as it was 2 thousand years ago. The Bible, like God's truth, is for every generation that lives upon the earth. His Truth shall never stop. Jesus provided salvation to all generations in His one sacrifice of Himself upon the cross. He is good. He will always be good. There is no good, but God. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Psalms 98 Questions

1. The Lord reigneth, let the people _____.
2. He sitteth between the _____.
3. What is the subject of the 99th Psalm?
4. When were the Israelites gripped with fear in the wilderness?
5. Who did they ask to represent them before God?
6. The Lord is great in _____.
7. Where is the place most Christians commune with God?
8. What is He, besides our Saviour and Lord?
9. Let them praise thy great and terrible _____.
10. Quote Acts chapter 4 verse 12. What will happen to those who utterly refuse Him?
11. Why has He waited so long to judge the world?
12. We are to worship at His _____.
13. Why should we worship Him?
14. What 3 men of God represented their people to God?
15. Their pleas to God were for the _____.
16. Did God answer their prayers?
17. He spoke unto them in the _____.
18. What was the cloud for?
19. Who kept God's law?
20. What does the word inventions, in verse 8, mean?
21. Sometimes, just before He forgave them, what did He do?
22. Worship _____, _____, and _____.
23. Where is His holy hill for the believers?
24. Make a _____ noise unto the Lord.
25. What is the 100th Psalm?
26. Quote Psalms chapter 22 verse 3.
27. Who is Israel?
28. Serve the Lord with _____.
29. Quote Psalms chapter 100 verse 3.
30. Enter into His gates with _____.
31. His mercy is _____.
32. Who did Jesus provide salvation for?

*Thank you for taking the time for me to share my
thoughts on these Scriptures in Psalms B.
May God richly bless you, as you continue to read His Word.*

Your friend in Jesus,

Louise

**Love the Lord Ministries
P.O. Box 197
Winthrop, AR 71866
(870) 381-7393
LTLministries@yahoo.com**