

We will begin this lesson by giving the 101st Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 101

- Verse 1 "I MERCY will and judgment sing, Lord, I will sing to thee.
With wisdom in a perfect way shall my behavior be."
- Verse 2 "O when, in kindness unto me, Wilt thou be pleased to come?
I with a perfect heart will walk Within my house at home."
- Verse 3 "I Will endure no wicked thing before mine eyes to be;
I hate their work that turn aside, it shall not cleave to me."
- Verse 4 "A stubborn and a froward heart Depart quite from me shall;
A person giv'n to wickedness I will not know at all."
- Verse 5 "I'll cut him off that slandereth His neighbor privily:
The haughty heart I will not bear, Nor him whose looks are high."
- Verse 6 "Upon the faithful of the land Mine eyes shall be, that they
May dwell with me; he shall me serve Who walks my perfect way."
- Verse 7 "Who of deceit a worker is In my house shall not dwell;
Nor in my presence shall remain The man that lies doth tell."
- Verse 8 "Yea, all the wicked of the land I early will destroy;
And from God's city cut them off That work iniquity."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 101st Psalm. Psalms 101:1 "{A Psalm of David.} I will sing of mercy and judgment: unto thee, O LORD, will I sing."

We see a Psalm now from David as he takes the office of king. David is aware that he is king, because God anointed him to be king and not from his own worthiness. In the last few Psalms that David wrote, he was praying for God's help, and then praising Him for the help that came. God is not only a God of love, but a God of judgment, as well. David is aware that the blessings from God come when we let God be Lord of all. To stay in the blessings, David, the same as believers today, must stay in the will of God. The songs that David sings are for the ears of God. Jesus taught, that to pray in secret, just for God's ears brought great pleasure to God. We will find that praise given in private, just to God, brings Him much pleasure, as well. David could easily have been alone singing to God here.

Psalms 101:2 "I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. O when wilt thou come unto me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart."

This is a determination on David's part to walk uprightly before God. David says here, God I will walk uprightly, when no one knows about it but You and me. I will not walk uprightly, so that men can look and say, David is walking uprightly, but, because I want to do God's will in my everyday life. David is asking God to come and fellowship with him in his home. I am sure David wants to confer with the Lord before he makes the weightier decisions while he is king. We know that David's heart wanted to please God in all things. We do, also, know that David sinned, because he answered the call of his flesh. David never stopped desiring to do God's will in his heart though. I love the promise David made to God, that he would walk uprightly before God in his home. So many people in our day, are pretty nice people when they are out in public, but live terrible lives at home with

their families. We should not be two people. We should be the same in public and at home. Our Christianity is not real, unless it is active at home as well as in public.

Psalms 101:3 "I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; [it] shall not cleave to me."

Do not fellowship with the wicked of this world. Turn that x-rated, r-rated, or p.g. movie off. They plant evil thoughts in your mind. I have heard so many people say, O that won't hurt me, I just want to see what it is all about. Your mind is a computer. Everything you see and hear goes into that computer and is recorded there. You may not realize that it is influencing you to do bad, but it is. This is just what David is saying here. He will not even look at wicked, if by chance it might influence his thinking. The best way to stay out of trouble is not to go where trouble is. Most people take their first drink, because they are trying to be one of the gang they are with. The people, and the things we are around, influence us, whether we want them to or not. David should have done what he said he would do here. The first step to sin is to look with your eyes. In this David is saying, I hate sin, I will not get involved in sin. Just as Eve's sin began when she looked at the forbidden fruit with desire in her heart, David's sin began when he looked at Bathsheba. Sin begins with the eye looking, and the heart desiring the forbidden.

Psalms 101:4 "A froward heart shall depart from me: I will not know a wicked [person]."

Again, here, David determines not to have evil people in his company. We become like the people we are around. We must be very careful in choosing our friends. David is saying, he will not employ evil people to work for him, or have evil people for his friends. Notice, that David begins by cleaning up his own heart. Then he refuses to be associated with any evil people who might influence him to do evil. Children, that is why your parents caution you to choose your friends carefully.

Psalms 101:5 "Whoso privily slandereth his neighbour, him will I cut off: him that hath an high look and a proud heart will not I suffer."

David is trying to pattern his life according to the life of his Lord. Even though a person says something ugly about someone in private, God does not approve of slander, and neither does David. David says, if I hear someone talking this way, I will know the man is evil and get rid of him. David is, also, following God's choice when he says that those with a proud heart and a high look will be cut off, as well. David is choosing his companions by God's choices. If God does not approve of them, neither will David.

Psalms 101:6 "Mine eyes [shall be] upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walketh in a perfect way, he shall serve me."

David wants people around him who love the Lord as he does. He knows that people who love God have good morals. They will be loyal to David as they have been loyal to their God. David expects no more from his servants than he is willing to be himself. When godly people are in authority, they

choose godly people to work with them. You will have a government that is fair and honest when this is the case.

Psalms 101:7 "He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house: he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight."

A truthful man, such as David, can not tolerate people around him who are not truthful. Some cultures think it to be clever to be deceitful, if it gets them where they are going. A few years ago we worked with an Indian tribe here in the United States. I will not tell which one. Their belief was that it was not evil to steal to help your family, but it was evil to get caught. You see, not everyone goes by the Ten Commandments. Atheist do not have a guilty conscience when they steal, or lie, since they do not believe in God. We see David, in the Scripture above, as a godly man. He is saying, if you are working for me and I find out you are committing these sins, I will fire you, and run you as far away from his view as possible. He not only, removes them from his house, but from seeing distance, as well.

Psalms 101:8 "I will early destroy all the wicked of the land; that I may cut off all wicked doers from the city of the LORD."

David is well aware that one rotten apple can ruin the whole barrel. At the very beginning of his reign as king, David will seek out the evil people, and prosecute them, and get them away from society. It even appears, that the ones who had not done anything worthy of death, were sent away from the city. In our society today, it would be like deporting them, or locking them away from society. David is determined to have the land, that he reigns over, a land of godly people. Jerusalem, was thought of by David as being a holy city, and he would not tolerate evil in the city of God. Even today, it is still thought of as being the holy city of God. To be the king of the land carried tremendous responsibility with it. David wanted his reign to be a godly reign. Many of the politicians today could take a lesson from David here. God is watching to see how they administer the job they have been given.

Psalms 99 Questions

1. In verse 1, David will sing of what?
2. Who is he singing to?
3. What occasion prompted David to write this Psalm?
4. God is not just a God of love, but of _____.
5. When did the blessings of God come to David?
6. In verse 2, David says, he will behave himself _____.
7. What is David saying, when he says, I will walk within my house with a perfect heart?
8. Who will David confer with about the weightier decisions he must make in office?
9. Our Christianity is not _____, unless it is the same at home as it is in public.
10. I will set no wicked thing before my _____.
11. Should a Christian watch x-rated movies?
12. What does the author call the human mind?
13. What is recorded in your mind?
14. How is the best way to stay out of trouble?
15. How do most people get started drinking?
16. When did Eve's sin begin?
17. When did David's sin with Bathsheba begin?
18. What is verse 4 of this lesson saying?
19. How does David begin cleaning up those around him?
20. How was the slander described in verse 5?
21. What are some of the characteristics of men that God does not like?
22. Who does David want to dwell with him?
23. People who love God have _____.
24. Why can you not trust an atheist to tell the truth?
25. If David finds any one of his staff doing evil, and lying, what will he do with them?
26. What will David do to the wicked in the land, at the beginning of his reign?
27. Why does he run them out of the city?
28. What is thought by David to be the holy city of God?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 102nd Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 102

- Verse 1 "Lord, hear my pray'r, and let my cry Have speedy access unto thee; In day of my calamity O hide not thou thy face from me.
- Verse 2 "Give ear to me; what time I call, To answer me make haste: For, as a hearth, my bones are burnt, My days, like smoke, do waste.
- Verse 3 "My heart is smitten, and like grass When withered by the scorching heat, My days in weariness I pass, And I forget my bread to eat."
- Verse 4 "By reason of my grief within, and voice of my unceasing groans, My flesh is all consumed, my skin, All parched, doth cleave unto my bones."
- Verse 5 "The pelican of wilderness, The owl in desert, I do match; and, sparrow-like, companionless, Upon the house-top I do watch.
- Verse 6 "I all day long am made a scorn, reproached by my malicious foes; The madmen are against me sworn, The men against me that arose.
- Verse 7 "For ashes I, in sorrow deep, Have eaten as my daily bread; And of the tears which I did weep I with my drink a mixture made.
- Verse 8 "Thy indignation unappeased, And thy fierce wrath have caused this pain, Because, O Lord, thou hast me raised, And then hast cast me down again."
- Verse 9 "My days of life with haste decline: They like the shadows swiftly pass; And I in deepest sorrow pine, And wither like the fading grass."
- Verse 10 "But thou, O Lord, shalt still endure, From change and all mutation free, And to all generations sure Shall thy remembrance ever be."
- Verse 11 "Thou shalt arise, and mercy yet Thou to mount Zion shalt extend: Now is the time for favor set, That thou to her shouldst mercy send."
- Verse 12 "Thy saints take pleasure in her stones, Her very dust to them is dear. All heathen lands and kingly thrones On earth thy glorious name shall fear."
- Verse 13 "The Lord in glory shall appear, When Zion he again repairs. He shall regard and lend his ear To all the needy's humble pray'rs:"
- Verse 14 "Th' afflicted's pray'r he will not scorn. This ever shall be on record: And generations unborn Shall praise and magnify the Lord."
- Verse 15 "He from his holy place looked down, The earth he viewed from heaven high, To hear the pris'ner's mourning groan, And free them that are doomed to die;
- Verse 16 "That Zion, and Jerus'lem too, His name and praise may well record; When people and the kingdoms do Assemble all to praise the Lord."
- Verse 17 "My strength he weakened in the way, My days of life he short hath made. My God, O take me not away In mid-time of my days, I said."
- Verse 18 "Thy years through all the ages last, And thou of old, O Lord,

hast laid The earth's foundation firm and fast; Thy mighty;
hands the heav'ns have made."

Verse 19 "Thou shalt remain, they perish shall, They all like garments
shall decay; Thou shalt as vestures change them all, they
shall be changed, and pass away."

Verse 20 "But from all changes thou art free; Thy endless years do last
for aye. Thy servants, and their seed who be, Established shall
before thee stay."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 102nd Psalm. Psalms
102:1 "{A Prayer of the afflicted, when he is overwhelmed, and poureth out
his complaint before the LORD.} Hear my prayer, O LORD, and let my cry come
unto thee."

The penman is not certain in this chapter of Psalms. This could have
been penned any time when great troubles came upon Jerusalem and its people.
It was, possibly, about the time of the captivity. LORD, here, is Jehovah.
It is such a shame that most prayers do not occur, until their is great
affliction. Certainly when we are faced with great trials and tribulations
in our life, we then turn to the LORD in sincere prayer to get us out of the
problems we are facing at the moment. The penman here is not only praying
earnestly, but also begging the LORD to listen and answer this prayer.

Psalms 102:2 "Hide not thy face from me in the day [when] I am in
trouble; incline thine ear unto me: in the day [when] I call answer me
speedily."

This is so much like what happened with the Hebrew children on their
way to the promised land. They would sin, and God would allow terrible
suffering to come. Then they would repent and ask God for His help. God
would forgive them and restore them, and then they would drift into sin
again. This has been the story of man from the foundation of the world. Not
only does the penman here want an answer to his prayer, but he wants a
speedy answer.

Psalms 102:3 "For my days are consumed like smoke, and my bones are
burned as an hearth."

He is in such heavy grief, that it seems his days are like a puff of
smoke. They are here, and then they are suddenly gone. This bitter grief
that he is feeling is making him sick in his body. He says, even his bones
are aching from the grief.

Psalms 102:4 "My heart is smitten, and withered like grass; so that I
forget to eat my bread."

This is speaking of a broken heart that feels as if it has withered and
died like the grass does when it is cut. This person has no desire to
prolong the agony and desires no food to eat. This is a fast from food, not
unto the Lord, but just no desire to eat. Sometimes this happens with grief
experienced at the loss of a loved one.

Psalms 102:5 "By reason of the voice of my groaning my bones cleave to
my skin."

If a person ceases to eat, the fat on the body is burned up and they become very thin. This would be the case here, where the bone is up next to the skin. A common way to say this would be {they are skin and bones}.

Psalms 102:6 "I am like a pelican of the wilderness: I am like an owl of the desert."

A pelican in the wilderness would symbolize the destitute condition of this penman. A pelican feeds off fish in the water, and would be the next thing to dead, if they were living in the wilderness. An owl is a very ominous bird. They are creatures of the night. Their hooting is so mournful that it reminds you of a death call. The owl usually is thought of as dwelling in a desolate place. The psalmist is saying, he feels as if he has been deserted.

Psalms 102:7 "I watch, and am as a sparrow alone upon the house top."

It is as if he feels that he is the only one who cares whether there is a homeland at all, or not. The lonely sparrow on the housetop is watching and waiting for an opportunity to build a nest. The psalmist is saying, he, too, is watching and waiting for the opportunity to build a home again in his land.

Psalms 102:8 "Mine enemies reproach me all the day; [and] they that are mad against me are sworn against me."

Those enemies that have taken away his way of life, it seems are not content to just have won, they are taunting him asking him, where his God is now? It seems these evil enemies of this man have even sworn to destroy him completely. Again, he has not left his native land, but is waiting for the opportunity to live there. His enemies are telling him, day and night, that will never be.

Psalms 102:9 "For I have eaten ashes like bread, and mingled my drink with weeping,"

It was a very high form of grief to wear sackcloth and pour ashes upon their head. This is what he has been doing, here. In fact, he has done this so much that the ashes have gotten in to the little food he does eat. He has weeped so much, that his tears are in the water he drinks.

Psalms 102:10 "Because of thine indignation and thy wrath: for thou hast lifted me up, and cast me down."

This does not have to be some king or ruler to pen this. All Hebrews had been God's chosen people, and in a way, had been elevated up above others around them. He may have been cast down of God, but if God did cast him down, he deserved it. God's wrath is reserved for the children of disobedience. 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."

Psalms 102:11 "My days [are] like a shadow that declineth; and I am withered like grass."

This is actually the fate of all men who are not in right standing with God. Everyone, good and bad, begin to die the day they are born. The only important difference in one man over another, is what happens to them after this brief life here on the earth. Those who trust in Jesus as their Saviour and Lord, inherit eternal life.

Psalms 102:12 "But thou, O LORD, shalt endure for ever; and thy remembrance unto all generations."

The psalmist, here, is going to the source of help. He is saying, even though my time on the earth is very short, You are from everlasting to everlasting. The psalmist is aware that he will soon be forgotten, when his life on this earth is done, but God will never be forgotten. Every generation has its opportunity to accept or reject the salvation offered through Jesus Christ our Lord. All know of God, in every generation. Their choice is to believe unto eternal life, or not believe and wind up in hell.

Psalms 102:13 "Thou shalt arise, [and] have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favour her, yea, the set time, is come."

We have spoken of Zion, and all that it means, in all of these lessons. Zion, the mountain in Jerusalem, certainly will be totally restored as the holy city of God. Some would say that this very thing has already happened when the Jews got control of Jerusalem again. Looking at the standpoint of the church, we would say that it has not yet been restored to the greatness that it once had. There may still be a falling away, before we get desperate enough to ask God to intervene and restore its greatness. There is a time when even this will happen. I believe the time is very near. Our cry should be for mercy, and not justice.

Psalms 102:14 "For thy servants take pleasure in her stones, and favour the dust thereof."

Just the wailing wall remains of the old temple in Jerusalem. It is strange, in view of this Scripture that the wall is large stones. The Jewish people, and many Christians from around the world, go to the wall of stones and pray today.

We will continue the verse by verse study in the next lesson.

Psalms 100 Questions

1. Who wrote the 102nd Psalm?
2. What type of prayer does verse 1 say this is?
3. What type of answer does the penman want to his prayer?
4. For my days are consumed as _____.
5. What does {my bones are burned as an hearth} mean?
6. His heart is withered like _____.
7. What is he saying, {my bones cleave unto my skin}?
8. What does a pelican in the wilderness symbolize?
9. What type of bird is the owl?
10. What does he mean by comparing himself to a sparrow upon the housetop?
11. What are his enemies doing to him all day long?
12. How serious are their threats?
13. What does his statement, {I have eaten ashes like bread} mean?
14. What caused his drink to be mingled with weeping?
15. Whose wrath is he speaking of in verse 10?
16. Quote Ephesians chapter 5 verse 6.
17. God had lifted him, up and _____ _ _____.
18. When do you begin to die?
19. What is the difference in godly men and worldly men?
20. The remembrance of God is unto all _____.
21. Zion will be restored to be the _____ of God.
22. The cry of the Christian should be for _____, not _____.
23. Where does the author believe the stones, spoken of in verse 14, are?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 103rd Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 103

- Verse 1 "O MY soul, bless thou Jehovah, All within me bless his name;
Bless Jehovah, and forget not All his mercies to proclaim. "
- Verse 2 "Who forgives all thy transgressions, Thy diseases all who
heals; Who redeems thee from destruction, Who with thee so
kindly deals. "
- Verse 3 "Who with tender mercies crowns thee, Who with good things
fills thy mouth, So that even like the eagle Thou hast been
restored to youth. "
- Verse 4 "In his righteousness, Jehovah Will deliver those distressed;
He will execute just judgment In the cause of all oppressed.
- Verse 5 "He made known his ways to Moses, And his acts to Isr'el's
race; God is plentiful in mercy, Slow to anger, rich in
grace."
- Verse 6 "He will not forever chide us, Nor keep anger in his mind,
Hath not dealt as we offended, Nor rewarded as we sinned. "
- Verse 7 "For as high as is the heaven, Far above the earth below;
Ever great to them that fear him, Is the mercy he will show."
- Verse 8 "Far as cast from west is distant, He hath put away our sin;
Like the pity of a Father Hath the Lord's compassion been. "
- Verse 9 "Well he knows our frame, remembering We are dust, our days
like grass; Man is like the flower blooming, Till the hot
winds o'er it pass. "
- Verse 10 "Then 'tis gone, and is remembered By its former place no
more; But on them that fear Jehovah Rests his mercy
evermore."
- Verse 11 "As it was without beginning, So it lasts without an end: To
their children's children ever Shall his righteousness
extend;"
- Verse 12 "Unto such as keep his cov'nant, And are steadfast in his
way; Unto those who still remember His commandments and
obey."
- Verse 13 "In the heavens high, Jehovah Hath for him prepared a throne,
And throughout his vast dominion All his works his power
shall own."
- Verse 14 "Bless Jehovah, ye his angels, Spirits that excel in might;
Ye who hear what he commands you, Ye that do it with
delight."
- Verse 15 "Bless and magnify Jehovah, All ye hosts that do his will; Ye
his servants, ever ready All his pleasure to fulfil."
- Verse 16 "Bless Jehovah, all his creatures Ever under his control; All
throughout his vast dominion; Bless Jehovah, O my soul."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 103rd Psalm. Psalms
103:1 "{ [A Psalm] of David.} Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is
within me, [bless] his holy name."

This Psalm of David is a praise Psalm beyond compare. It lightens my heart to the extent that I must stop my writing and take out time to praise the LORD with all that is within me, as well. This is not the flesh of mankind praising the Lord, but the inner most being. Even as I type these words of praise, there is an overwhelming presence of the LORD. My heart is singing within at praise of the Lord. David can not say enough to express what is in his heart, here. We have said before that the heart of man is what he is. David's heart is overflowing with praise and adoration of the LORD here. We sing a little chorus of these verses here in our church. It would do all of us overwhelming good to stop and think of all the reasons we have for praising the LORD with every thing within us. Of course, LORD, here, is Jehovah.

Psalms 103:2 "Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:"

He has done great things for everyone that ever lived. He breathed the breath of life into each of us, and gave us life. Jesus gave His body on the cross to give us a new everlasting life in Him. One of the most loving and wonderful things He has done, is making the earth and all that it contains for a dwelling place for mankind. If we had a hundred pages to expound on the wonderful things He has done for each of us, it would not be half enough. All that we are, or ever hope to be, is because He loved us enough to provide it for us. The gift of salvation is the greatest thing He has done for us. Because of His great love, We will spend eternity in heaven with Him.

Psalms 103:3 "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;"

Most any physician in this land would tell you that he or she doctors you, but God heals you. Most of them will, also, tell you that they really do not understand why certain things help you to get well, they just do. Let's look at an Old Testament promise to forgive sins. Isaiah 1:18 "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Of course, this Scripture from Isaiah is really prophetic of the forgiveness of sins that Jesus has provided for all who will accept forgiveness. The Lord Jesus took our sin upon His body on the cross. In exchange for our sin, He gave us His righteousness. Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" Praise God! He paid the price for us. One of the greatest statements in all the Bible is this next one. Hebrews 8:12 "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more."

Psalms 103:4 "Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;"

We realize that David was the Psalmist here, but he is looking prophetically to the forgiveness provided through Jesus Christ our Lord. David had been physically redeemed so many times from the very destruction that he mentions here. I believe he is really looking for the Redeemer who will come after, who will be the substitute for the sins of all the people. 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." David was much like many of the Old Testament prophets who were looking for the Messiah. David was fully aware that it was the Lord who kept him from the jaws of the lion, and it was this same Lord who was with him as he slew Goliath. The mercy of God was with him in all these occasions, but he was looking ahead to the time when the mercy of God would be shown to all men through the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 103:5 "Who satisfieth thy mouth with good [things; so that] thy youth is renewed like the eagle's."

Possibly what is intended here by, satisfieth thy mouth, is possibly speaking of the spirit of man which will be satisfied through the Lord. This, at any rate, is an uplifting of the soul, which makes the receiver of this renewed like an eagle that soars to the highest through the sky. Many, who have been truly blessed of God have experienced just this feeling. The Spirit refreshes the soul of mankind and makes them ready to minister.

Psalms 103:6 "The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed."

The Lord, not only in the time of David, but even more so in the time of Jesus, came to help those who were oppressed. Jesus did not come to help those who did not need His help, He came to the lost, the sick, the demon possessed, the hungry, the blind, in fact, He came to help the outcasts of society. The high and mighty felt as if they did not need Him. He came to those who needed a Saviour. This same One who brought salvation for whosoever will, is also the Judge. It is Jesus that we will stand before on judgment day. He blesses, but if we refuse the blessings, He is the One who condemns to hell.

Psalms 103:7 "He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel."

We do know that Moses communed with God on the mount. Moses was in His presence for 40 days and nights. The beautiful thing, to me, is the fact that Moses' head glowed with a light so bright, when he came down the mountain, that he had to cover his head to keep from blinding the people. God filled Moses' head with the knowledge of Godly things on the mountain. God brought the children of Israel out of Egypt through mighty signs and wonders. The children of Israel were without excuse, because they had seen the greatness of God over and over on this journey to the promised land.

Psalms 103:8 "The LORD [is] merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy."

No one knew this better than the Israelites. God forgave them over and over. Prophetically they were the harlot wife in Hosea. They were unfaithful to God, and He forgave them over and over. David could speak from first hand knowledge of the forgiveness of God, as well. The Lord had forgiven him of his discretion with Bathsheba. Even we should not be quick to point a finger at him. If it were not for the mercy and the forgiveness of God, you and I would be lost, too. We see from the following Scripture, that it is the desire of God for all to 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."

Psalms 103:9 "He will not always chide: neither will he keep [his anger] for ever."

We think of God as a loving and forgiving God, but He will not always look the other way. Just as there was a time when God looked on men in the time of Noah and was sorry that He had even made them, He is sorry whenever we continue in sin. He waited a very long time, before He turned His hot anger and destroyed all but Noah's family. He is patient, but there is an end to His patience. Chide, in this verse, means grapple or wrangle. God does not wrangle over sin. He has set an absolute, that there is no arguing with. He is tolerant, but someday will say, it is enough.

Psalms 103:10 "He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities."

Above all other things that God is: He is a forgiving God. He has not dealt with any of us according to our sin, because we all are guilty of sin and deserve to be crucified. He accepted the body and blood of Jesus as full payment for all of our sin and iniquity. Salvation is a free gift. Ephesians 2:8 "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God:" Ephesians 2:9 "Not of works, lest any man should boast."

If I were to try to sum this lesson up, I would have to say that David has received total forgiveness for all of his sin. He is feeling overwhelming joy, knowing that all is well with his soul. He can not find enough words in his meager vocabulary to express the gratitude that he has for this loving LORD. His heart is so full of praise to the LORD, that it seems it will burst. David is a changed man.

Let us take a look at what He has done for you and me, as well. The very first thing is, He furnished salvation free of charge to each of us. The very breath in our body is a gift from God. We could go on and on, but I think you have the picture. It is very little in return that we would praise Him with everything that is within us.

Psalms 101 Questions

1. Quote Psalms chapter 103 verse 1.
2. Who penned the 103rd Psalm?
3. What kind of a Psalm is the 103rd?
4. What determines what a man is?
5. Who is LORD in verse 1?
6. In verse 2, David said forget not what?
7. Why was the earth made?
8. Who forgiveth all thine _____.
9. Who healeth all thy diseases?
10. Quote Isaiah chapter 1 verse 18.
11. Who have sinned and come short of the glory of God?
12. What wonderful promise did He make in Hebrews chapter 8 verse 12?
13. In verse 4, He crowns with 2 things, what are they?
14. Who is Jesus Christ the Saviour of?
15. When were two times when God miraculously saved David's life?
16. What is meant, in verse 5, by satisfieth thy mouth?
17. What, besides righteousness, does the LORD execute?
18. Who did Jesus come to help?
19. Who will we stand before on judgment day?
20. What special thing happened to Moses, when he was on the mount with God?
21. Why were the Israelites without excuse?
22. Quote Psalms chapter 103 verse 8.
23. What great sin had God forgiven David of?
24. Quote 2 Peter chapter 3 verse 9.
25. What does the word {chide} mean?
26. When does the Bible say that God was sorry He had made man?
27. In verse 10, we see God as a _____ God.
28. Quote Ephesians chapter 2 verse 8.
29. How did the author sum up this lesson?

We will begin this lesson in Psalms 103:11 "For as the heaven is high above the earth, [so] great is his mercy toward them that fear him."

This is saying that the mercies of God toward man are so great there is no way we can measure them. We do know the scientists have not been able to find the end of the universe, so that makes this Scripture doubly beautiful. It means we will never be able to find the end of God's mercies either.

Psalms 103:12 "As far as the east is from the west, [so] far hath he removed our transgressions from us."

How wonderful it is to know that our sins are so far away that we can not get there from here. This means, if we started looking for them, they would always be as far as the east is from the west. I heard a lady say, in her testimony, that she did not know how far the east is from the west, but she knew she could not get there from here. Not only have they been removed from us, but they have been done away with. Our sins {forgiven ones} died on the cross.

Psalms 103:13 "Like as a father pitieth [his] children, [so] the LORD pitieth them that fear him."

The pity shown here is so much greater than that of man for man. The pity mentioned here is the pity that a Father has for His son. We are sons of the Father, if we accept Jesus Christ as our Saviour. 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." John 1:12 "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, [even] to them that believe on his name:" These 2 Scriptures above leave no doubt at all, that those who fear God are His children. There is no wonder that He pities us as His children, we are His children.

Psalms 103:14 "For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we [are] dust."

Since we are His creation, He would know exactly how we were constructed. In the creation act, He made man from the dust of the earth. He is very well aware of our earthliness. Genesis 2:7 "And the LORD God formed man [of] the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Perhaps, one of the reasons for God being so patient with mankind is because God realizes man's connection with the dust of the earth. In the flesh man is not much, it is only when God gave us new life in Jesus Christ that man became something. Through Adam and Eve, we were all flesh and headed for an eternity in hell. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we received a birth in our spirit. This gave us new life in Jesus. 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."

Psalms 103:15 "[As for] man, his days [are] as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth."

This life, on this earth, is like a vapor, here today and gone tomorrow. It has been likened to smoke, which vanishes away. 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." We are very much like a flower that buds in the spring, blooms in the summer and dies in the fall. The season of man on this earth is very short. Grass is like the flower. It sprouts up in spring, blooms and then is cut down and dies. If this life were all there is to life, it would be of no real pleasure. The day we are born, we begin the dying process.

Psalms 103:16 "For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more."

The place that we once lived is soon taken over by another and we are soon forgotten. Once the body of man has returned to the dust it can be blown away with just a small wind. Life is like that. We only pass this way once, we must do the very best with our life while we are here. It is too soon gone. I hear so many people say, I wish I had done more with my life while I had the chance. Tomorrow is too late.

Psalms 103:17 "But the mercy of the LORD [is] from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;"

Even though the Lord does not have grandchildren, He does bless the children of His children. We know that Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was the father of Jacob. God looks kindly upon the children of those who follow Him. One of the best examples of that in the entire Bible, is the fact that Noah's 3 sons were spared, because Noah found grace in the sight of the LORD. I suppose one reason the blessing goes down from one generation to the other is, because the righteous teach their children and grandchildren the ways of God.

Psalms 103:18 "To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them."

Deuteronomy 7:9 "Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he [is] God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;" This is speaking of the Abrahamic covenant. There is no end to the blessings that are received by those of all ages who make Him Saviour and Lord. Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." The promise, here, is the same as the Abrahamic covenant. We must continue to walk in the salvation that Jesus provided for each of us. To be Christ's, means that we are totally His. He is our Lord. We keep His covenant, because it is our desire to please Him. This does not just mean the ten commandments. It means that our total desire is to please Him in all that we do.

Psalms 103:19 "The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all."

The word that was translated prepared here, means to set up. Jesus, even now, is seated in heavenly places at the right hand of the Father. He is at the throne of God. Hebrews 12:2 "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of [our] faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne

of God." Acts 7:49 "Heaven [is] my throne, and earth [is] my footstool: what house will ye build me? saith the Lord: or what [is] the place of my rest?" We have gone into the fact, over and over, that the LORD Jesus Christ was the Creator of all the heavens, as well as the earth and everything and everyone. This kingdom, spoken of here, has been set up from the foundation of the earth. He is not just Lord of the earth, but the heavens as well. Philippians 2:9 "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:" 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;" He is even now preparing a place for you and me in the heavenlies with Him. He has never stopped being ruler over all of His creation. He is, and was, Supreme ruler of His creation. In John chapter 1 it tells us exactly what His creation was. John 1:3 "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."

Psalms 103:20 "Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word."

Angels are ministering spirits. They do not minister what they choose. They are sent on special assignments by the LORD. They serve Him day and night. Part of their job is to continually praise Him. Angels have much more strength than mankind. In the book of Revelation, the letters to the 7 churches were addressed to the angel of the church. The point I am making is the important thing to being a ministering spirit in service of the Lord is in the statement, {that do His commandments}. Even the minister in a specific church cannot be effective for the Lord unless the Spirit ministers through him or her. The Spirit will minister through them, if they {do His commandments}. In our weakness, He is strong. Allow the Spirit of God to minister through you. DO HIS COMMANDMENTS.

Psalms 103:21 "Bless ye the LORD, all [ye] his hosts; [ye] ministers of his, that do his pleasure."

Notice the possessive word {His}. The hosts are His. Even the earth and the stars staying in perfect orbit, is because He commanded them to do that. If we do not His pleasure, we are not His ministers. Especially the ministers of this world and the angels in heaven should spend their time blessing Him, for He has done great things. The more I study His Word {Bible}, the more I realize how He deserves our praise.

Psalms 103:22 "Bless the LORD, all his works in all places of his dominion: bless the LORD, O my soul."

It seems so shallow to say, bless the LORD. How can man of so lowly estate, bless the LORD? It is a particular pleasure to bless the LORD with everything that is within us. Just the act of blessing the LORD does something very special to the condition of our own soul. Not that we can give Him any thing. It is the fact that we desire to give Him everything. Even the trees in the forest lift their branches up in praise. All of God's creation glorifies Him in some way. Let everything within us bless His Holy Name.

Psalms 102 Questions

1. The mercies of God to man are so great _____ .
2. What does the author think is doubly beautiful about the comparison in verse 11?
3. He has removed our transgressions how far away?
4. How does the LORD pity those who fear Him?
5. Quote Romans chapter 8 verse 15.
6. Quote John chapter 1 verse 12.
7. Why does He pity us as His children?
8. What did the Lord God form man out of?
9. In the flesh man is not much, when does he become something?
10. The first Adam was a living soul, what was the last Adam?
11. What are the days of man compared to in verse 15?
12. We are like a flower that _____ in the spring, _____ in the summer, and _____ in the fall.
13. When do we begin to die?
14. What will happen to the place we live now, after we die?
15. Do you have regrets about the way you have spent your life up until now?
16. What are you going to do about it?
17. The mercy of the Lord is from _____ to _____.
18. His righteousness extends unto _____.
19. Who is a very good example of the Lord blessing the children of one who followed Him?
20. What is a good logical reason why the blessings of God go down from one generation to another?
21. Who is the Lord God careful to keep covenant with?
22. What covenant is He speaking of?
23. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 7 verse 9.
24. Quote Galatians chapter 3 verse 29.
25. Who prepared the Lord's throne in heaven?
26. When was it prepared?
27. Quote Hebrews chapter 12 verse 2.
28. Heaven is His _____, and earth is His _____.
29. Quote John chapter 1 verse 3.
30. Who will bow to Jesus?
31. What are angels?
32. Who sends angels on special assignments?
33. Who were the letters to the seven churches addressed to in Revelation?
34. What 3 words in verse 20 determine whether you are ministering what the Lord would have you to or not?
35. What possessive word is prominent in verse 21?
36. Let everything within us _____ His Holy Name.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 104th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 104

- Verse 1 "Bless God, my soul. O Lord my God, Thou art exceeding great;
With honor and with majesty Thou clothed art in state."
- Verse 2 "With light, as with a robe, thyself Thou coverest about;
And, like the curtain of a tent, The heavens stretchest out."
- Verse 3 "He of his chambers doth the beams Within the waters lay; He
doth the clouds his chariot make, On wings of wind make way."
- Verse 4 "He doth the flames his ministers, The winds his angels make;
He earth's foundations firmly laid That it should never
shake."
- Verse 5 "Thou didst it cover with the deep, As with a garment spread:
The waters stood above the hills, When thou the word hadst
said."
- Verse 6 "But at the voice of thy rebuke They fled, and would not
stay; They at thy thunder's dreadful voice Did hasten fast
away."
- Verse 7 "They by the mountains do ascend, And by the valley-ground
Descend again to that same place Which thou for them didst
found."
- Verse 8 "To them a limit thou hast set, O'er which they may not go,
That they do not return again The earth to overflow."
- Verse 9 "He to the valleys sends the springs, Which run among the
hills; They to all beasts of field give drink, Wild asses
drink their fills."
- Verse 10 "The fowls of heaven their dwellings Beside each flowing
spring have And there among the branches they With joyful
voices sing."
- Verse 11 "He from his chambers watereth The hills when they are
dried: And with the fruit of these thy works, The earth is
satisfied."
- Verse 12 "He makes the grass for cattle grow, He makes the herb to
spring For use of man, that food to him He from the earth may
bring;"
- Verse 13 "And wine, that to the heart of man Doth cheerfulness impart;
Oil that this face makes shine, and bread That strengtheneth
his heart. "
- Verse 14 "The trees of God are full of life; The cedars great that
stand On Lebanon, all planted were By his almighty hand. "
- Verse 15 "Where birds a place of safety choose In which their nests to
make; As for the stork, the lofty firs They for their
dwelling take. "
- Verse 16 "Wild goats a place of refuge find Upon the mountains high;
The conies also to the rocks Do for their safety fly. "
- Verse 17 "He sets the moon in heav'n, thereby the seasons to discern;
From him the sun his certain time of going down doth learn. "
- Verse 18 "Thou darkness mak'st, 'tis night, then Of forests creep
abroad. The lions young do roar for prey, And seek their meat
from God.

Verse 19 "The sun doth rise, and home they flock, Down in their dens they lie. Man goes to work, his labor he Doth to the ev'ning ply."

Verse 20 "How manifold, O Lord, thy works, In wisdom wonderful Thou ev'ry one of them hast made; Earth's of thy riches full: "

Verse 21 "So is this great and spacious sea, Where things creeping are, Which numbered cannot be; and beasts Both great and small are there. "

Verse 22 "The ships go there, and there the Leviathan to play. mak'st These wait on thee, and from thy hand In due time fed are they. "

Verse 23 "And what thy kindness gives to them They gather for their food; Thine hand thou open'st lib'rally, And they are filled with good."

Verse 24 "Thou hid'st thy face; they troubled are, Their breath thou tak'st away; They die, and to their kindred dust Return again do they. "

Verse 25 "Thy spirit then thou sendest forth, And they created are; The face of earth thou dost revive, And all things new appear. "

Verse 26 "The glory of the mighty Lord For ever shall endure; And in his works Jehovah shall Rejoice for evenmore. "

Verse 27 "Earth, as affrighted, trembleth all, If he on it but look; And if the mountains he but touch, they presently do smoke. "

Verse 28 "I to the Lord Most High will sing so long as I shall live; And while I being have I will to my God praises give. "

Verse 29 "Of him my meditation shall Sweet thoughts to me afford; And as for me, I will rejoice In God, my only Lord. "

Verse 30 "From earth let sinners be consumed, Let ill men no more be. O thou my soul, bless thou the Lord. Praise to the Lord give ye."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 104th Psalm. Psalms 104:1 "Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty."

This almost seems to be a continuation of the praise in the last lesson. We will see in this Psalm {as some noted scholars have} that this is a Psalm about creation and the praise due the Creator of it all. I believe the praise, in this verse, shows that even before anything was created, He deserved to be praised. The being clothed in honour and majesty, is just saying the whole world should see those two aspects of the LORD, when they first look. Our first view with our spirit should be that we see more than can be imagined, He is majestic and His honour is beyond reproach. Have you ever seen the glow on a brand new Christian's face, when they first see that God is real? They are felling and seeing in their spirit the majesty and honour He has.

Psalms 104:2 "Who coverest [thyself] with light as [with] a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain:"

We know that He is the Light of the world. The Light had to be applied before anything, or anyone, could exist. That is why the very first, Let there be, in Genesis was an application of the power of Light. This Light gives everything, and everyone, the power to exist. Genesis 1:3 "And God said, Let there be light: and there was light." We, also, know that the

heavens were next. Genesis 1:8 "And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day." We must, also, remember from the last lesson, who did all of this. John 1:3 "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made." This, of course, is the Word of God. He spoke-it became.

Psalms 104:3 "Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters: who maketh the clouds his chariot: who walketh upon the wings of the wind:"

The waters, here, are what the heavens were formed of. Do not ask me how, I do not know. I just know the Word says it, and I believe it. We do know that the clouds took Jesus wherever He wanted to go. In Acts, we read of their part in Jesus' ascension into heaven. Acts 1:9 "And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight." We, also, know that we are promised that He will come back in like manner. Acts 1:11 "Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." We, also, know that the Presence that led the Israelites across the wilderness, led them in a cloud by day. This is enough said about all of this.

Psalms 104:4 "Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire:"

Angels are sometimes seen in a visible form, but they are really spirits. We know that the two angels that led Lot out of Sodom were in the form of men. God is spoken of as a consuming fire. We do know that there is a spiritual fire and a literal fire. I would assume this is speaking of fire in the spiritual nature. Jesus baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire. This is speaking of fire of a spiritual nature. I believe those who are full of the Spirit of God are, also, filled with this spiritual fire.

Psalms 104:5 "[Who] laid the foundations of the earth, [that] it should not be removed for ever."

I have said this numerous times, but it still amazes me, how God flung this planet, we call earth, out into space and told it to stay in orbit. That is far above my comprehension. If nothing else, this would cause me to have great awe of God. This alone sets God so far above man, that there is a great vast separation.

Psalms 104:6 "Thou coveredst it with the deep as [with] a garment: the waters stood above the mountains."

I believe the penman to be David here, but whoever he is, the Holy Spirit moved upon him for all of these facts to be so perfect. We see, in this, the water covered the earth, before the dry land appeared. 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."

Psalms 104:7 "At thy rebuke they fled; at the voice of thy thunder they hasted away."

Even the vapors and waters, and in fact everything that is, is part of God's creation. The water must obey the voice of its Creator. God is Supreme Ruler of the universe. Everything, and everyone, is under His control. We may do our thing for a while, but it is only because He allows it. We are His creation. He could destroy us the same as He created. Not only us, but the entire universe. God could tell it to be gone, and it would be gone.

Psalms 104:8 "They go up by the mountains; they go down by the valleys unto the place which thou hast founded for them."

God created this earth, and in fact, everything on it for the use of man. We may live on the highest mountain, but it is God's creation. We may choose to live in the valley, but that is His creation, also. Notice, He founded this for man.

Psalms 104:9 "Thou hast set a bound that they may not pass over; that they turn not again to cover the earth."

We know that the flood of Noah was not just the rain that fell from the sky, but was water that was released from its bounds, as well. The water was from under the earth, as well as from the sky. The glorious promise that God will never ever allow the earth to be destroyed by water again is sealed with the rainbow in the sky. When it rains and we see the rainbow, we know that God has not forgotten His promise.

Psalms 104:10 "He sendeth the springs into the valleys, [which] run among the hills."

When America was discovered, it was a land of fields and streams. We are privileged to live on a farm where springs of water gush from the ground. This is always clear water. When I drink of it, I reflect on the water that flows from the throne of God. Before pollution, you could drink from the brooks and streams that flowed down between these hills. Now man has fouled the water up. You would be afraid to drink from an open brook.

Psalms 104:11 "They give drink to every beast of the field: the wild asses quench their thirst."

God cares for the animals. He sees that they have water to drink. In our part of the country, there are a good many wild deer. There is plenty of grass for them to eat and an abundance of water for them to drink.

Psalms 104:12 "By them shall the fowls of the heaven have their habitation, [which] sing among the branches."

Have you ever noticed how the trees grow more plentiful, near the water? Now, we see that God did this to have a place of rest for the fowl. Water is necessary to the life of every living thing, the same as light is.

Psalms 104:13 "He watereth the hills from his chambers: the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy works."

Have you ever watched the rays from the sun gather water into the clouds? Sometimes when it rains, they say it was a cloud burst. The cloud gathered the water, and on the command of God released the water upon the earth. Elijah prayed to God, and it did not rain upon the earth until Elijah

prayed again and asked for God to release the rain. The Lord is in control of everything on the earth. Satan has only the power that God permits him to have.

Psalms 104:14 "He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth;"

Have you ever heard any one say, which came first the chicken or the egg? The chicken did and the seed was in itself. This is true of the grass, as well. The seed for the next grass is in the first grass. The farmers would call this a voluntary crop. When you do not plant it, the crop comes directly from God. God cares for the animals and provides food for them in the form of grass. I want to show just one Scripture that shows the first garden, with food for mankind, was not planted by man, but God. God prepared the earth for the habitation of mankind. Genesis 2:8 "And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed." You see, even now, we can not even take credit for the crops we grow. We did not create the dirt for it to grow in. We did not create the seed to plant. We do not even cause the rain to come and water it. We have no control over the sun shining on it to cause it to grow. Do you suppose, knowing this, is what makes farmers more humble than the average person?

Psalms 104:15 "And wine [that] maketh glad the heart of man, [and] oil to make [his] face to shine, and bread [which] strengtheneth man's heart."

One thing that makes us know for sure that it is God who feeds and clothes His people, is the Manna that fell from heaven. In the verse before this one, we saw that God provided for the necessities of life for the man. In this verse, we see the Lord going beyond the necessities, and bringing man some of the things to make him happy, as well. The Bread spoken of here, is not physical bread, because it strengthens the heart of man. This is speaking of that Bread which saves our soul, {Jesus Christ}. The oil, in the verse above that makes the face to shine, could easily be speaking of the Holy Spirit, which causes our face to shine when we are full of Him.

Psalms 103 Questions

1. What two things is the LORD clothed with in verse 1?
2. What is this Psalm about?
3. When was the beginning time for the LORD to be praised?
4. Have you ever seen the glow on a new Christian's face?
5. In verse 2, what is He covered with that is like a garment?
6. It, also, says that He stretchest out the heavens like a _____.
7. Why must the Light be applied first?
8. Quote Genesis chapter 1 verse 3.
9. On what day did He make the heaven?
10. What was created by the Word of God?
11. What are the waters in verse 3?
12. What did Jesus use frequently as a chariot of the heavens?
13. What presence led the children of Israel across the wilderness?
14. What are angels?
15. Is the flaming fire in verse 4 physical or spiritual?
16. What does the author say amazes her about verse 5?
17. Quote Genesis chapter 1 verse 9.
18. God is _____ of this universe.
19. In verse 8, we find that God made the mountains and the valleys for whom?
20. Was the flood in Noah's day just rain? Explain.
21. What promise of God to man does the rainbow show us?
22. When America was discovered, it was a land of _____ and _____.
23. Who provided drink for the animals?
24. Whose habitation is in the trees?
25. Who prayed and it didn't rain, until he prayed again and asked for it to rain?
26. Why do you suppose that farmers seem to be more humble than the average citizen?
27. Who planted the garden of Eden?
28. In verse 14, we saw God providing the needs of man, what is He doing in verse 15?
29. What is the Bread in verse 15?
30. What is the oil symbolic of in verse 15?

PSALMS LESSON 104

We will continue with this lesson in Psalms 104:16 "The trees of the LORD are full [of sap]; the cedars of Lebanon, which he hath planted;"

There are several ways we could look at this Scripture. In the physical, we know that the cedar tree is a very old tree, perhaps one of the first trees upon the earth. I am told that the cedar tree has roots as deep into the ground as they are tall. This would make them very hard to uproot. You could cut them down, but it would be almost impossible to uproot them. We know that the wood of the cedar does not rot very easily. Some believe that a variety of this tree is what the ark was made of. We read in the Scriptures, the cedars of Lebanon were used in the construction of the temple in Jerusalem. We have cedar lined closets in our house to keep moths and other insects out. The aroma from the wood keeps pests away.

We have been looking at all the Scriptures in this study more from the spiritual standpoint. Let's look at this from that standpoint. In the 17th chapter of Jeremiah and the 1st chapter of Psalm, true believers are spoken of as a tree. If a person is the strong believer they should be, their roots will go deep like this cedar tree. You could kill them, but you could not uproot them from their belief. They would be rooted and grounded in the Word of God. Rot comes from decay. A true believer will not decay, because they draw water from that well that never goes dry, and they are full of sap, because they feed upon the Word. The cedars of Lebanon were used to build God's temple. The believers in Christ are the lively stones that the temple is made up of. In the spirit, the insects and pests would be the worldly and those who are of the devil. Christians do not fellowship with those of unbelief. The world can smell the beautiful aroma that they put off though. Worldly people living around believers, may not be converted to Christianity, but down deep they admire you for the stand you have taken. If they ever have a truly terrible problem, they come to you for help.

Psalms 104:17 "Where the birds make their nests: [as for] the stork, the fir trees [are] her house."

The beautiful thing we must see here, is the fact that each bird has its own peculiarities. God provides for the needs of each, He does not provide the same for both, because their needs are not the same.

Psalms 104:18 "The high hills [are] a refuge for the wild goats; [and] the rocks for the conies."

It seems that the conies were something like our rabbits, but more wild. They hid in the rocks for safety. Believers in the Lord pray to the Father to hide them in the Rock where there is safety. Jesus is the Rock. Wild goats are high upon the hill to see danger when it comes. They are colored almost the same as the terrain around them. An unskilled eye would never be able to see them.

Psalms 104:19 "He appointed the moon for seasons: the sun knoweth his going down."

Each thing that God created had its purpose. We see in the following Scripture the reason for the moon being created. Genesis 1:14 "And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:" The Hebrew's calendar changes months with the new moon. The seasons mentioned above could, also, mean mark the time of the feasts of the Lord, as well. In one particular dream, the sun symbolized the father of Joseph, and the moon symbolized the mother. The moon is a reflection of the sun. The sun is the brightest and the moon reflects off the sun. This is true with husband and wife spiritually. The wife and husband are one in the flesh. The wife is a reflection of her husband, in a sense.

Psalms 104:20 "Thou makest darkness, and it is night: wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep [forth]."

Darkness is an absence of the light. Evil things happen under the cover of darkness that would not be done in the light of day. The beasts of prey are out more at night. They are trying to find something to kill. The best thing to do with darkness is to rest and sleep. The only other thing is to shine the light and make it day.

Psalms 104:21 "The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God."

In the physical, a lion hunts at night. He is hoping to find an animal off guard, so that he can kill him. We know, looking at this from the spiritual standpoint, the devil is like a roaring lion going through the earth seeking whom he may devour. Both are night creatures.

Psalms 104:22 "The sun ariseth, they gather themselves together, and lay them down in their dens."

When it becomes daylight, the lion, in the physical, goes and lies down and rests. He can not sneak up on his prey in the daytime. In the spiritual, Light does away with darkness. The devil has no power to destroy when the Light of Jesus is shining.

Psalms 104:23 "Man goeth forth unto his work and to his labour until the evening."

Man was made the opposite of this beast of prey. Mankind is a daytime being. They work while it is day and rest after dark, ordinarily. We know that we who are of the Light {Jesus Christ} are to work while it is day. There will come a day of darkness, when man cannot work any more. This evening, spoken of, could be of each day, or the evening of our life, as well. Christians are to shine forth the Light of Jesus. We pray that we are a Light set upon a hill for all to see. Jesus is the Light, we are the fixture that you can see His Light in.

Psalms 104:24 "O LORD, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches."

We look at the world around us and see great beauty and order in these things. If we admire the earth and all that it contains, how much more should we admire the Creator of it all? The LORD of all the earth is greatly to be praised by His creation.

Psalms 104:25 "[So is] this great and wide sea, wherein [are] things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts."

Again, we remember that the 104th Psalm is a Psalm of the creation of the world and everything in it. Acts 14:15 "And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:" Let me show one more Scripture on this. Genesis 1:21 "And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that [it was] good." As we said before, all of this was made for mankind.

Psalms 104:26 "There go the ships: [there is] that leviathan, [whom] thou hast made to play therein."

Leviathan, in this particular Scripture, means a wreathed animal, a serpent. It, also, means the constellation of the dragon. This is a piercing serpent that will bite you, if he has a chance. This leviathan is at the bottom of the sea. The ships ride over the top of the waves. In many instances, the seas mean the worldly people. We do know that Noah was saved by a great ship that floated above the world and the lost in the flood.

Psalms 104:27 "These wait all upon thee; that thou mayest give [them] their meat in due season."

We know that God is not only the Creator of all, but He is the provider for their needs, as well. When He established the earth, He made specific things to be food for specific animals, and fish, and fowl. Man is not like the animals. Man not only needs food for his body, but must have food for his spirit, as well. Man, alone, needs food for his soul. Jesus said, 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." The needs of man are not only physical, but spiritual, as well.

Psalms 104:28 "[That] thou givest them they gather: thou openest thine hand, they are filled with good."

All of God's creation of beings with life, must gather the food that He has provided for them. An animal can be in a field of clover, but will not be blessed by it, until he begins to eat. He must be moved to eat of what is provided, before he will be blessed. God gives freely to His children, as well, but we must reach out and take what He has offered. If we have our hand clenched in a fist, we can not receive what He is trying to give us. This can be spiritual, as well as physical.

Psalms 104:29 "Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust."

About the worst thing that can happen to us, is for God to turn a deaf ear to our cry. How many times in this lesson, have I said that the next breath we breathe is a gift from God?. When He takes the breath of life away, we die. Our body will return to the dust from which it was made. Our Spirit will live forever. If we are a Christian, our spirit body will live in heaven with the Lord Jesus. I Corinthians 15:44 "It is sown a natural

body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body."

Psalms 104:30 "Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth."

There are two creations really. God at first made man of the dust of the earth, and breathed the breath of life in him, and he became a living soul. The second birth is that of the spirit of man. God is actually creating each day. Creation as such is an ongoing thing. 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." We know that there will be a new heaven and a new earth. Revelation 21:1 "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea."

Psalms 104:31 "The glory of the LORD shall endure for ever: the LORD shall rejoice in his works."

God is from everlasting to everlasting. There is a time mentioned in the Bible when God was sorry that He had made man. He drowned all of them in the flood, except Noah and his family. God loves all of His children and wants to fellowship with us. We are His children, if we accept Jesus Christ as our Saviour. After each thing that the Word of God created, He said it was good. His creations were all good. There is reason to rejoice.

Psalms 104:32 "He looketh on the earth, and it trembleth: he toucheth the hills, and they smoke."

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. This is speaking of the terribleness of God. The earth and inhabitants tremble before Him. He can do whatever He wants to with His creation. If He is displeased with it, it is within His power to destroy it. The earth and its people tremble, because they are guilty of sin. Whether this is speaking of a volcano, or whether these are lofty people who His fire descends on are both bad.

Psalms 104:33 "I will sing unto the LORD as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being."

We see the penman coming from the awesomeness of God, to what he is going to do about it. He has determined in his heart to praise the Lord, while there is life within him. Songs are one of the very best ways to praise the Lord. He would be a sweet, sweet sound in the ear of the Lord.

Psalms 104:34 "My meditation of him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the LORD."

The penman here, says, that even his thoughts are sweet to him. To think upon the Lord and His blessings bring pleasant thoughts. We must be glad when we think of the wonderful provision the Lord has made for us through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalms 104:35 "Let the sinners be consumed out of the earth, and let the wicked be no more. Bless thou the LORD, O my soul. Praise ye the LORD."

This is as if he has read of the terrible wrath that will come upon the earth and the evil people of the earth who did not repent. He says, even though this is so, I will bless the Lord with everything that is within me. This Psalm began with praise and ends with praise. This should be the state of the Christians. We should get up in the morning praising the Lord and go to bed at night praising Him. We must not look with regret at the outcome of the sinners. They will be judged fairly. We must do what we can to convert them, and if they won't listen, we must say with the penman here: let it be. Praise the Lord.

Psalms 104 Questions

1. The trees of the Lord are full of ____.
2. What are some of the things we know about the cedar tree in the physical?
3. From what standpoint have we been studying these lessons.
4. Compare the physical cedar to the believers.
5. What two chapters in the Bible show the believer as a tree?
6. Where does the stork make her nest?
7. Where is a refuge for the wild goat?
8. Where do the conies hide?
9. What did God appoint the moon for?
10. Quote Genesis chapter 1 verse 14.
11. What relation does the moon have to the sun?
12. What is darkness?
13. What creeps forth at night?
14. When does the lion kill its prey generally?
15. The _____ is like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour.
16. What does away with darkness?
17. When does the devil have no power to destroy?
18. What is different about man and his working habits from these animals?
19. What are we to shine for the world to see?
20. Quote Psalms chapter 104 verse 24.
21. The 104th Psalm is a Psalm of the _____.
22. What does leviathan mean?
23. What are the seas symbolic of many times?
24. What is God, besides the Creator of all?
25. Man needs what in addition to food for his body?
26. Quote Matthew chapter 4 verse 4.
27. God gives to His children freely, but what must we do?
28. What is about the worst thing that can happen to a person?
29. What happens, if God removes our breath?
30. Quote 1 Corinthians chapter 15 verse 44.
31. What is born in the second birth?
32. Quote Revelation chapter 21 verse 1.
33. When did God say He was sorry that He made man?
34. He looketh on the earth, and it _____.
35. He touched the hills, and they _____.
36. The penman says, he will praise the Lord how long?
37. What did the penman say brought him pleasant thoughts?
38. Quote Psalms chapter 104 verse 35.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 105th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 105

- Verse 1 "Give thanks to God, call on his name; To men his deeds make Known. Sing ye to him, sing psalms; proclaim His wondrous works each one."
- Verse 2 "To glory in his holy name Unite with one accord; And let the heart of ev'ry one Rejoice that seeks the Lord. "
- Verse 3 "The Lord Almighty and his strength, With steadfast hearts seek ye; His blessed and his gracious face. "
- Verse 4 "Remember all his mighty deeds, The wonders he hath done, The righteous judgments of his mouth, Remember them each one."
- Verse 5 "O ye the seed of Abraham, Who served him faithfully; Ye sons of Jacob whom he chose, Keep these in memory. "
- Verse 6 "Because he, and he only, is The mighty Lord our God; And his most righteous judgments are In all the earth abroad. "
- Verse 7 "His cov'nant he remembered hath, That it may ever stand; To thousand generations he His promise did command. "
- Verse 8 "Which covenant he firmly made With faithful Abraham, And unto Isaac, by his oath, He did review the same; "
- Verse 9 "And unto Jacob, for a law, He made it firm and sure, A covenant to Israel, Which ever should endure. "
- Verse 10 "He said, I Canaan's land will give For heritage to you; While they were strangers there, and few, In number very few:"
- Verse 11 "While yet they went from land to land, Without a sure abode: And while through many kingdoms they did wander far abroad; "
- Verse 12 "Yet, notwithstanding, suffered he no man to do them wrong; Yea, for their sakes he did reprove Kings, who were great and strong. "
- Verse 13 "He said, these my anointed are, Touch not, nor do them wrong; Nor do the prophets any harm That unto me belong. "
- Verse 14 "He called for famine on the land, He broke the staff of bread: But yet he sent a man before, By whom they should be fed; "
- Verse 15 "Ev'n Joseph, whom, by envy moved, sell for a slave did they; Whose feet they with the fetters hurt, And he in irons lay; "
- Verse 16 "Until the time that his word came To give him liberty; The word and purpose of the Lord Did him in prison try. "
- Verse 17 "Then sent the king, and did command That he enlarged should be: He that the people's ruler was did send to set him free."
- Verse 18 "To be the lord of all his house He raised him, as most fit; To him of all that he possessed He did the charge commit: "
- Verse 19 "That at his pleasure he might bind The princes of the land; And also make his senators True wisdom understand. "
- Verse 20 "The people then of Israel Down into Egypt came; And Jacob for a time sojourned Within the land of Ham. "
- Verse 21 "And he did greatly by his pow'r Increase his people there; And stronger than their enemies They by his blessing were."
- Verse 22 "Their heart he then to hatred turned Against his people

- there, To deal in subtlety with those Who his own servants were. "
- Verse 23 "His servant Moses then he sent And Aaron, chosen one, And they his signs and wonders great, In land of Ham, made known. "
- Verse 24 "He darkness sent, and made it dark; His word they did obey. He turned their waters into blood, And he their fish did slay. "
- Verse 25 "The land in plenty brought forth frogs In chambers of their kings. His word all sorts of flies and lice In all their borders brings."
- Verse 26 "Hail stones for rain, and flaming fire Into their land he sent; And he their vines and fig-trees smote; Trees of their coasts he rent.
- Verse 27 "He spake, and caterpillars came, and locusts did abound; Which in their land all herbs consumed, And fruits of all their ground. "
- Verse 28 "He smote all first-born in their land, Chief of their strength each one. With gold and silver brought them forth, Weak in their tribes were none. "
- Verse 29 "Egypt was glad when forth they went, Their fear on them did light. He spread a cloud for covering, And fire to shine by night. "
- Verse 30 "They asked, and quails he brought: with bread Of heaven filled he them. He opened rocks, floods gushed, and ran In deserts like a stream. "
- Verse 31 "For on his holy promise he, And servant Abr'ham thought. With joy his people, his elect, With gladness, forth he brought. "
- Verse 32 "And so the heathen's land to them, He for possession gave; That of the people's labor they Inheritance might have. "
- Verse 33 "That they his statutes might observe According to his word; And that they might his laws obey. Give praises to the Lord."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 105th Psalm. Psalms 105:1 "O give thanks unto the LORD; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people."

We read that the first 15 verses of this Psalm was used in song of praise when the ark was moved from the house of Obed-edom. Probably, David was the penman. The psalmist here, is encouraging those around him to praise and worship the LORD. We are told in the Scriptures that we have not, because we ask not. We are, also, told to ask and it shall be given unto you. In the prayer that Jesus taught the disciples, He taught them to magnify God first and then ask. He is more apt to be receptive to our prayer, if we tell of His wonderful deeds to our acquaintances.

Psalms 105:2 "Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him: talk ye of all his wondrous works."

There is something about singing praises to the Lord that adds enthusiasm to our praise. We should never stop proclaiming to the world the wonderful works of the Lord.

Psalms 105:3 "Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD."

We should never be ashamed to tell others of our God. If we are to boast of anything , it would be that we should boast of our God. We are what is in our heart. If our heart is rejoicing it would be because we sought the Lord and found Him.

Psalms 105:4 "Seek the LORD, and his strength: seek his face evermore."

I am weak, but He is strong. In my weakness, He is strong. The desire of every believer is to be in the presence of the Lord. To look upon His face, is reserved for our heavenly view of Him. I do not believe the Scripture above means to look upon His face. On this earth that would be certain death. What it is saying, is to seek the will of the Lord in your life.

Psalms 105:5 "Remember his marvellous works that he hath done; his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth;"

So many people are so quick to forget the things that God has done for them. It is as if they are saying, what have you done for me lately? I think if we would look back over our life and see the marvellous things that God has done for each of us, there would be so many things that it would fill a book. Why do we not fill our mouth with praise of the marvellous things He has done for us? My husband, Nelson, loves to hear testimonials from people of how they came to God. He believes, and I agree with him, if we would tell these things more, it would help people to better relate to God. judgments of His mouth, could be the Scriptures in the Bible that are printed in Red. Jesus Christ is the written Word. He is, also, the spoken Word, as well. God said, Let there be, and there was. This is the spoken Word. His judgments are right, and true, and righteous. The startling thing, to me, is how quickly the followers of Jesus forgot the miracles and wonders that He did in their presence.

Psalms 105:6 "O ye seed of Abraham his servant, ye children of Jacob his chosen."

These are two different groups. The first mentioned here, the seed, singular is the spiritual house of Abraham through Jesus Christ our Lord. Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." The children, plural, of Jacob His chosen are the physical house of Israel {Jacob}. These are the Hebrews.

Psalms 105:7 "He [is] the LORD our God: his judgments [are] in all the earth."

He is the God of both physical Israel and spiritual Israel. He is not just the God of the Hebrews, He is the God of the Christians, as well. God is the absolute authority in all the earth. Notice, the possessive {our} in speaking of God. He is God of the masses, one at a time.

Psalms 105:8 "He hath remembered his covenant for ever, the word [which] he commanded to a thousand generations."

Deuteronomy 7:9 "Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he [is] God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;" This goes a little farther than going to our grandchildren. The covenant, spoken of in both of

these verses, is the covenant God made with faithful Abraham. All of the faithful will be blessed through this covenant.

Psalms 105:9 "Which [covenant] he made with Abraham, and his oath unto Isaac;"

Abraham had faith in God, and that was counted unto him as righteousness. This promise came through Abraham's son of the promise, Isaac. This was not a covenant through the flesh, but through the Spirit. Abraham had a son Ishmael, but he was a son of the flesh. The promise did not come through the flesh, but through the spirit.

Psalms 105:10 "And confirmed the same unto Jacob for a law, [and] to Israel [for] an everlasting covenant:"

In our study on Leviticus we found that the 40 year wanderings in the wilderness were the birthing of the law to a single nation. This nation was the house of Jacob. We found that Jesus Christ ministered 40 days in the earth after He rose from the grave setting up the grace of God through His church. The law was to the physical house of Israel. The everlasting covenant came to all mankind through the seed of Abraham, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalms 105:11 "Saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance:"

The physical house of Israel would receive the land of Canaan as their promised land.

Psalms 105:12 "When they were [but] a few men in number; yea, very few, and strangers in it."

This is speaking of the family of Jacob that went into the land of Egypt. Seventy went into the land, not counting Joseph and his family and God kept them alive while they were strangers in this land.

Psalms 105:13 "When they went from one nation to another, from [one] kingdom to another people;"

God brought them out of Egypt with His mighty Hand through 10 plagues. Each country that they came up against God, won the battle for them.

Psalms 105:14 "He suffered no man to do them wrong: yea, he reproveth kings for their sakes;"

After the incident at the Red Sea, the kings that they came in contact with gave up to them. The kings were not afraid of the Israelites, they were afraid of the God of the Israelites. Look at this wonderful promise made to those who have ways that please God. Proverbs 16:7 "When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him."

Psalms 105:15 "[Saying], Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm."

David believed so strongly that you were not to touch the anointed of God, that he ran from Saul instead of killing him, because God had anointed

Saul king over Israel. Abraham was like a priest before God. The very same thing came down through Isaac and Jacob. These Israelites were the chosen of God. God fought their battles for them. To come against them would be like coming against God. The prophets of God were an anointed group of people. Again, to do them harm, would bring the wrath of God down upon you.

Psalms 105:16 "Moreover he called for a famine upon the land: he brake the whole staff of bread."

The only thing that would have caused Jacob to take his family into Egypt would be to save their lives. This is just what happened. Famine was throughout the land, and the only food available was in Egypt.

Psalms 105:17 "He sent a man before them, [even] Joseph, [who] was sold for a servant:"

Joseph, the favorite son of Jacob, was sold into Egypt as a slave by his brothers. He became a servant in Potiphar's house. Of course, all of this happened to fulfill the prophecy that they would be slaves in Egypt 400 years. God took the terrible act of Joseph's brothers and turned it into a blessing for all of their people.

Psalms 105:18 "Whose feet they hurt with fetters: he was laid in iron:"

We know this refers to the time Joseph spent in jail, after Potiphar's wife lied about Joseph. He was in chains, but soon they were removed. Joseph became the second in command in all of Egypt after interpreting Pharaoh's dream.

Psalms 105:19 "Until the time that his word came: the word of the LORD tried him."

Joseph was kept in prison, until one of his fellowprisoners told the Pharaoh that Joseph could interpret dreams accurately.

Psalms 105 Questions

1. Quote Psalms chapter 105 verse 1.
2. When were the first 15 verses of Psalm 105 sung?
3. We have not, because we ____.
4. What did Jesus teach the disciples to do first in their prayers?
5. What does singing praise add to it?
6. What would be the only thing permissible to boast of?
7. I am weak, but He is _____.
8. When can we look upon His face?
9. What does verse 5 tell us to remember?
10. Instead of remembering the wonderful things God has done for us in the past, what do many say?
11. What are the judgments of His mouth?
12. Who is the written and the spoken Word?
13. Who are the seed of Abraham?
14. Who are the children of Jacob, his chosen?
15. Quote Galatians chapter 3 verse 29.
16. What do these 2 have in common?
17. Who is the absolute Authority in the earth?
18. He is God of the masses ____ at a time.
19. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 7 verse 9.
20. Who had God made the covenant with?
21. Which son did the covenant oath come through?
22. And confirmed the same unto _____ far a _____.
23. And to _____ for an everlasting covenant.
24. What land was Israel's inheritance?
25. What is verse 12 speaking of, when it speaks of few in number?
26. How did God bring His people out of Egypt?
27. Why did the kings not fight Israel?
28. How did God get Jacob and his family to go to Egypt?
29. Who had God sent ahead to Egypt to prepare the way for Jacob and his family?
30. How did Joseph get to Egypt?

In the last lesson, we were studying about Joseph being sold into Egypt by his brothers, winding up in jail, and becoming second to the Pharaoh as part of God's plan to get the family of Jacob into Egypt. We will pick up now in Psalms 105:20 "The king sent and loosed him; [even] the ruler of the people, and let him go free."

This is saying that Pharaoh, himself let Joseph out of jail.

Psalms 105:21 "He made him lord of his house, and ruler of all his substance:"

When Joseph interpreted the dream of the Pharaoh with a plan to save their land, Pharaoh made Joseph, second only to himself.

Psalms 105:22 "To bind his princes at his pleasure; and teach his senators wisdom."

This is speaking of Joseph's brothers who came for food during the great famine. Joseph could have arrested them and put them in jail, but instead he forgave them. All of this taught them a very good lesson.

Psalms 105:23 "Israel also came into Egypt; and Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham."

As we studied in the lessons on Genesis, we know that some of Ham's descendents settled in the land of Egypt. Specifically, they dwelled in the land of Goshen.

Psalms 105:24 "And he increased his people greatly; and made them stronger than their enemies."

In just over 400 years, the small group of 70 and the family of Joseph grew into a nation somewhere between 2 and 3 million. All of a sudden the Pharaoh in the land began to be worried, because there was so many of them. He was afraid they would rise up and fight against Egypt.

Psalms 105:25 "He turned their heart to hate his people, to deal subtilly with his servants."

This is speaking of the time that Jacob's family were under bondage to these Egyptians.

Psalms 105:26 "He sent Moses his servant; [and] Aaron whom he had chosen."

When Moses was 80 years old, God called him to go to Egypt and obtain the release of the Hebrews. Moses' brother, Aaron, was given to Moses as a helper.

Psalms 105:27 "They shewed his signs among them, and wonders in the land of Ham."

Moses was endowed with power from God to do mighty wonders before the Pharaoh to get him to let the people go. One of these wonders was turning

the Nile River {which the Egyptians worshipped} into blood. I believe the statement about Ham here is speaking of the plagues coming on Egypt, but not on Goshen where Jacob's family dwelled.

Here is a list of some of the plagues that God sent upon Pharaoh and Egypt to get him to let the people of God go. Most of these plagues attacked one of the things worshipped by the Egyptians. Not only were these plagues to get the release of the people, but they were to discredit the gods of Egypt.

Psalms 105:28 "He sent darkness, and made it dark; and they rebelled not against his word."

Psalms 105:29 "He turned their waters into blood, and slew their fish."

Psalms 105:30 "Their land brought forth frogs in abundance, in the chambers of their kings."

Psalms 105:31 "He spake, and there came divers sorts of flies, [and] lice in all their coasts."

Psalms 105:32 "He gave them hail for rain, [and] flaming fire in their land."

Psalms 105:33 "He smote their vines also and their fig trees; and brake the trees of their coasts."

Psalms 105:34 "He spake, and the locusts came, and caterpillars, and that without number,"

Psalms 105:35 "And did eat up all the herbs in their land, and devoured the fruit of their ground."

These are not exact replicas of 9 of the 10 plagues that came, but they are the same plagues. Notice, all of the things in this that are in control of God. This is just another time when we see that everything in this earth is under direct command of God. The last plague in the next verse was, of course, the worst. The Egyptians had killed the first born of the Hebrews, now God will kill their firstborn.

Psalms 105:36 "He smote also all the firstborn in their land, the chief of all their strength."

No home in Egypt, except the Hebrew families who had the blood of the lamb over the door, were spared. Pharaoh's own son died. This was the plague that set them free. Pharaoh told them to go.

Psalms 105:37 "He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and [there was] not one feeble [person] among their tribes."

They spoiled the Egyptians and took silver and gold into the wilderness with them. The joy of being released from the hard bondage was enough to renew their strength, but I believe, this goes even further than that. God restored them so there was no feeble.

Psalms 105:38 "Egypt was glad when they departed: for the fear of them fell upon them."

This is truly an understatement. The Egyptians had become terribly afraid of the God of these Israelites. This fear of Israel's God spread to countries nearby, as well.

Psalms 105:39 "He spread a cloud for a covering; and fire to give light in the night."

This cloud and fire was the presence of God in their midst that led them across the wilderness. When the cloud by day and the fire by night stopped, they stopped and rested, until the fire or cloud moved again.

Psalms 105:40 "The people] asked, and he brought quails, and satisfied them with the bread of heaven."

The Bread from heaven that fed them was the Manna that God miraculously fed them each day. They tired of the Manna and insisted on meat, and God rained quails on them knee deep. This group murmured against God, and God killed a large number of them on the way to the promised land.

Psalms 105:41 "He opened the rock, and the waters gushed out; they ran in the dry places [like] a river."

This is speaking of them running out of water. Moses prayed, and God told Moses to strike the Rock. He did and water gushed forth from the Rock. This Rock, of course, is Jesus Christ. He is the fountain that never runs dry.

Psalms 105:42 "For he remembered his holy promise, [and] Abraham his servant."

At times these people greatly troubled the Lord, but He did not forget His promise to Abraham. He brought them to the land He had promised Abraham. There was very little opposition to the Israelites taking their promised land. God fought their battles for them.

Psalms 105:43 "And he brought forth his people with joy, [and] his chosen with gladness:"

Such joy to receive the land of milk and honey that had been promised to Abraham! These were God's chosen people that were to live above the world and live in a pleasing manner to God.

Psalms 105:44 "And gave them the lands of the heathen: and they inherited the labour of the people;"

This seems as if God was unfair to the heathen, but that is not so. He gave them ample time to repent of their ways, and when they did not, God took the land for His chosen.

Psalms 105:45 "That they might observe his statutes, and keep his laws. Praise ye the LORD."

They were chosen of all people to keep the law that God had given them in the wilderness. The Levitical law was to be kept forever.

Psalms 106 Questions

1. Who let Joseph out of jail?
2. What position did the Pharaoh give Joseph?
3. What is verse 22 saying about Joseph's brothers?
4. What two names was Joseph's father called in verse 23?
5. Where did they dwell?
6. What caused Pharaoh to be worried about the Hebrews?
7. Verse 25 is speaking of what?
8. Who did God call, when he was 80 years old, to go and get freedom for the Israelites?
9. Who did God send to help him?
10. What unusual powers had God given Moses?
11. Did all of the plagues affect everyone in Egypt?
12. Who were the plagues sent by God directed against?
13. Name some of the plagues that God sent?
14. How many plagues did God send?
15. Why did God kill the firstborn of Egypt?
16. What method did God have of telling who were the Hebrews?
17. Which plague set them free?
18. Where did the Hebrews get the silver and gold they took in the wilderness?
19. What did God do specifically for the feeble?
20. Why was Egypt glad when they departed?
21. What 2 things showed the presence of God with them on their journey?
22. What was their main food on their journey?
23. When they asked for quail, what did God do?
24. Who is the Rock?
25. What promise did God remember that caused Him to bring them to their land of promise?
26. Who owned the land that God gave Israel?
27. What were they chosen to do?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 106th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 106

- Verse 1 "Praise ye the Lord, and give him thanks, For bountiful is he; To all eternity. "
- Verse 2 "God's mighty works who can express? Or show forth all his praise? O blest are they that judgment keep, And justly do always. "
- Verse 3 "Remember me, O Lord, with love, Which thou to thine dost bear; With thy salvation, O my God, To visit me draw near. "
- Verse 4 "That I thy chosen's good may see, And in their joy rejoice; And may with thine inheritance Exult with cheerful voice. "
- Verse 5 "We with our fathers have transgressed, And done iniquity; With them we have transgressors been, We have done wickedly."
- Verse 6 "The wonders great, which thou, O Lord, Didst work in Egypt land, Our fathers, though they saw, yet them They did not understand: "
- Verse 7 "And they thy mercies' multitude Kept not in memory; But at the sea, ev'n the Red sea, Provoked him grievously. "
- Verse 8 "Yet notwithstanding he them saved, Ev'n for his own name's sake; That so he might, to be well known, His mighty power make. "
- Verse 9 "The Red sea also he rebuked, And then dried up it was: Though depths, as through the wilderness, He made them safely pass. "
- Verse 10 "From hands of him that hated them, He did his people save; And from the en'my's cruel hand To them redemption gave. "
- Verse 11 "The waters overwhelmed their foes, Not one was left alive. Then they believed his word, and praise To him in songs did give. "
- Verse 12 "But soon they did his mighty works Unthankfully forget And on his counsel and his will Did not with patience wait; "
- Verse 13 "But much did lust in wilderness, And God in desert tempt. He gave them what they sought, but to Their soul he leanness sent. "
- Verse 14 "Moreover Moses, in the camp, They envied without cause: At Aaron too, the saint of God, Inflamed their envy was. "
- Verse 15 "The earth did therefore open wide, And Dathan did devour, At Aaron too, the saint of God, Inflamed their envy was. "
- Verse 16 "And likewise 'mong their company A fire was kindled then; And so the hot consuming flame Burnt up these wicked men. "
- Verse 17 "Yet they at Horeb made a calf, A molten image praised: Their glory changed to form of ox That in the pastures grazed. "
- Verse 18 "They soon forgot the mighty God, Who had their Saviour been, By whom such great things brought to pass They had in Egypt seen. "
- Verse 19 "In land of Ham his wondrous works, Things terrible did he, When he his mighty hand and arm Stretched out at the Red sea."
- Verse 20 "He said he would them all destroy, Had not, his wrath to

stay, His chosen Moses stood in breach, That them he should not slay. "

Verse 21 "Yea, they despised the pleasant land, Nor did believe his word, But murm'ring in their tents, refused To hearken to the Lord."

Verse 22 "In desert therefore them to slay He lifted up his hand: through nations to o'erthrow their seed, And scatter in each land. "

Verse 23 "They unto Baal-peor did Themselves associate; The sacrifices of the dead They did profanely eat, "

Verse 24 "Thus, by inventions of their own, They much provoked his ire; And then upon them suddenly The plague broke in as fire."

Verse 25 "Then Phin'has rose, and justice did, And so the plague did cease; That to all ages counted was To him for righteousness."

Verse 26 "And at the waters, where they strove, They did him angry make, In such a way that ill it fared With Moses for their sake:"

Verse 27 "Because they there his spirit meek Provoked so bitterly, That he with hasty lips did speak Words unadvisedly. "

Verse 28 "Nor, as the Lord commanded them, did they the nations slay: But with the heathen mingled were, And learned of them their way."

Verse 29 "Moreover they their idols served, Which to a snare was turned. To demons they in sacrifice Their sons and daughters burned."

Verse 30 "In their own children's guiltless blood Their hands they did imbrue, Whom into Canaan's idols they For sacrifices slew. "

Verse 31 "So was the land defiled with blood. Stained with their works were they, And with inventions of their own, To idols they did stray. "

Verse 32 "Against his people dwindled was The anger of the Lord, They so provoked his wrath that he His heritage abhorred. "

Verse 33 "He gave them to the heathen's power; Their foes did them command. Their en'mies them oppressed, they were Made subject to their hand. "

Verse 34 "He many times delivered them; But with their counsel so They him provoked, that for their sin They were brought very low."

Verse 35 "Yet their affliction he beheld, When he did hear their cry: And he for them his covenant Recalled to memory; "

Verse 36 "And in his mercies' multitude He did repent, and make Them to be pitied of all those Who did them captive take. "

Verse 37 "Save us, O Lord our God, and us From heathen nations bring, That we thy holy name may thank, Thy praises ever sing. "

Verse 38 "Blessed be JEHOVAH, Isr'el's God, To all eternity: Let all the people say, Amen. Praise to the Lord give ye."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 106th Psalm. Psalms 106:1 "Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for [he is] good: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

This Psalm begins with praise unto the LORD. Every generation of God's people can look at this and join in with praise and thanksgiving at the goodness of God. I am simply amazed, as I study my Bible, at the patience and mercy of God toward a people who are dead set on displeasing God. In

this particular Psalm, David will be looking at the terrible murmuring that the Israelites did on the way to the promised land. It seems that all through the ages, people soon forget the blessings that God has showered upon them and fall away from God. It is no different even now. If they have not been blessed in the last five minutes, they go wandering away to find solutions to their problems in the wrong places. I believe David to be the penman here, and he is encouraging all of us to take time out to praise and worship God.

Psalms 106:2 "Who can utter the mighty acts of the LORD? [who] can shew forth all his praise?"

We are not even capable of remembering every little blessing that God has done for us. The English language is not sufficient to tell of His mighty acts. We really do not even know of most of His mighty acts. We have a small sprinkle of them in the Bible, but this is just a few of the many wonderful acts of the LORD. John 21:25 "And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen." If I spent the rest of my life praising Him, it would not be enough. I would run out of time, before I was through.

Psalms 106:3 "Blessed [are] they that keep judgment, [and] he that doeth righteousness at all times."

God has given us a perfect way of life. If we live by it, He will bless us abundantly. The desire of our heart must be to do the will of the Father. There was much emphasis in the Old Testament on keeping the feast days and doing the sacrifices, but even then God wanted obedience more than He wanted sacrifice. I Samuel 15:22 "And Samuel said, Hath the LORD [as great] delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey [is] better than sacrifice, [and] to hearken than the fat of rams."

Psalms 106:4 "Remember me, O LORD, with the favour [that thou bearest unto] thy people: O visit me with thy salvation;"

One of the greatest rewards in reading the Exodus is the wonderful kindness and mercy God afforded these rebellious people. It gives us extra hope that God will forgive us, as well of our shortcomings. This verse above is saying, forgive me like you did them. O visit me with thy salvation, is a statement looking prophetically to Jesus.

Psalms 106:5 "That I may see the good of thy chosen, that I may rejoice in the gladness of thy nation, that I may glory with thine inheritance."

The penman, here, is crying out for the blessings of the chosen of God. This is probably David and he is saying, I am part of that family of Abraham who the blessings will come through. Bless me, for I am part of the inheritance.

Psalms 106:6 "We have sinned with our fathers, we have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly."

The penman is confessing his sins before the Father. He is, also, saying that his ancestors sinned and were forgiven. They are not in this by

themselves. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Praise God! We Christians are forgiven of all our iniquity. Not even one person, aside from Jesus, has ever lived on this earth a perfect life. Our hope is in Jesus. He took our sin and traded us His righteousness. We now are clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Psalms 106:7 "Our fathers understood not thy wonders in Egypt; they remembered not the multitude of thy mercies; but provoked [him] at the sea, [even] at the Red sea."

When the first real test came upon these Israelites, they forgot that God had delivered them with the ten plagues out of Egypt. They panicked at the Red Sea. They saw the sea before them, and did not trust God to get them out of this problem. Isn't that just the way we are? God has taken the Christians out of Egypt {the world}, with no help from us. The first time we face a problem, we forget that He is the answer. If He can take them out of Egypt, He can help them cross the Red Sea. Do you have any mountain or river to cross? I know the One who can take you to the other side.

Psalms 106:8 "Nevertheless he saved them for his name's sake, that he might make his mighty power to be known."

The marvellous thing, to me, is that He saved them, even though they did not have faith to believe. He had defamed the gods of Egypt, now He would show beyond a shadow of doubt that the LORD is God. All the lands around would be afraid of the God of the Israelites after this incident.

Psalms 106:9 "He rebuked the Red sea also, and it was dried up: so he led them through the depths, as through the wilderness."

God has power over all the elements. The sea had to obey the voice of God. Not only did the sea separate and stand in a heap on either side, but the ground in the bed of the sea dried up and they walked through on dry ground.

Psalms 106:10 "And he saved them from the hand of him that hated [them], and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy."

Psalms 106:11 "And the waters covered their enemies: there was not one of them left."

Pharaoh's men and chariots drowned in the sea. They never pursued the Israelites any more. The Israelites walked through the Red Sea on dry land and just as soon as they were safely on the other side, God allowed the Pharaoh's men to pursue them through the sea, and the sea drowned them every one.

Psalms 106:12 "Then believed they his words; they sang his praise."

Praise and thanksgiving were plentiful at the Red Sea, after the drowning of the Egyptians. The sad thing is how quickly these people forget.

Psalms 106:13 "They soon forgot his works; they waited not for his counsel:"

God called these people who constantly complained, murmurers. At every problem, they complained instead of trusting God. Possibly, one reason God

allowed them to have so many problems was, so they would finally learn to trust Him.

Psalms 106:14 "But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert."

As I said, they were never satisfied. They spent all of their time complaining. Had God not been so longsuffering, He would have killed them in the wilderness.

Psalms 106:15 "And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul."

He answered their requests through Moses, They were not joyful in their souls. God inhabits the praises of His people. To have fatness in your soul takes fellowship with God. They had no fellowship with God. They spent all their time complaining.

Psalms 106:16 "They envied Moses also in the camp, [and] Aaron the saint of the LORD."

Even though Moses had been instigated in getting them out of the hard bondage in Egypt, they were jealous of him. They did not understand why God had chosen Moses over them. They did not realize that Moses was a very humble man. God had chosen Moses, because God knew Moses' heart. Aaron was of a very special family. God had chosen him to help Moses. Moses or Aaron did not ask for this special anointing from God. They did not ask to be chosen. God chose them. A great deal of responsibility goes along with being chosen of God to do a particular job.

Psalms 106:17 "The earth opened and swallowed up Dathan, and covered the company of Abiram."

Dathan was opposed to God's servants, and God opened up the earth and swallowed them. Like an earthquake. Abiram was destroyed at the same time. It is a very dangerous thing to come against the anointed of God, or against God. God may not instantly punish, but He will not forget. They will be punished.

Psalms 106:18 "And a fire was kindled in their company; the flame burned up the wicked."

The Levites were destroyed in this fire. Korah was destroyed, as well. At a later time, Korah's family were forgiven. It seems the earth swallowed Dathan and Abiram, and the fire killed Korah.

Psalms 106:19 "They made a calf in Horeb, and worshipped the molten image."

While Moses was on the mountain with God 40 days and nights waiting for the 10 commandments, the people talked Aaron into making them a golden calf to worship. When Moses came down the mountain, he heard revelry in the camp. The people were worshipping the golden calf.

Psalms 106:20 "Thus they changed their glory into the similitude of an ox that eateth grass."

The calf was one of the false gods in Egypt. They had made a golden image of the false god. They were worshipping it, when Moses came down the mountain. How soon they forgot that this was one of the false gods the Almighty God had defamed. The only true God brought them out of bondage in Egypt. He held the Egyptians off, while they crossed on dry land in the bottom of the Red Sea. He killed the Egyptians, so they would not follow them. Now, they have forgotten all about the real God. They were worshipping the thing He created rather than the Creator. When will they ever learn?

This is exactly the way people are today. People have a tendency to worship the things they can see with their eyes instead of the One True God. We must worship the Creator and not His creation.

Psalms 107 Questions

1. How long does God's mercy endure?
2. As the author studies the Bible, what is amazing in it?
3. In verse 1, David is taking time out to encourage us to do what?
4. Quote John chapter 21 verse 25.
5. Blessed are they that keep _____.
6. Quote 1 Samuel chapter 15 verse 22.
7. What is one of the most wonderful rewards in reading Exodus?
8. Visit me with thy salvation is prophetic of what?
9. In verse 5, what is the psalmist reminding them of?
10. All have _____ and come short of the _____ of God.
11. Jesus took our sin and gave us His _____.
12. When was the first real test of the faith of the Israelites?
13. What should they have remembered?
14. He saved them for His _____.
15. What would cause all the people around to fear God?
16. What does verse 9 tell us of the power of God?
17. What happened to Pharaoh's men and chariots at the Red Sea?
18. What happened to the Israelites at the Red Sea?
19. After the Israelites were saved at the Red Sea, what did they do?
20. What did God call these people who were constant complainers?
21. Why were they lean in their soul?
22. What feelings did the people have toward Moses and Aaron?
23. A great deal of _____ goes along with being chosen of God.
24. What happened to Dathan?
25. Who was killed in the fire that killed the wicked?
26. What did the people make to worship, while Moses was on the mountain with God?
27. Who actually formed it?
28. What lesson can we learn from this?

We will continue on in the verse by verse study of the 106th Psalm. Psalms 106:21 "They forgot God their saviour, which had done great things in Egypt;"

This is speaking of the Israelites, when they made the golden calf. Moses had gone up the mountain to meet with God, and they had given up on him coming back. This is one of the times when 40 is definitely a time of testing. These Israelites failed the test. They forgot that God had saved them from the terrible bondage they had been under in Egypt. God had saved them by bringing ten plagues on the Egyptians. Ten has to do with world government. God had freed them from the grasp of the world's government and had brought them out with His mighty Hand {Saviour}.

Psalms 106:22 "Wondrous works in the land of Ham, [and] terrible things by the Red sea."

The land of Ham was Egypt. The fact that the fire of God stood between them and the Egyptians, and held them off, until the children of Israel could cross over the sea, should have been as great a miracle as the Red Sea parting. They had soon forgotten all of this.

Psalms 106:23 "Therefore he said that he would destroy them, had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, to turn away his wrath, lest he should destroy [them]."

When God looked down from the mount, and saw what they had done, He said He was going to destroy them everyone, and start over with Moses. Moses begged for their lives. God spared them, because of Moses' pleadings for them. Of course, God could see what they were doing, and Moses could not. When Moses saw what they had done, he threw the tables of stone with the 10 commandments on them down and broke them.

Psalms 106:24 "Yea, they despised the pleasant land, they believed not his word:"

They had no faith in the Word of God. The strange thing, to me, is that they had heard the voice of God from the mount, and it frightened them so much, they asked Moses to speak to God for them. They really were without excuse, because God had spoken the 10 commandments to them before Moses went on the mountain. Read more on this in our study on Exodus.

Psalms 106:25 "But murmured in their tents, [and] hearkened not unto the voice of the LORD."

They not only did not have faith in God, but murmured against Him when they were in their tents, where they thought He could not hear. This is undoubtedly the most ungrateful group of people that I have ever read about.

Psalms 106:26 "Therefore he lifted up his hand against them, to overthrow them in the wilderness:"

God, at this point, regretted that He had brought them out of Egypt. One of the things that kept Him from killing everyone of them was, what the nations around would think. Many were killed right here.

Psalms 106:27 "To overthrow their seed also among the nations, and to scatter them in the lands."

They were a rebellious house and ungrateful. Their murmuring never seemed to stop. Loss of fellowship with God, then or now, is possibly the worst thing that can happen to a person.

Psalms 106:28 "They joined themselves also unto Baal-peor, and ate the sacrifices of the dead."

I want to weep for God when I see how ungrateful these people are. Can you believe they mixed with these evil people and practiced their form of false worship? They went the way of the world around them. People today, who have every opportunity to know the One true God, are choosing the world over God. How can they do such a thing?

Psalms 106:29 "Thus they provoked [him] to anger with their inventions: and the plague brake in upon them."

It is a very serious thing to provoke God. Twenty four thousand of them fell to the deadly plague that God sent upon them. The reason God did this was, because they were practicing revolting sin. It troubles me greatly that in our nation, many people have begun to say that homosexuality is an alternate life style. It is an abomination to God. This type of sin was the very same here. God will not always look the other way. The plague, then, was a deadly disease that swept through the camp and appeared to be about to involve the whole camp. Does this sound familiar?

Psalms 106:30 "Then stood up Phinehas, and executed judgment: and [so] the plague was stayed."

Phinehas saw this terrible sin. He was inflamed with righteous indignation, and slew two of the people openly involved in this terrible sin. God stayed the plague, because of this righteous man. You may read more about this in numbers chapter 25.

Psalms 106:31 "And that was counted unto him for righteousness unto all generations for evermore."

People who truly love God should not sit idly by and see God ridiculed with sins of the people. The worst thing is that some of this type sin is going on in some of our churches today. Phinehas was counted righteous before God, because he spoke out against this evil. He not only spoke out, he did something about it.

Psalms 106:32 "They angered [him] also at the waters of strife, so that it went ill with Moses for their sakes:"

The first time these people were without water, God told Moses to strike the Rock. He did, and a fountain of water gushed forth. Now they are without water and complaining to Moses again. Moses went to God and told Him of the problem. God told Moses to speak to the Rock. Moses was so angry with these people that instead of speaking to the Rock, he struck the Rock. For this one act, Moses did not get to enter the promised land. The Rock symbolized Jesus Christ. The first time he struck the Rock, it symbolized the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. The striking of this Rock the second time

was like crucifying Christ all over again. Moses' anger at these people caused him to sin. It cost him the promised land. God let him view it from the mountain where he died, but he did not get to go in.

Psalms 106:33 "Because they provoked his spirit, so that he spake unadvisedly with his lips."

This seemed such a little thing for Moses to do, but he should have not acted so hastily. We can easily see how this might have happened, because these people had troubled him so. He was God's anointed, and more is expected of him.

Psalms 106:34 "They did not destroy the nations, concerning whom the LORD commanded them:"

God commanded them to go in and kill all the people, and they did not obey God. The reason God wanted them killed is, because they were practicing unnatural sin. Some would say that God was unusually hard on them. This is a case where the whole nation was involved in this type sin. He destroyed Sodom for the same sin. The children of Israel were not to mix with these people and pick up these bad sins. God wanted them destroyed, so the Israelites would not learn this sin from them.

Psalms 106:35 "But were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works."

They spared them and did just what God had known they would do, if they were not destroyed.

Psalms 106:36 "And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them."

We learned in another lesson that idols mean nothings. A nothing can not help you. When you choose a nothing over God, you are of all men most foolish.

Psalms 106:37 "Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils,"

Most of the false religions in the lands that the Israelites came across, not only worshipped false gods, but practiced human sacrifice, as well. This is what this verse is saying.

Psalms 106:38 "And shed innocent blood, [even] the blood of their sons and of their daughters, whom they sacrificed unto the idols of Canaan: and the land was polluted with blood."

These children were made in the image of God. These were blessed of God. In our land today, there are devil worshippers who are practicing human sacrifice. What a shame the world never changes. The land is polluted with blood today.

Psalms 106:39 "Thus were they defiled with their own works, and went a whoring with their own inventions."

God is absolute. There is no other way to worship, other than the way He has provided for us. When men start trying to think up clever ways to entice the world into the church, it usually winds up in sin. Men's inventions destroy. God's way brings life.

Psalms 106:40 "Therefore was the wrath of the LORD kindled against his people, insomuch that he abhorred his own inheritance."

Over, and over, and over God had forgiven them, and they would go right back into a sin even worse than the last one. He had gotten so disgusted with them, that He hated He had chosen them for His people.

Psalms 106:41 "And he gave them into the hand of the heathen; and they that hated them ruled over them."

Their sins found them out. The very ones that they had been involved in sin with, now ruled over them. God, as punishment to them, had allowed the heathen to rule over them. The protection of God that they had been blessed with had left, because of their habitual sin.

Psalms 106:42 "Their enemies also oppressed them, and they were brought into subjection under their hand."

When they left their God to fellowship with the heathen, they found that they were not only ruled over by these heathen, but severely oppressed. There was no kindness in the rule of the heathen over these Israelites.

Psalms 106:43 "Many times did he deliver them; but they provoked [him] with their counsel, and were brought low for their iniquity."

God had delivered them over and over in the past. This time they had purposed in their heart to do what God had told them not to do, and God just let them get the punishment they deserved.

Psalms 106:44 "Nevertheless he regarded their affliction, when he heard their cry:"

God loved them in spite of their unfaithfulness to Him. When they get into trouble, they cry out to God, and He always listens.

Psalms 106:45 "And he remembered for them his covenant, and repented according to the multitude of his mercies."

The covenant that God is remembering, is the covenant He had made with Abraham. God would not break His covenant with Abraham and forgives them. His mercies endure forever.

Psalms 106:46 "He made them also to be pitied of all those that carried them captives."

Even evil people can be controlled by God. God causes these evil people to suddenly have pity upon them and set them free.

Psalms 106:47 "Save us, O LORD our God, and gather us from among the heathen, to give thanks unto thy holy name, [and] to triumph in thy praise."

This was the appeal they made to God. When God remembered the covenant He had made with Abraham, they immediately called out to God, and called Him our LORD. Now they are ready to thank God, if He will only gather them home to Him away from these heathens. Isn't that always the way? Don't wait to praise God until there is a crisis in your life. Praise Him in the good times and the bad times.

Psalms 106:48 "Blessed [be] the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting: and let all the people say, Amen. Praise ye the LORD."

I believe the penman, here, is speaking this for himself, as well as for these Israelites. I would say with him, praise the LORD. Amen means so be it. Let everything that has breath say, praise the LORD.

Psalms 108 Questions

1. What was God called in verse 21?
2. What does the number 40 mean?
3. How many plagues had God brought on the Egyptians?
4. Where was the land of Ham?
5. What should have been just as big a miracle as the Red Sea parting?
6. Why did God not destroy them, when they made the golden calf?
7. What did Moses do when he saw the terrible thing they had done?
8. They had no faith in the _____ of God.
9. Verse 25 says, they murmured where?
10. They were a rebellious house and _____.
11. What is about the worst thing that can happen to a person?
12. They joined themselves unto _____.
13. Verse 29 says, they provoked Him to anger with what?
14. What broke out among them?
15. How many of them died from this disease that swept over them?
16. Who executed judgment against them and stayed the plague?
17. Where can you read more about Phinehas and the plague?
18. How long was his act counted unto him for righteousness?
19. What happened at the waters of strife?
20. How did they cause Moses to sin?
21. What had God commanded them to do with the heathens?
22. What was wrong in sparing them?
23. What is an idol?
24. What did they do to their sons and daughters, that we call devil worship?
25. The land was polluted with _____.
26. He gave them into the hand of the _____.
27. When did He regard their affliction?
28. What covenant did He remember?
29. What did God cause their enemies to do to them?
30. Quote Psalms chapter 106 verse 48.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 107th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 107

- Verse 1 "O praise the Lord, for he is good; His mercies lasting be.
Let God's redeemed say so, whom he From pow'r of foes set
free. "
- Verse 2 "He gathered them from all the hands, From north, south, east
and west. They strayed in desert's pathless way, No city
found to rest. "
- Verse 3 "Their weary soul within them faints, When thirst and hunger
press; In trouble then they cry to God, He frees them from
distress."
- Verse 4 "Them also in a way to walk That right is he doth guide,
That they may to a city go, Wherein they may abide. "
- Verse 5 "O that men to the Lord would give praise for his goodness
then, And for his works of wonder done Unto the sons of men!"
- Verse 6 "For he the soul that longing is doth fully satisfy; With
goodness he the hungry soul Doth fill abundantly:"
- Verse 7 "Such as shut up in darkness deep, And in death's shade
abide, Whom strongly hath affection bound, And irons fast
have tied:"
- Verse 8 "Because against the words of God They wrought rebelliously,
And they the counsel did contemn Of him that is Most High. "
- Verse 9 "Their heart with sorrow he brought down, In trouble then
they cried to God, He them from straits did save. "
- Verse 10 "He out of darkness did them bring, And from death's shade
them take: The bands, wherewith they had been bound, He did
asunder break."
- Verse 11 "O that men to the Lord would give Praise for his goodness
then, And for this works of wonder done Unto the sons of
men!"
- Verse 12 "Because the mighty gates of brass In pieces he did tear; By
him in sunder also cut The bars of iron were."
- Verse 13 "Fools, for their sin, and their offence, Do sore affliction
bear; All kind of meat their soul abhors; They to death's
gates draw near."
- Verse 14 "In grief they cry to God; he saves Them from their miseries.
He sends his word, them heals, and them From their
destruction frees. "
- Verse 15 "O that men to the Lord would give Praise for his goodness
then, And for his works of wonder done Unto the sons of men!"
- Verse 16 "And let them sacrifice to him Off'rings of thankfulness: And
let them show abroad his works In songs of joyfulness. "
- Verse 17 "To those who go to sea in ships, And in great waters trade,
Jehovah's works and wonders great Are in the deep displayed."
- Verse 18 "For he commands, and forth in haste The stormy tempest
flies, Which makes the sea with rolling waves Aloft to swell
and rise. "
- Verse 19 "They mount to heav'n, then to the depths Their soul doth
faint and melt away With trouble and with pain. "
- Verse 20 "They reel and stagger like one drunk, They are at their

wit's end; Then they to God in trouble cry, And he relief
doth send."

Verse 21 "The storm is changed into a calm At his command and will;
And so the waves which raged before, Now quiet are and still.

Verse 22 "Then they are glad, because at rest And quiet now they be:
So to the haven he them brings, Which they desired to see."

Verse 23 "O that men to the Lord would give Praise for his goodness
then, And for his works of wonder done Unto the sons of men!"

Verse 24 "Among the people when they meet, Let them exalt his name;
Among assembled elders too, In song advance his fame. "

Verse 25 "He to dry land turns water-springs, And floods to
wilderness; For sins of those that dwell therein, Fat land to
barrenness. "

Verse 26 "He into deserts dry and parched The standing water brings;
And grounds which dry and barren were He turns to water-
springs."

Verse 27 "And there, for dwelling, he a place Doth to the hungry give,
That they a city; may prepare, Where they in peace may live."

Verse 28 "There sow they fields, and vineyards plant, To yield fruits
of increase; His blessing makes them multiply, Lets not their
beasts decrease. "

Verse 29 "Again they much diminished are, And brought to low estate,
Through sorrow and affliction sore, And by oppression great."

Verse 30 "He on the princes pours contempt, He causes them to stray,
And wander in a wilderness, In which there is no way. "

Verse 31 "Yet setteth he the poor on high, From all his miseries; And
be, in number like a flock, Doth make him families. "

Verse 32 "They who are righteous shall rejoice, When they the same
shall see; And, as confounded, stop her mouth Shall all
iniquity."

Verse 33 "Whoso is wise, and will these things Observe, and them
record, Ev'n they shall understand the love, And kindness of
the Lord. "

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 107th Chapter of Psalms. Psalms 107:1 "O give thanks unto the LORD, for [he is] good: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

This is not just a song of this penman, but of all of the redeemed. It seems so small to just praise Him, but in all reality that is the only thing we can do. I love the statement {his mercy endureth forever}. In the last few lessons, we have seen the longsuffering of God. We have seen that over and over He forgave His people and showed mercy unto them. What a consolation to know that His mercy goes on and on forever. There is only one good, and that is God.

Psalms 107:2 "Let the redeemed of the LORD say [so], whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;"

The redeemed from Egypt were the children of Israel. I believe this goes much farther than that, and reaches to all Christians. One of the most important things to do, is to profess Jesus with your mouth from a heart that believes. We have been redeemed from this sinful world. We have been redeemed from sin and death. How could we not shout it from the housetops? I Peter 1:18 "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, [as] silver and gold, from your vain conversation

[received] by tradition from your fathers;" I Peter 1:19 "But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:"

Psalms 107:3 "And gathered them out of the lands, from the east, and from the west, from the north, and from the south."

What a promise that the believers of all nations shall be gathered unto Him! This has several meanings. It, also, means that the Jews will be gathered to their homeland from all over the world. Even greater than that, will be the day when we are all gathered in Him.

Psalms 107:4 "They wandered in the wilderness in a solitary way; they found no city to dwell in."

This, perhaps, is speaking of their wandering in the wilderness, but in all of these lessons, we have been trying to apply each Scripture to our present day. In this, I see a wilderness of sin. The person caught up in sin is wandering with no special destination. They are so blinded by the cares of this world, they would not be able to see the road even if it is there. Each person feels as if they are an island unto themselves. They really are. God will help them one at a time. They just need the Light of Jesus shined on their path and then they will be able to see the way. Abraham wandered like this, looking for a city whose maker was God. There is no resting place in this dry and barren land we call the earth. We, like Abraham, must look for a city whose maker is God.

Psalms 107:5 "Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them."

I do not believe this to be physical hunger and thirst. Jesus told the woman at the well, if she drank of the water He gave her, she would never thirst again. This hunger is for the Word of God. The Word is many times depicted as water, and as food, or bread. When you feed upon the Word, it satisfies your soul.

Psalms 107:6 "Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, [and] he delivered them out of their distresses."

When we get to the end of ourselves, then we cry out to God in earnest. He hears our prayer and answers us. Jesus is the Deliverer.

Psalms 107:7 "And he led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation."

There are two ways a person can go. The wrong way is the wide path that leads to destruction. The right way is the straight and narrow path. That broad path of destruction is dark and full of problems and pitfalls. The right path that is narrow is well lit up with the Light of Jesus. On that path it will be easy to see the way, if we keep our eye on the Light [Jesus].

Psalms 107:8 "Oh that [men] would praise the LORD [for] his goodness, and [for] his wonderful works to the children of men!"

Those who have been delivered, whether from physical bondage or spiritual bondage, should praise Him without ceasing. Greater love hath no man than He lay down His life for His friends. Jesus called us friends. He

gave His life on the cross that we might be saved. His 6 hours of work on the cross was the greatest work ever done for mankind. It was all done for the children of men, that they might become the sons of God.

Psalms 107:9 "For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness."

There is a longing in the soul of all mankind. This longing can not be filled with anything except the Lord. I have heard many people say, that they searched and searched to fill the void in their life. Many of them became very famous and rich people, but it did not fill that void, until they received Jesus into their life. He fills that hungry longing soul. He fills it and makes their life whole.

Psalms 107:10 "Such as sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, [being] bound in affliction and iron;"

This does not necesarrily mean that the iron was a physical chain of iron that had them bound. Sin can bind you stronger than any chain you can find. The only way to do away with darkness, is shine the Light of Jesus on it. II Peter 1:19 "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:" We are doomed to death and hell, until we receive Jesus and let the day Star shine in our life.

Psalms 107:11 "Because they rebelled against the words of God, and contemned the counsel of the most High:"

Rebellion, throughout the Bible, has been likened unto witchcraft. To rebel against the Words of God is even worse. God's Words are absolute truth. This would be, then, to rebel against the truth and believe a lie. God's counsel to mankind is in His Word. This would be the very thing that could cause terrible problems in a person's life. The Bible is our roadmap to guide us through life to our home in heaven. To not use the map, would mean that we would be lost all the way. God has a perfect plan for your life, the same as He has a perfect plan for each person's life. To take any other way would be less than perfect. Children in the Old Testament, who rebelled against their parents, were stoned to death.

Psalms 107:12 "Therefore he brought down their heart with labour; they fell down, and [there was] none to help."

To not accept the Lord would leave a person in a terrible fix. There would be no where to go for help.

Psalms 107:13 "Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, [and] he saved them out of their distresses."

The wonderful thing about God, is that He will allow us to cry unto Him, even if we have rejected Him in the past. When an earnest cry comes unto the Lord, He hears and helps. It is strange, but most people do not cry out unto the Lord, until they are at the end of being able to get out of the mess by themselves. This is a cry of desperation. God always hears this kind of prayer. He not only hears, but answers. He is really our only help.

Psalms 107:14 "He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and brake their bands in sunder."

They were bound in sin. Sin leaves a person bound up with guilt and a dreading of that day of reckoning which comes to us all. When God lifts us out of this darkness, He breaks these chains of sin and sets us free. The wages of sin is death. Jesus brings life when He takes our sin and gives us His righteousness.

Psalms 107:15 "Oh that [men] would praise the LORD [for] his goodness, and [for] his wonderful works to the children of men!"

There is no better reason to praise Him than the fact that He set you free. Praise Ye the Lord. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise Him for His goodness, praise Him for His love Praise Him for His sacrifice for us, Praise Him for His mighty miracles, praise Him, for He is Truth, Praise Him, for He is Love. Praise Him, because there is no greater to praise. Praise Him, for He inhabits your praises.

Psalms 107:16 "For he hath broken the gates of brass, and cut the bars of iron in sunder."

Brass symbolizes judgment. Jesus said that he had come to set the captives free. There is no prison that He cannot free you from.

Psalms 107:17 "Fools because of their transgression, and because of their iniquities, are afflicted."

Only a fool would say, there is no God. Fools commit one sin and add another to it. They soon are weighed down with sin and affliction becomes their daily companion. If you drink day in and day out, you will become a drunkard. This is just one of the minor afflictions that come from habitual sin.

Psalms 107:18 "Their soul abhorreth all manner of meat; and they draw near unto the gates of death."

Sin can make a person so sick that they will be sick unto death. Sickness of the heart and soul are worse than sickness of the body.

Psalms 109 Questions

1. Quote Psalms chapter 107 verse 1.
2. Who should be the ones doing the praising?
3. Let the redeemed of the Lord _____.
4. Who were the redeemed from Egypt?
5. Quote 1 Peter chapter 1 verse 18.
6. What redeems the Christian?
7. Who are included in the redemption?
8. What is the wilderness the author wants us to see in verse 4?
9. How can they find the path they need to be on?
10. What was Abraham looking for in his wanderings?
11. What kind of hunger and thirst is verse 5 speaking of?
12. What is food for the believer?
13. When they cried out to God, what did God do?
14. Describe the two paths that we can take in life.
15. What did these children of men become, when they accepted Jesus as Saviour?
16. How long was Jesus on the cross?
17. He fills the hungry soul with _____.
18. Who is the day Star?
19. They rebelled against the _____ of God.
20. What is rebellion likened to in the Bible?
21. What was the fate of a rebellious child?
22. When do people generally cry out to God?
23. The wages of sin is _____.
24. Who should praise the Lord?
25. What does brass symbolize?
26. Only a _____ could say, there is no God.

We will continue with the verse by verse study of Chapter 107. Psalms 107:19 "Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, [and] he saveth them out of their distresses."

It seems that no matter how far we fall down, the Lord will stop and listen to us when we cry out in earnest to HIM. David is probably relating this to his own situation with Saul, but it really applies to all before David and all after David.

Psalms 107:20 "He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered [them] from their destructions."

The beautiful thing, here, is that Jesus {as we know Him} is the Word. The Word of God healed everyone He came into contact with when He was here on the earth. His Word is just as powerful now, as it has always been. When we pray in Jesus name, It is the Word of God that heals. We just speak the prayer, and the Word does the healing. Notice, that these destructions were their own, that He delivered them from. This again, is the way it is today. Most problems we have, we have brought upon ourselves. It is a comfort to know, that even if we did bring them on our own self, He will still deliver us from the problem.

Psalms 107:21 "Oh that [men] would praise the LORD [for] his goodness, and [for] his wonderful works to the children of men!"

This was in the last lesson, but needs to be said over and over to remind us, after we have been delivered, praise the LORD for it. He is so good. He helps those who will not, and can not, help themselves. The only thing we have to do is cry out to God, and He will answer us.

Psalms 107:22 "And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing."

We can see, from the following verse, that The sacrifice the Lord really wants, is for us to praise Him. 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." A very plain way to say this, is brag on the Lord for all the great things He has done.

Psalms 107:23 "They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters;"

We don't pay much attention to ships and sailors, because there are so many in our day. It seems that they were held in some awe, when they made a trip out into the unknown sea and came back safely. The monetary gain to be made from such ventures is, perhaps, one reason they were brave enough to try to sail the seas.

Psalms 107:24 "These see the works of the LORD, and his wonders in the deep."

I am sure the sea would have a way of humbling a person. Just the vastness of it, could make a person realize how small one person is in the scheme of things. The great waves that man can not control would show a

person the miracles of God. The fact that they could navigate by the stars would, also, make them aware of the greatness of God.

Psalms 107:25 "For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof."

Man can sail across the top of the water, but no man has ever been able to control the waves. I am sure that many a sailor has prayed and asked God to stay the wind to keep from sinking the ship. It is God that controls the sea.

Psalms 107:26 "They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble."

A sailor, who sees a wave coming toward him higher than the mast on the boat, would certainly feel that these waves are going all the way to the sky. It is the same thing, in reverse, when the back side of the wave makes a deep cavern of water. The ship is tossed up and down, out of the control of man, when this happens. The fear that grips him, is what is spoken of here {soul melted because of trouble}. This is when this sailor knows for sure that he is in the hands of God.

Psalms 107:27 "They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wit's end."

The deck of the ship is falling up and down, so that they can not walk on the deck of the ship. They stagger and have to hang on to a rail, like a drunk man would do. They are at their wits end, because they know they are helpless against this sea. This is a time when they realize that God is their only help. This takes something, or someone greater, than themselves to handle. They are all too aware of just how helpless they are.

Psalms 107:28 "Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses."

When we realize we are helpless to do anything in our own power, then we humble ourself before God, and repent, and seek His help. The wonderful thing is, that when we get to the end of ourself, He will help us.

Psalms 107:29 "He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still."

Jesus showed, beyond a shadow of doubt, that He had control of the waves when He spoke to the sea, and told it to be still, and it quieted down immediately. The storms of life itself may be raging all around us, but Jesus brings perfect peace.

Psalms 107:30 "Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he bringeth them unto their desired haven."

We do not appreciate the calm, until there has been a stormy sea. To see the place we have desired to sail to, after the terrible storm would be plenty of reason to rejoice. This does not have to be a storm at sea. If our life has been in some terrible confusion, and all of a sudden things all fall in shape, we feel great joy. Thank God, He can calm the wildest storm.

Psalms 107:31 "Oh that [men] would praise the LORD [for] his goodness, and [for] his wonderful works to the children of men!"

After we have come through a terrible experience like this aforementioned, do we stop and praise God for seeing us through? It seems to me, we would be so grateful that we would shout our praises to the top of our voice. The children of men, have no help on this earth, until they become the sons of God.

Psalms 107:32 "Let them exalt him also in the congregation of the people, and praise him in the assembly of the elders."

For such a wonderful deliverance, we should praise Him in front of the largest gathering we could find. The congregation, then, were all the Israelites who came to the temple. The congregation, now, would be the gathering at church. I love testimonials, where people tell of all the wonderful things the LORD has done for them.

Psalms 107:33 "He turneth rivers into a wilderness, and the watersprings into dry ground;"

In God's dealing with man, God can cause a drouth and all the rivers will dry up. Many times a drouth is for just that purpose. God may be trying to get the attention of those who will not listen any other way.

Psalms 107:34 "A fruitful land into barrenness, for the wickedness of them that dwell therein."

We know that God will curse the ground for the wickedness of man. Believe me, God will do whatever is necessary to get your attention.

Psalms 107:35 "He turneth the wilderness into a standing water, and dry ground into watersprings."

He did this very thing in the time of Noah to rid the earth of its wickedness. God will not always look the other way. There is a reckoning day. God is patient, giving ample time for repentance, if it does not come, judgment does come.

Psalms 107:36 "And there he maketh the hungry to dwell, that they may prepare a city for habitation;"

God can reverse the curse, and bless the land, and it will produce. God has really always wanted man to live in the garden of Eden. Man was driven out for his own protection. When God can, He will bless the land and make the crops to grow, to make a habitation for mankind.

Psalms 107:37 "And sow the fields, and plant vineyards, which may yield fruits of increase."

God prepared the earth and all in it for the habitation of man, then He made man. This verse above is speaking of the same thing on a smaller scale. God will do for an individual what He could not do for all, if they love Him and worship Him.

Psalms 107:38 "He blesseth them also, so that they are multiplied greatly; and suffereth not their cattle to decrease."

We know that Laban did not intend for Jacob to have many cattle in the land. God had other plans and blessed Jacob greatly in the increase of his cattle. God wants His children to have their needs met.

Psalms 107:39 "Again, they are minished and brought low through oppression, affliction, and sorrow."

God blessed Israel as His soul prospered. When His sons strayed away from God, they suffered oppression, affliction, and sorrow. When the repented and followed the One true God, He greatly blessed them.

Psalms 107:40 "He poureth contempt upon princes, and causeth them to wander in the wilderness, [where there is] no way."

These princes, spoken of here, are the descendents of Israel. Their unbelief caused their wandering in the wilderness. God let them wander, until the old generation died and the new generation was born. God does not reward unbelief.

Psalms 107:41 "Yet setteth he the poor on high from affliction, and maketh [him] families like a flock."

God will choose whoever He wants for His family, as we see in the next Scripture. Matthew 3:9 "And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to [our] father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham."

Psalms 107:42 "The righteous shall see [it], and rejoice: and all iniquity shall stop her mouth."

Where there are righteous {children of the Light} there is no room for those of darkness {those involved in iniquity}. The light does away with the darkness. The families of God will rejoice and there will be nothing left for the wicked to say.

Psalms 107:43 "Whoso [is] wise, and will observe these [things], even they shall understand the lovingkindness of the LORD."

God has opened the understanding of the wise {Christians}. We have eyes to see, and we can see. We have ears to hear, and we can hear. Nothing of the lovingkindness of God is hidden from us. Those who are wise, learn to trust God in all things.

Psalms 110 Questions

1. What happens when they cry unto the LORD?
2. He sent his _____, and healed them.
3. Who is the Word?
4. When we pray in Jesus name, who heals the person?
5. Oh that men would praise the Lord for His _____.
6. Sacrifice the sacrifices of _____.
7. Quote Hebrews chapter 13 verse 15.
8. What is intended by, do business in great waters?
9. The _____ has a way of humbling a person.
10. Who has ever been able to control the seas?
11. What does, soul melted because of trouble, mean?
12. What causes him to stagger like a drunken man, in verse 27?
13. They cry unto the Lord in their _____.
14. He bringeth them out of their _____.
15. He maketh the storm a _____.
16. When did Jesus show beyond a shadow of doubt that He had control of the seas?
17. Who brings them to their desired haven?
18. In verse 32 they are to exalt Him where?
19. What did He turn rivers into?
20. Sometimes a drouth comes for what reason?
21. Why did He turn a fruitful land into bareness?
22. Verse 36 says, that He made the hungry to dwell there, for what reason?
23. Why did God prepare the earth and everything in it?
24. God will provide for us if we _____.
25. Who was a good example of the Lord making your cattle to increase?
26. When did Israel know oppression?
27. Who are the princes in verse 40?
28. Quote Matthew chapter 3 verse 9.
29. Light does away with _____.
30. Who shall understand the things of God?

We will begin by giving the 108th Psalm in metre, to show how it might be sung.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 108

- Verse 1 "My heart is firmly fixed, O God, I'll sing and praise thy name to laud; My glory, harp, and flute awake, The morning I will vocal make. "
- Verse 2 "I'll thank thee' mid the nations, Lord, Among the people praise accord; The heavens vast thy grace transcends, And to the clouds thy truth extends. "
- Verse 3 "Be thou o'er heavens high, O God, Thy glory o'er the earth abroad; That thy beloved free may stand, Hear us, and save with thy right hand.
- Verse 4 "God spoken hath with holy voice, And I will triumph and rejoice; I'll Shechem's fields by lot assign, O'er Succoth's vale will draw the line."
- Verse 5 "Manasseh, Gilead too, are mine, On Ephraim shall my head recline; My ruler I shall Judah greet, In Moab I shall wash my feet."
- Verse 6 "To Edom I will cast my shoe, In triumph o'er Philistia go. Who to the city fortified-- To Edom, who will be my guide?"
- Verse 7 "O God, do thou our leader be, Though we are now cast off from thee; And when our hosts to battle go, O God, do thou thy presence show. "
- Verse 8 "From trouble help, and us relieve, For vain the help that man can give; In God will we great valor show, And he our foes will overthrow. "

We will begin the verse by verse study of chapter 108 of Psalms. Psalms 108:1 "{A Song [or] Psalm of David.} O God, my heart is fixed; I will sing and give praise, even with my glory."

The one thing that set David aside from other sinners, was that his heart was always stayed upon God. Even though he fell to the temptation in the flesh with Bathsheba, he still desired in his heart to please God. The first few verses of this Psalm are found in an earlier Psalm. I will not even give you the number, because I feel that God would have us look at it again, perhaps with another view, or He would not have it here. When David says, his heart is fixed, it means unmovable. He has determined in his heart to praise and worship God in song, as well as prayer. There are so many distractions in this world today, that if we are ever to pray or praise, we have to determine in our heart that we will do it regardless of the distractions.

Psalms 108:2 "Awake, psaltery and harp: I [myself] will awake early."

I love this particular verse, because my favorite time to fellowship with God is at three A.M. It seems the fellowship is better, if it is first, before any of the hustle of the day starts. David is saying, before anything else begins, he plays and sings praises to God.

Psalms 108:3 "I will praise thee, O LORD, among the people: and I will sing praises unto thee among the nations."

The other verse was speaking of a private time with the LORD, and this verse is speaking of public praise and worship. David is saying, that he is not ashamed to praise God publicly. This seems that David not only praises God there in his place of worship, but tells other nations of the greatness of God, as well. He even sings praises in these other nations.

Psalms 108:4 "For thy mercy [is] great above the heavens: and thy truth [reacheth] unto the clouds."

Not that he needs to, but David gives the reason for his worship and praise of the LORD here. This is, possibly, the subject of his praises, as well. David is saying in this, that the truth of God is the same in the heavens, as it is on the earth.

Psalms 108:5 "Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: and thy glory above all the earth;"

David is speaking a desire for all the earth to worship God here. David is expressing, again, that there is no greater. He is above all in heaven as well as the earth. Glory to God in the highest. We really do not know just how high up God dwells, but we do know that there is no one above Him. In my own spirit, I feel that it is in the seventh heaven, but I have no Scripture to prove that. We know that there is more than one heaven, because Paul was carried to the third heaven. II Corinthians 12:2 "I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven." The reason I believe God is in the seventh heaven is because 7 means spiritually complete.

Psalms 108:6 "That thy beloved may be delivered: save [with] thy right hand, and answer me."

As we have said so many times, Jesus Christ is the Right Hand. The Right Hand of God is the doer part of the Godhead. He is the Deliverer. He is the Saviour of the world.

Psalms 108:7 "God hath spoken in his holiness; I will rejoice, I will divide Shechem, and mete out the valley of Succoth."

David was King along with being the servant of the LORD. He had his promises well in hand. Now he promises God that he will do the necessary house cleaning here on the earth. His rejoicing in the promises of God will not curtail him from doing the things that God has requested him to do. At this time, Shechem was a problem. David determines to straighten the problem out to God's satisfaction.

Psalms 108:8 "Gilead [is] mine; Manasseh [is] mine; Ephraim also [is] the strength of mine head; Judah [is] my lawgiver;"

Ephraim had given David over 20,000 soldiers to help him. This is speaking of the power to control all these tribes that David had. I believe this is, also, a prophetic Scripture. Ephraim {head} represents the Christians in prophecy of whom Jesus is the head. Judah is lawgiver has to

do with the Lord Jesus being from the tribe of Judah. Jesus Christ is the giver of the new law of grace.

Psalms 108:9 "Moab [is] my washpot; over Edom will I cast out my shoe; over Philistia will I triumph."

Moab will be conquered and made to serve David. David had a small amount of love for Moab, since Ruth was a Moabite woman. Edom was a country greatly opposed to David and all of God's people. David will overcome them, and have them under his foot. Edom is never really forgiven of God for the way they treated the Israelites. It seemed that David had subdued the Philistines more than once.

Psalms 108:10 "Who will bring me into the strong city? who will lead me into Edom?"

David is fully aware of the strength of Edom. He knows that God must be with him, and even fight for him, for this to be a victory. David is well aware that God will be with him, because even as a boy, God had helped him win over Goliath. The strong city mentioned here is Petra.

Psalms 108:11 "[Wilt] not [thou], O God, [who] hast cast us off? and wilt not thou, O God, go forth with our hosts?"

David is assured that God will be with him. This, perhaps, happens after the Bathsheba incident, and David reminds God that God for a moment in time had walked away from David. David feels sure, in his heart that God will help him in this battle and that he will be victorious. Edom has been God's enemy, as well.

Psalms 108:12 "Give us help from trouble: for vain [is] the help of man."

David knows that even though he has the help of Ephraim, that is not enough. He needs the help of God to come against so powerful a group as Edom. Man can not help him. His help must come from God.

Psalms 108:13 "Through God we shall do valiantly: for he [it is that] shall tread down our enemies."

You can easily see that David wants God's help. God has always helped in David's battles. That is what David is depending on here.

Psalms 111 Questions

1. What was one thing that set David aside from other sinners?
2. There are so many distractions in the world today, what must we do if we are to have any time for God?
3. Why does the author particularly love verse 2?
4. I will _____ the among the people.
5. What is the difference in the praise in verse 2 and the praise in verse 3?
6. How high does the Lord's truth rise?
7. Quote 2 Corinthians chapter 12 verse 2.
8. Verse 6 says, save with thy _____.
9. Who is the Right Hand?
10. In verse 7, he says he will divide _____.
11. How many soldiers did Ephraim send to help him?
12. Judah is my _____.
13. _____ is my washpot.
14. Over _____ will I cast out my shoe.
15. Why did David have a little love for Moab?
16. Why is Edom never forgiven?
17. Who are the Philistines in verse 9?
18. What is the name of the strong city?
19. What does David know is the only way he can defeat Edom?
20. Give us help from trouble: for _____ is the help of man.
21. Quote Psalms chapter 108 verse 13.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 109th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

PSALM 109

- Verse 1 "O God, whom I in praise adore, Be silent in my cause no more. their mouths the wicked open wide; Against me hypocrites have lied."
- Verse 2 "With words of hate they throng around, And fight, although no cause be found. My love provokes their bitter spite, But I in constant pray'r delight. "
- Verse 3 "With evil they my good reward, With hatred meet my kind regard, Place him beneath the wicked's hand, And on his right let Satan stand.
- Verse 4 "In judgment let his plea be spurned, And let his prayer to sin be turned. His days to few, and in his room To office let another come. "
- Verse 5 "A widow let his wife be left. His children of their sire bereft; Let them be scattered far from home, And begging bread through deserts roam. "
- Verse 6 "Extortioners his substance take, His toil a prey let strangers make. Let him from none compassion know, None to his orphans favor show. "
- Verse 7 "His seed let perish in their shame, The coming age blot out their name; His father's sin Jehovah mind, His mother's sin Jehovah mind, His mother's sin no pardon find."
- Verse 8 "Let them with God ne'er be forgot, Till he from earth their mem'ry blot; For he remembered not to show Compassion to the sons of woe.
- Verse 9 " The poor and those with want distressed, He persecuted and oppressed; He them pursued to make his prey, And broken-hearted ones to slay. "
- Verse 10 "The curse he loved on him shall rest, He blessing not, shall not be blest. Himself with cursing he arrayed, To him shall cursing be repaid."
- Verse 11 "In him like water it shall flow, Like oil through all his bones shall go; Like raiment it shall clothe him o'er, A girdle binding evermore. "
- Verse 12 "Foes and accusers, from the Lord, Shall find in cursing their reward; but God the Lord, for thy name's sake, For me in mercy undertake. "
- Verse 13 "Because thy grace is rich and free, From all my foes deliver me. I'm poor and needy, grant relief, My heart within is pierced with grief."
- Verse 14 "Like locust tossed, like fleeting shade, My days to pass away are made. Through many fasts my strength declines; My knees are weak, my body pines. "
- Verse 15 "To foes a vile reproach I'm made, On me they look and shake the head. O Lord, my God, my helper be, In thy great mercy save thou me. "
- Verse 16 "That this to them, Lord, may be known, Has by thy mighty hand been done. They curse, but let their curse be vain; Thy

blessing, Lord, let me obtain. "

Verse 17 "When they arise shamed let them be, But make thy servant glad in thee. Let foes be covered with disgrace, And mantle o'er with shame their face. "

Verse 18 "My mouth shall greatly praise the Lord, Yea, with the throng his praise record; For on the poor's right hand shall he stand up, his soul from wrong to free. "

We will begin the verse by verse study of the 109th chapter. Psalms 109:1 "{To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.} Hold not thy peace, O God of my praise;"

In this instance, David is crying out for God to speak. Everyone else has had their say, now it is time for God to speak. When God speaks, the whole world listens. God of my praise, means that David directs his praise to Him. It could, also, be saying, God who deserves my praise.

Psalms 109:2 "For the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful are opened against me: they have spoken against me with a lying tongue."

We know that there is always plenty of negative speaking around. It seems the more you love the Lord, the more the wicked speak out against you. They can not tell the truth, so they just make up lies to tell. All believers have faced just this kind of opposition.

Psalms 109:3 "They compassed me about also with words of hatred; and fought against me without a cause."

It makes it difficult to understand why they would fight against you, if you had done them no harm. These words of hatred they have brought against him are, because they are jealous of his relationship with God.

Psalms 109:4 "For my love they are my adversaries: but I [give myself unto] prayer."

In return for the love that he has shown them, they are his enemies. Jesus taught us to love our enemies, even the ones who spitefully use us. Pray for them. Perhaps, the prayer that David is speaking of here, has to do with getting his thoughts off these evil people and on to God. He does not, and can not, fellowship with these people so he fellowships with God in prayer.

Psalms 109:5 "And they have rewarded me evil for good, and hatred for my love."

There is some very good advice on this very subject in Proverbs 25:21 "If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink:" Proverbs 25:22 "For thou shalt heap coals of fire upon his head, and the LORD shall reward thee." The strange thing, David has been doing the right thing with these people. When David loves them and blesses the very ones who hate him, it is pleasing unto God.

Psalms 109:6 "Set thou a wicked man over him: and let Satan stand at his right hand."

Vengeance belongs to the Lord. About the worst thing that could happen to an evil person, is to have someone just like himself rule over him. Since his father is Satan, perhaps this would be a good spot for him to be. Look what Jesus had to say about those who are dead set on committing evil in the following verse. John 8:44 "Ye are of [your] father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it." Those who continue to follow the ways of Satan are Satan's children.

Psalms 109:7 "When he shall be judged, let him be condemned: and let his prayer become sin."

Since Jesus is the Judge of all the world, we know that he will be condemned for the habitual sins he has committed, that he did not seek forgiveness for. If he did not believe in God, his prayers would be directed to the wrong being and would automatically be sin.

Psalms 109:8 "Let his days be few; [and] let another take his office."

This is the opposite of long life promised to those who follow God's ways. One of the ten commandments promise long life. Let's look at it. Exodus 20:12 "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee." God determines whether we live or die. There is no iron clad rule that we have to live even the 70 years allotted to mankind. Surely when you draw our last breath on this earth, someone else will take over the job you were doing, even if you were a king.

We see in the next few verses a list of terrible things that could come upon a person. God really does not need David's help deciding what to do to the evil ones. David is just mentioning some terrible things that he would like to see come on these evil ones.

Psalms 109:9 "Let his children be fatherless, and his wife a widow."

Psalms 109:10 "Let his children be continually vagabonds, and beg: let them seek [their bread] also out of their desolate places."

Many times when children are fatherless, and the mother has to make a living for the family by herself, the children suffer greatly. Not only are they deprived of material things, but time of training is taken away from the children, and they are not prepared to make a living in the world. The widowed mother possibly is doing the best that she can, but she can not be two people at once. As in many cases, the children suffer for the father's sin.

Psalms 109:11 "Let the extortioner catch all that he hath; and let the strangers spoil his labour."

A crook usually gets caught in his own sin. There is always someone out there, just a little smarter crook. The extortioner is usually involved in a get rich quick scheme. Other people, who are not honest themselves, are usually the one who gets trapped. The extortioner will not quit, until he has the entire worth of the person. This stranger surely would walk away with all your labours.

Psalms 109:12 "Let there be none to extend mercy unto him: neither let there be any to favour his fatherless children."

David is saying here, this person showed no one any mercy, let him reap what he has sown. It is a bad situation, but generally children who have parents who have shown no mercy, will not be able to find mercy either. Most people believe the saying, like father like son, and they will not help him, because of his father's reputation.

Psalms 109:13 "Let his posterity be cut off; [and] in the generation following let their name be blotted out."

David is actually asking God here for their memory to be wiped away, because they did not have children. It is usually very important to a father to have a son who can carry on the family name. David says, don't let them have sons.

We will continue this in the next lesson.

Psalms 112 Questions

1. Who was this Psalm written to?
2. Who penned this Psalm?
3. What does, hold not thy peace, mean?
4. Describe the wicked in verse 2?
5. They fought against me without a _____.
6. What did he give himself to in verse 4?
7. In return for their hate, what did he give them?
8. Quote Proverbs chapter 25 verses 21 and 22.
9. Who did David want to rule over this wicked man?
10. Who is this evil man's father?
11. Quote John chapter 8 verse 44.
12. Who will judge this evil man?
13. Let his prayer become ____.
14. God promises long life for what?
15. In verse 9 David says, let his children be _____.
16. Let his children be _____.
17. Many times children suffer for their _____ sin.
18. Why did David not want God to be merciful to this evil one.
19. Let his posterity be ____ ____.
20. Why is it important to a father to have a son?

We will pick up the lesson in Psalms 109:14 "Let the iniquity of his fathers be remembered with the LORD; and let not the sin of his mother be blotted out."

In the previous lesson we had been studying about David desiring the just punishments for these evil people. We had said that God really did not need suggestions from David. This above is just a statement of what really happens. God does not forget the sins that are not under the blood of the Lamb.

Psalms 109:15 "Let them be before the LORD continually, that he may cut off the memory of them from the earth."

This is a wish of David's that this family will not be able to continue. This is saying, don't let them have children and grandchildren to carry on their evil deeds.

Psalms 109:16 "Because that he remembered not to shew mercy, but persecuted the poor and needy man, that he might even slay the broken in heart."

It seems that this evil person showed no mercy for others and does not deserve any mercy to be shown to him. This man was so evil that he even got pleasure in doing terrible things to those who could not help themselves.

Psalms 109:17 "As he loved cursing, so let it come unto him: as he delighted not in blessing, so let it be far from him."

David is saying, let him reap what he has sown. David is just asking justice for this man. We have discussed so many times, that what comes from our mouth is what we really are, because it comes from the heart. Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh. This man is evil to the core. His inner most being is full of cursing. Let the words of his mouth speak out against himself. What he speaks on others, let it be in his life.

Psalms 109:18 "As he clothed himself with cursing like as with his garment, so let it come into his bowels like water, and like oil into his bones."

Cursing once in a while is bad, but it seems, this evil person here curses all the time. The fact that it clothes him like a garment means that every word he utters includes cursing. He is surrounded by it. This man is so evil that even his bones and bowels are full, as well. A person who loves and worships God will have rivers of living waters flowing from their inner most being. This, evil, cursing, man has death coming from his inner most being.

Psalms 109:19 "Let it be unto him as the garment [which] covereth him, and for a girdle wherewith he is girded continually."

The believers in the LORD are clothed in the robe of righteousness. This evil man is clothed in sin. He is even tied down with it. He is wrapped in it as a girdle. Thank goodness, his sin is out for all to see.

Psalms 109:20 "[Let] this [be] the reward of mine adversaries from the LORD, and of them that speak evil against my soul."

We see a summation here by David of all the sin in this evil person. Again, David is saying to God, You take vengeance on him for me. As we said earlier, it is a very dangerous thing to speak against the servant of God. The servant will not take vengeance, but God will take vengeance in behalf of his servant.

Psalms 109:21 "But do thou for me, O GOD the Lord, for thy name's sake: because thy mercy [is] good, deliver thou me."

David has finally gotten his eyes off this evil person and is asking for God's help. God will deliver His own. Notice in the verse above, that David is not asking favors in his own name. He asks favors in the {thy name's sake}. Have mercy upon me and lift me above all of this, is the cry of David.

Psalms 109:22 "For I [am] poor and needy, and my heart is wounded within me."

Now we all know that David was not poor as to having material things. He is speaking of the things of the spirit here. David was just about to die of a broken heart, and that is what he is asking for help with. Many of us know what it is to have a wounded spirit. Usually guilt causes us to have a broken spirit. The first step to forgiveness is having a broken heart for what we have done. Forgiveness is soon in coming when this is our condition.

Psalms 109:23 "I am gone like the shadow when it declineth: I am tossed up and down as the locust."

The long persecution that David had encountered had left him tossed to and fro. At this point, David felt as if all hope of getting back where he wanted to be was fading fast away.

Psalms 109:24 "My knees are weak through fasting; and my flesh faileth of fatness."

This means that the prayers David had been sending heavenward are very serious prayers. Fasting shows you mean business with God. It seems that David had fasted for an extended length of time. His strength was gone. He had actually lost a great deal of weight from this extended fast.

Psalms 109:25 "I became also a reproach unto them: [when] they looked upon me they shaked their heads."

It appears that they had been ridiculing David for his fasting and prayer. They had been reminding him that all this fasting and prayer was not getting an answer. Since they did not believe in God themselves, they thought what David was doing was foolish.

Psalms 109:26 "Help me, O LORD my God: O save me according to thy mercy:"

The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. Notice, that David calls Him {my God}. David is not asking for justice for himself, but mercy. Great is the mercy of the LORD to those who love Him.

Psalms 109:27 "That they may know that this [is] thy hand; [that] thou, LORD, hast done it."

David wants this answer to his prayer to be evident to these unbelievers, so they will know that God is a God of forgiveness. He not only wants the prayer answered, but for there to be no doubt in any one's mind who answered the prayer. Secret miracles are great, but those that are evident to the unsaved world can bring many to salvation.

Psalms 109:28 "Let them curse, but bless thou: when they arise, let them be ashamed; but let thy servant rejoice."

David is saying here, let them go ahead and curse him, as long as God blesses him. David does not even want the blessing of this evil one. He wants God's blessings. When the prayer is answered and David is rejoicing, then these evil ones will be ashamed of themselves.

Psalms 109:29 "Let mine adversaries be clothed with shame, and let them cover themselves with their own confusion, as with a mantle."

For those of unbelief to see a miracle is very confusing. This would, also, bring shame to them, as well, because they had said God did not exist. If He did not exist, how did He answer this prayer? They are now consumed with confusion and have no idea what to believe. They have been proved wrong, now what do they do?

Psalms 109:30 "I will greatly praise the LORD with my mouth; yea, I will praise him among the multitude."

David will not keep silent about this. He will open his mouth wide and praise the LORD to all who will listen. Romans 10:10 "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." It is not good to be a silent Christian. We must praise out loud the mighty works of God.

Psalms 109:31 "For he shall stand at the right hand of the poor, to save [him] from those that condemn his soul."

Spiritual blessings come through the right side. God upholds those who are His. He helps the poor and pleads the case of the condemned that believe in Him. Jesus is our advocate with the Father.

Psalms 113 Questions

1. Let the iniquity of his _____ be remembered with the LORD.
2. David is saying, cut off the _____ of them from the earth.
3. Why did David not want these evil ones to have children and grandchildren?
4. Who had this evil man not shown mercy to?
5. The evil man loved _____.
6. Where does cursing originate?
7. Out of the abundance of the _____, the mouth speaketh.
8. What was this evil man clothed with?
9. In contrast to this evil one, what do believers have flowing from their inner being?
10. This _____ man is clothed in sin.
11. What is a summation of David's feelings toward this evil one?
12. It is a very dangerous thing to speak evil of whom?
13. The favors that David is asking, is in whose name?
14. In verse 22, David says he is _____ and _____.
15. Is this speaking of material things?
16. What usually causes a broken spirit?
17. David said he was tossed up and down as a _____.
18. What had caused David's knees to be weak?
19. How long had he fasted?
20. When they looked on David, what did they do?
21. Why did they believe what David was doing was foolish?
22. Save me according to _____ mercy.
23. The effectual _____ of a righteous man availeth much.
24. What does David want in addition to the answer of his prayer?
25. Miracles that are evident to the world can bring _____.
26. David says, let them go ahead and curse me, but you God, do what?
27. In verse 29, David says let his adversaries be clothed with what?
28. Quote Romans chapter 10 verse 10.
29. He shall stand at the right hand of the _____.
30. Jesus is our _____ with the Father.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 110th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 110

- Verse 1 "JEHOVAH to my Lord thus said, Sit thou at my right hand,
Until I make thy foes a stool, On which thy feet may stand."
Verse 2 "The Lord shall out of Zion send The rod of thy great pow'r:
In midst of all thine enemies Be thou the governor."
Verse 3 "A willing people in thy day Of pow'r shall come to thee, In
holy beauties from morn's womb; Thy youth like dew shall be."
Verse 4 "The Lord hath sworn, and from his oath He never will depart,
Of th'order of Melchisedec A priest thou ever art."
Verse 5 "The glorious and mighty Lord, That sits at thy right hand,
Shall, in his day of wrath, strike through The kings that him
withstand.
Verse 6 "The glorious and mighty Lord, That sits at thy right hand,
Shall, in his day of wrath, strike through The kings that him
withstand.
Verse 7 "The brook that runneth in the way With drink shall him
supply; And, for this cause, In triumph he shall lift his
head on high."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 110th Psalm. Psalms 110:1 "{A Psalm of David.} The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool."

This is most definitely a prophetic Scripture about the Lord Jesus Christ. In this David, is calling Jesus his Lord. Jesus is even now seated at the right hand of the Father at the throne of God in heaven. In Matthew chapter 22, Jesus speaks of this very same Scripture. Matthew 22:43 "He saith unto them, How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying," Matthew 22:44 "The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool?" Matthew 22:45 "If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?" In the flesh, Jesus is descended from David. In the Spirit, Jesus is David's Lord. Notice, it is the LORD who makes His enemies His footstool. LORD is Jehovah here, and Lord is Adonia.

Psalms 110:2 "The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies."

We have talked so much about Zion symbolizing the church. I believe that to be the case here. The power of Jesus in the earth today is shown to the world through His church. Jesus is the Lord. There is no greater rule in the earth today than the rule of Jesus in His people. Moses had a rod of power that God had given him. This rod of Jesus is even more powerful than that. Jesus has all power in heaven and earth and under the earth. The rod of Jesus is a rod of love. He brings his Word in such power to all who will receive it. They are no longer his enemies, but His servants. The church of the Lord Jesus Christ is not a denomination, but a family. The Light of Jesus is in all churches that believe in Jesus. The Light that the church gives off is not Light that the church produces, it is Light that we are showing from Him. It is Jesus' Light. We are just the fixture that you see

His Light in. The rod of Moses did not bring the water, it was the Rock {Jesus Christ}, that brought the water. The rod of Moses just activated the water to flow. Christians are not the truth, Jesus is. We just bring His Truth to the world.

Psalms 110:3 "Thy people [shall be] willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth."

The power here, is the gospel power. The power of the Word of God is the greatest power in the world. The spoken and the written Word are the great powers of the Lord Jesus made manifest. Possibly, the statement, from the womb, means babies. These would be baby Christians. There is nothing more beautiful than a brand new Christian. Youth have energy and an eagerness that some of the older Christians have lost. What a wonderful thing it would be to be able to keep the enthusiasm that we had when we were first saved.

Psalms 110:4 "The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou [art] a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek."

Melchizedek and Jesus were High Priest of a heavenly nature. They were not high priest from earthly blood lines, but were High Priest forever. The high priest on the earth had limited power and was high priest for a short time on this earth. Jesus, or Melchizedek, was High Priest King for all of eternity. Jehovah swore, and it is a fact that can not be disputed. He will not change His mind. This order of High Priest is of all of the faithful. Melchizedek appeared to Abraham and Abraham believed and paid tithes to Him. Abraham is the Father of all believers. We believe in Jesus Christ our High Priest. Abraham and all Christian believers believed the same thing, and it was counted as righteousness to them.

Psalms 110:5 "The Lord at thy right hand shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath."

The Lord, here, is speaking of the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus, not only sits at the right hand of the Father, but is, in fact, the Right Hand of God. When Jesus returns to this earth as King of kings and Lord of lords, He will rule with the rod of iron. Earthly kings will crumble before Him. His power shall be in all the earth. In that day, all will believe who He is and will be His subjects. II Thessalonians 1:10 "When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day."

Psalms 110:6 "He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill [the places] with the dead bodies; he shall wound the heads over many countries."

The wrath of God is not a very pleasant thing to think about, but it is as certain as the sun coming up in the morning. Jesus is the Judge of all the world. He gave His body on Calvary that all who will believe might be saved. The offer of forgiveness for sins is there. It is our obligation to receive forgiveness for our sin and the salvation that He offers us. 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 suffered for all, but not all will accept the free gift

of salvation. This same loving Jesus, will judge everyone. Those who have not received salvation, He will condemn to an eternity in hell.

Psalms 110:7 "He shall drink of the brook in the way: therefore shall he lift up the head."

The, drink of the brook, indicates haste. It, possibly, means that He will do a quick work of His judgment. The victory over Satan and the world has already been won. Jesus not only defeated Satan, but conquered sin and death, as well. Perhaps, this lifting of the head means a walk of victory. Praise the Lord.

We have seen, in this lesson, the plan of God from the foundation of the world. God has received Himself a family by the wonderful sacrifice of His precious Son, Jesus Christ. We saw the humiliation of Jesus, during His stay on the earth when He defeated Satan at the cross. There will be a glorious time on this earth when Jesus will reign as King and Lord. This was all part of the master plan from the foundation of the world. God made man in His image, but He made him of earthly material. The weakness of man in the flesh, required a Saviour. Jesus is the Saviour of all who will accept Him. Jesus Christ never for a moment stopped being God. He took on the form of flesh of man to redeem us, but inside that flesh lived the Spirit of the Living God. 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." God, the Word, took on flesh of man to save us from sin and death. We have been redeemed by the precious blood of the spotless Lamb.

Psalms 114 Questions

1. Who penned this Psalm?
2. Verse 1 is a prophetic Scripture about the _____ .
3. What did David call Jesus in verse 1?
3. What does the name LORD mean?
4. What does the name Lord mean?
5. Where, in the New Testament, do we see a reference to Psalms chapter 114 verse?
6. In the _____, Jesus is descended from David.
7. In the _____, Jesus is David's Lord.
8. Where is Jesus seated now?
9. Who makes His enemies His footstool?
10. Who does Zion symbolize in verse 2?
11. What is the power of Jesus in the world today shown through?
12. What is the rod of Jesus?
13. The church of the Lord Jesus Christ is not a _____.
14. What is it?
15. Where is the Light of Jesus today?
16. Who was the Rock that Moses struck symbolic of?
17. What is the power in verse 3?
18. What are the really true great powers in the world?
19. What does the statement {from the womb} mean?
20. There is nothing more beautiful than a _____.
21. What would be wonderful to retain from our early salvation?
22. Who were High Priests of a heavenly nature?
23. How was their Priesthood different from the earthly priesthood?
24. Jehovah swore, and it can not be _____.
25. Who did Melchizedek appear to?
26. What was counted righteousness to Abraham and the Christians?
27. When shall the Lord strike through kings?
28. Who will Jesus be when He returns to the earth to rule?
29. Quote 2 Thessalonians chapter 1 verse 10.
30. Who is the Judge of the earth?
31. Quote 1 Timothy chapter 4 verse 10.
32. What does {drink of the brook} indicate?
33. Who and what, has Jesus already conquered?
34. We have seen, in this lesson, the plan of God from the _____ .
35. How did the Father receive Himself a family?
36. God made man in _____.
37. The weakness of man in the flesh required a _____.
38. Quote 1 John chapter 5 verse 7.
39. We have been redeemed by the precious _____ of the _____.
40. Why did God the Word take on the form of flesh?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 111th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 111

- Verse 1 "Praise ye the Lord: with all my (heart) I will God's praise declare, Ev'n where assemblies of the just And congregations are."
- Verse 2 "Jehovah's works are very great, The wonders of his might; Sought out they are of every one Who in then takes delight."
- Verse 3 "His work most honorable is, Most glorious and pure, And his untainted righteousness Forever doth endure."
- Verse 4 "His works of wonder he hath made To be remembered well: In grace and in compassion great Jehovah doth excel."
- Verse 5 "The Lord provideth food for all Who truly do him fear; And evermore his covenant He in his mind will bear."
- Verse 6 "He did the power of his works To his own people show, That he the heathen's heritage Upon them might bestow."
- Verse 7 "His hands' works all are truth and right; All his commands are sure And, done in truth and uprightness, They evermore endure."
- Verse 8 "He to his chosen people sent Redemption by his pow'r; His covenant he did command To be forevermore."
- Verse 9 "His name alone most holy is, In fear to be adored. Of wisdom the beginning is To truly fear the Lord."
- Verse 10 "Good understanding have they all Who carefully obey His just commandments ev'ry one; His praise endures for aye. "

We will begin the verse by verse study of the 111th Psalm, now. Psalms 111:1 "Praise ye the LORD. I will praise the LORD with [my] whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and [in] the congregation."

True praise begins in the heart. This is a determination on the psalmist's part to worship the LORD in public, as well as in private. The assembly of the upright would be in the church of the Lord Jesus Christ. The congregation usually indicates the gathering of the Hebrews. The Israelites were many times referred to as the congregation. It is always the correct time to praise the Lord. There is never a place that is the wrong place to praise the Lord. Praise can be in prayer, in word, or in song. It seems to add feeling to it when it is sung. We should be like this penman, and worship and praise our Lord with all of our heart.

Psalms 111:2 "The works of the LORD [are] great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein."

This is speaking of those who truly love the Lord. It is not one nation or one group of people, but all who love God. Those people see God in all the beauties of the earth. Atheists do not see God or respect His creation, because they do not believe He created everything. The believer is totally aware that everything, and everyone upon this earth are part of God's creation, and we see His wondrous works in everything.

Psalms 111:3 "His work [is] honourable and glorious: and his righteousness endureth for ever."

This work mentioned, here, is possibly the glorious work of the Lord Jesus Christ at Calvary. Let's look at two Scriptures that say this better than we could. 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:" John 17:5 "And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was." It seems strange that this could glorify the Father, but that is just what it did. The 6 hours of work for Jesus on the cross purchased our salvation for us. His righteousness is from everlasting to everlasting. The thing that makes acceptable unto the Father, is the fact that we traded Jesus our sin for His righteousness. He took our sin upon His body on the cross, and He clothed us in His righteousness.

Psalms 111:4 "He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered: the LORD [is] gracious and full of compassion."

Every Christian remembers the Lord and the work He has done for each of us. His works will be remembered from generation to generation by His followers. His Word {Bible} reminds us of His wonderful works. 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." You can see from the Scripture here and the one above, that it is the desire of the Lord for all to believe and be saved. The compassion of Jesus was shown to each of us in that while we were yet in sin Christ died for us.

Psalms 111:5 "He hath given meat unto them that fear him: he will ever be mindful of his covenant."

This could mean that Christ has taken care of the needs of His people, but I believe this is more spiritual. Hebrews 5:12 "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which [be] the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat." Those that fear Him, study His Word to know what His will is in their life. They do not need to be fed the milk of the gospel, as if they were brand new Christians, but are able to handle the meat of the Word. The covenant that God made with man is an unbreakable covenant, because He swore on His own name. Man may break his covenant with God, but God will never break His covenant with man.

Psalms 111:6 "He hath shewed his people the power of his works, that he may give them the heritage of the heathen."

This possibly has to do with the reign of Jesus on this earth as King of kings and Lord of lords. His people {Christians} will rule with Him, as His subordinates, over the heathen. Israel saw His great power, when He defamed the gods of Egypt on their behalf. The Christians saw the great power of the Lord, when He defeated Satan, and when He rose from the grave.

Psalms 111:7 "The works of his hands [are] verity and judgment; all his commandments [are] sure."

Verity, in the Scripture above, means stability, certainty, truth, or trustworthiness. The work that the Lord did for each of us is something we can depend upon. His judgment is just. What were His commandments? Matthew 22:37 "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." Matthew 22:38 "This is the first and great commandment." Matthew 22:39 "And the second [is] like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." Matthew 22:40 "On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Psalms 111:8 "They stand fast for ever and ever, [and are] done in truth and uprightness."

This is telling us that the Lord is the same today, yesterday, and tomorrow. His commandments never change, because they are the absolute truth. They are not to change with circumstances, but are absolute. The Truth is always upright. The truth needs no explanation, it is always the thing to do. The wonderful thing about the Word is that it is alive and is just as current for each generation as it was for the generation before. Truth needs no apologies.

Psalms 111:9 "He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend [is] his name."

Redemption is a free gift that must be received, not earned. The grace of Almighty God brought redemption. God saw that man was just flesh and could not save himself. We mentioned in the previous lesson that Jesus is the Saviour of all men. Then why are not all saved? Because they do not receive the salvation that He provided. Only the children of men who become the sons of God, receive the redemption offered. Reverence is the same word as fear, here. His name is above all names. The holiness of the Lord is what causes the reverence or fear. We are aware that we are not holy. We should hold the Lord in very high esteem above all others.

Psalms 111:10 "The fear of the LORD [is] the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do [his commandments]: his praise endureth for ever."

To reverence the Lord with a holy fear is the beginning of life. Without this reverence, or fear of the Lord, we would have no eternal life. We have a good understanding, because the Holy Spirit of God has opened our understanding. We have ears, and we can hear. We have eyes, and we can see, because the Holy Spirit has revealed these truths to us. The world has ears, but cannot hear and eyes, but cannot see. Jesus spoke in parables, so that the world would not understand with their mind and come to Him. God does not want our mind, He wants our heart. So many times we say, I love God, but how can I show Him that I truly love Him? Look, with me, at two Scriptures from John that answer that question beautifully. John 14:15 "If ye love me, keep my commandments." John 15:10 "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love." Both of these Scriptures are printed in red in my Bible, which means that Jesus spoke them. Look with me at one more Scripture from the Old Testament that is basically saying the same thing. I Samuel 15:22 "And Samuel said, Hath the LORD [as great] delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey [is] better than sacrifice, [and] to hearken than the fat of rams."

The Christian, that has really grown into maturity with the Lord, is the one who obeys the will of God and is not ashamed to praise Him for His wonderful works. Can you say that you have grown beyond the milk and honey, and are ready for the meat of the Word? Perhaps you can, because you are interested in the study of the Bible.

Psalms 115 Questions

1. I will praise the LORD with my whole _____.
2. Verse 1 names two places he will praise, where are they?
3. Where does true praise begin?
4. What is the assembly of the upright?
5. What is meant by the congregation?
6. Name three ways you can praise the Lord.
7. Who is verse 2 speaking of ?
8. Why do atheists not praise the works of the Lord?
9. How does verse 3 describe His work?
10. What work is verse 3 speaking of?
11. Quote John Chapter 17 verses 1 and 5.
12. What did we trade Jesus to receive His righteousness?
13. What is the Bible?
14. Quote 2 Peter chapter 3 verse 9.
15. What meat is verse 5 speaking of?
16. Why is the covenant that God made with man unbreakable?
17. Who is verse 6 speaking of ?
18. Who will the Christians reign over?
19. What does verity in verse 7 mean?
20. What were His commandments?
21. What does the author say, is one of the wonderful things about the Word?
22. Redemption is a free _____.
23. Redemption must be _____.
24. Why are not all men saved?
25. What does reverend in verse 9 mean?
26. The _____ of the _____ is the beginning of wisdom.
27. Why does the Christian understand things that the world does not understand?
28. Quote John chapter 14 verse 15.
29. Quote 1 Samuel chapter 15 verse 22.
30. Describe a mature Christian.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 112th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 112

- Verse 1 "How blest the man that fears the Lord, And makes his law his chief delight; His seed shall share his great reward, And on the earth be men of might."
- Verse 2 "Abounding wealth shall bless his home, His righteousness shall still endure, To him shall light arise in gloom; He's kind, compassionate and pure."
- Verse 3 "The good will favor show, and lend, And his affairs discreetly guide; Unmoved he stands till life shall end, His name and honor shall abide."
- Verse 4 "No evil tidings shall he fear; His heart doth on the Lord repose; He stands unmoved by dangers near, Till he shall see his prostrate foes."
- Verse 5 "Dispensing gifts among the poor, His lib'ral hands their wants supply; His righteousness shall still endure, His pow'r shall be exalted high."
- Verse 6 "The barren woman house to keep He maketh, and to be Of sons a mother full of joy. Praise to the Lord give ye.

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 112th Psalm. Psalms 112:1 "Praise ye the LORD. Blessed [is] the man [that] feareth the LORD, [that] delighteth greatly in his commandments."

The last Psalm was telling of the greatness of the Lord and that we should praise Him. This Psalm is telling of the blessings of the people who bless the Lord. Not only does this man that is blessed, fear the Lord and keep His commandments, but delights in doing the same. The blessed of the Lord is aware that the commandments of the Lord are not grievous. We have spoken in many of these lessons, how the commandments that God has given to man are for the benefit of man, as well as God. If a man will keep the commandments of God, his life will be blessed.

Psalms 112:2 "His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed."

The seed spoken of here, I believe to be the seed of Abraham. Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." The blessings of Abraham are upon the seed spoken of here. They are mighty upon the earth. They will reign with Jesus upon the earth.

Psalms 112:3 "Wealth and riches [shall be] in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever."

David and Solomon did have great material wealth upon the earth, but I believe this is speaking of spiritual blessings. Of course, all in the earth belongs to God. The whole world and everything in it, is the property of God. He is the Creator and everything is His creation.

Psalms 112:4 "Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: [he is] gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous."

This world is full of darkness. We live in that darkness, until we receive the Lord Jesus as our Saviour and Lord. When you receive Jesus {who is the Light} into your life, you receive His Light, and it does away with darkness. Jesus is full of grace, compassion, and righteousness. If we have Christ in us, we are full of grace, and compassion, and righteousness, too. It is His grace, and His compassion, and His righteousness we are full of.

Psalms 112:5 "A good man sheweth favour, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion."

If we are a Christian in the true sense, then we are a believer in, and a follower of the Lord Jesus Christ. A Christian should be as much like his Leader {Jesus} as possible. We should do the same things He would do. There are several meanings to the word discretion here. One of the meanings is divine law. Another meaning is judgment. He is just to all men, is possibly what this is saying.

Psalms 112:6 "Surely he shall not be moved for ever: the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance."

The righteous are those who have received righteousness through Jesus Christ our Lord. They do inherit eternal life in Him. Man will live forever somewhere. We choose our place to spend eternity. If we receive Jesus as our Saviour, we inherit eternal life in heaven with Jesus.

Psalms 112:7 "He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD."

One of the best examples of this is Job. He lost his family, his wealth, his health even, and he did not once doubt that God would deliver him. He was stayed in his heart on God, and all that hell could send against him did not once cause him to doubt. Christians should not be moved by the circumstances around them. We should know beyond a shadow of a doubt that all is well with our soul.

Psalms 112:8 "His heart [is] established, he shall not be afraid, until he see [his desire] upon his enemies."

The sad thing is that there is a day coming when the enemy of the Christian and the enemy of God will feel the wrath of Almighty God. God is longsuffering, but there will come a time when He will say, it is enough. If we are established in the Lord, the small tribulations of this earth should not stagger our faith.

Psalms 112:9 "He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour."

The followers of the Lord will be quick to distribute the blessings the Lord has showered upon them. The difference in the world and the believer is that the believer cares for the poor. We know the Lord Jesus said, Inasmuch as ye have done it to the least of these, ye have done it unto me. We can not directly do great things for the Lord, but when we help the needy

and the widows, we are doing it as unto the Lord. Remember, the horn means power, or strength. God will honour those who are the followers of the Lord.

Psalms 112:10 "The wicked shall see [it], and be grieved; he shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away: the desire of the wicked shall perish."

Notice, that it is not the believer that gnashes his teeth. It is the evil one. The wicked will see the blessings that God showers on the believers, and then he will be sorry he did not believe, but it will be too late. The wrath of God will fall on the wicked, and they will beg for the rocks to fall upon them. They will seek death, but it will not come. God gives them ample time to repent, and they do not. Each terrible happening that comes upon them is followed by, and they repented not.

To summarize this lesson, we see that the blessings of God are reserved for the believers. The believers have the same heart as their Lord and Saviour. They try to do the things that are the will of God for their lives. They face tribulation and never falter. At the end, they will reign with Jesus over the evil. The evil will awake to their mistake in not receiving the Lord, but it will be too late!

Psalms 116 Questions

1. Blessed is the man that _____ the LORD.
2. What is this Psalm telling of?
3. How do the blessed of the Lord feel about the commandments?
4. Who do the commandments of God benefit?
5. Who are the seed in verse 2?
6. Quote Galatians chapter 3 verse 29.
7. _____ an _____ shall be in his house.
8. Who were two Old Testament Kings who were wealthy?
9. What kind of blessings does the author believe verse 3 is speaking of?
10. Who receives Light in this darkened world?
11. Who is the Light?
12. Where do we get the compassion that we have?
13. Verse 5 says, a good man sheweth _____ and _____.
14. A Christian, in the true sense, is what?
15. What does discretion, in verse 5, mean?
16. Who are the righteous?
17. Why shall the believer not be afraid of evil tidings?
18. Who is a very good example of this?
19. Should a Christian be moved by circumstances?
20. What is the sad thing about that coming day of wrath?
21. What does verse 9 say a believer does?
22. What does the horn symbolize?
23. How can you do great things for Jesus?
24. Who shall gnash his teeth?
25. The wicked shall seek death, but _____.
26. Each terrible happening that comes upon the evil is followed by _____.
27. The blessings of God are reserved for the _____.
28. Describe the believer.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 113th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 113

- Verse 1 "Praise God, ye servants of the Lord, Praise, praise his name with one accord; Bless ye the Lord, his name adore From this time forth forevermore.
- Verse 2 "From rising unto setting sun, Praised be the Lord, the mighty one, O'er nations all God reigns supreme, Above the heavens his glories beam.
- Verse 3 "O who is like the Lord, our God, Who makes the heavens his abode; Who stoops to see from high throne What things in heaven and earth are done?
- Verse 4 "From dust he makes the poor to rise, The needy who in dunghill lies; That he with princes may him place, With princes of his chosen race.
- Verse 5 "He gives the barren woman joy, In keeping house she finds employ And children joy to her afford. Praise ye Jehovah; praise the Lord.

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 113th Psalm. Psalms 113:1 "Praise ye the LORD. Praise, O ye servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD."

This is just a Psalm of pure praise. Praise being mentioned 3 times has to do with Father, Word, and Holy Ghost. Christians are servants of the Lord. Look at the two following verses about the sacrifice of 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." 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." The very least we can do is to praise the Lord.

Psalms 113:2 "Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and for evermore."

Praises will not cease, when we leave the earth and go to heaven. Even the angels in heaven are praising the Lord. They cry Holy, Holy, Holy.

Psalms 113:3 "From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD'S name [is] to be praised."

Rising of the sun, means early in the morning, and going down of the same, means late in the evening. This just means to praise the LORD all day long. Jehovah, or Jah, is intended by the name.

Psalms 113:4 "The LORD [is] high above all nations, [and] his glory above the heavens."

There is no greater in heaven, or earth, than the LORD. He is greatly to be praised. The glory of the Lord shines in heaven, and in earth. The Light of God gives all things the power to exist. The Creator is above His Creation.

Psalms 113:5 "Who [is] like unto the LORD our God, who dwelleth on high,"

There is no greater in heaven, or earth, than the LORD our God. This was quickly proved in Egypt, when He defamed the false gods of Egypt {world}.

Psalms 113:6 "Who humbleth [himself] to behold [the things that are] in heaven, and in the earth!"

I mentioned, in a previous lesson, that I believe the dwelling place of God is perfection that we do not understand. He is possibly in the seventh heaven, which would mean spiritually complete.

Psalms 113:7 "He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, [and] lifteth the needy out of the dunghill;"

God brings up who He will. It is not for us to question. It is so interesting, to me, that the Lord Jesus did not go to the temple in Jerusalem to find His disciples. He chose the working people who had no formal training in the ministry. The Lord Jesus trained them Himself. We are told that the Holy Spirit of God is our teacher and guide.

Psalms 113:8 "That he may set [him] with princes, [even] with the princes of his people."

Kings are kings, because God ordained it. These who would be thought to be unworthy to serve Him are the very ones He chooses to make kings and princes.

Psalms 113:9 "He maketh the barren woman to keep house, [and to be] a joyful mother of children. Praise ye the LORD."

There are so many times in the Bible where women thought to be barren have a child in their old age. With man these things are impossible, but with God all things are possible. You have to have an impossibility in man's sight, before God can do a miracle.

We will continue this lesson by giving the 114th Psalm in metre.

Chapter 114

- Verse 1 "When Israel again Was out of Egypt brought, And Jacob's house from men Whose language they knew not, Then Judah was his holy place, And his dominion Israel's race."
- Verse 2 "His face the sea discerned, In haste away it fled; The Jordan backward turned---Its waters were afraid; Behold! the mountains skipped like rams, And all the little hills like lambs."
- Verse 3 "What ailed thee, O thou sea, That thou fledd'st at the sight? Thou, Jordan! what ailed thee, That thou didst turn in flight? Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams? And you, ye little hills, like lambs? "
- Verse 4 "Let all the earth abroad Before Jehovah fear; And tremble when the God Of Israel draws near---Who from the rock did water bring, Who make the flinty rock a spring.

We will now begin the verse by verse study of chapter 114 of Psalms. Psalms 114:1 "When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language;"

This is speaking of the miraculous deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt. God sent Moses to bring them out. It was through ten plagues that God delivered Israel. The family of Jacob had gone into Egypt, but just over 400 years later the mighty nation of Israel came out. The name Jacob was used when speaking of him as the father of the twelve sons. The name Israel was His name when his twelve sons became the twelve tribes of Israel. The Hebrews were in the land of Egypt, but they were not Egyptians. They were Hebrews. They spoke Hebrew. The strange language, here, is the language of the Egyptians.

Psalms 114:2 "Judah was his sanctuary, [and] Israel his dominion."

Judah is the tribe that the Lord was descended from in the flesh. He was the Lion of the tribe of Judah. Judah led the march out of Egypt, as well. God's presence was with His people on their journey. The LORD dwelled with them {was His sanctuary} and He ruled over them {His dominion}.

Psalms 114:3 "The sea saw [it], and fled: Jordan was driven back."

It was the presence of the LORD in the Ark of the covenant that caused the sea to part, and the Jordan to part. In the case of the Jordan, it did not go back, until the feet of the bearers of the Ark had stepped into the water. The water bowed to the presence of God in both instances.

Psalms 114:4 "The mountains skipped like rams, [and] the little hills like lambs."

This is speaking of the mountain quaking at the presence of God.

Psalms 114:5 "What [ailed] thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest? thou Jordan, [that] thou wast driven back?"

There was no explaining to the human understanding why the Red Sea opened at the command of God. The sea, like all other creation must bow to

its Creator. There was no unusual phenomenon to explain away this miracle of God.

Psalms 114:6 "Ye mountains, [that] ye skipped like rams; [and] ye little hills, like lambs?"

When the majesty of Almighty God was on the mountain, it smoked, and there was nothing to touch the mountain lest it die. Only the one God called to the mountain could go up. Moses was the only one who could go near the presence of God, and he only when he was called to do so.

Psalms 114:7 "Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob;"

The Lord is ruler of, not only the people, but all of nature, as well. It is no small thing for the earth to tremble before its Creator.

Psalms 114:8 "Which turned the rock [into] a standing water, the flint into a fountain of waters."

The Rock is symbolic of the Lord. When Moses struck the Rock as God had told him to do, the water flowed freely from the Rock. Jesus is the water and the Rock. The water that flowed was like a river. It was enough to quench the thirst of these estimated 3 million people. This is that same water that flows from the throne of God. We have seen, in this lesson, the marvellous provision that God has made for His people.

Psalms 117 Questions

1. Chapter 113 is a Psalm of pure _____.
2. Quote Jeremiah chapter 33 verse 11.
3. Quote Hebrews chapter 13 verse 15.
4. Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and for _____.
5. What are the angels in heaven crying out?
6. What does rising of the sun mean?
7. What does going down of the same mean?
8. The name is Jehovah, or _____, in verse 3.
9. What gives all things the power to exist?
10. What did God prove in Egypt to get the people out?
11. What does seven mean?
12. What does the author think is unusual about the choice of Jesus' disciples?
13. What is meant by, the barren woman to keep house?
14. What two names, in verse 1 of the 114th chapter, are the same person?
15. How long had the family of Jacob been in Egypt, when God sent Moses to bring them out?
16. A _____ went into Egypt, and a _____ came out.
17. What is intended by, was His sanctuary?
18. In the same verse, what is the dominion speaking of?
19. What caused the sea to part?
20. What is verse 4 speaking of?
21. What was unusual about the mountain, when the presence of God was on it?
22. Who was the Rock in verse 8?
23. How much water came from the Rock?
24. What is the major lesson to be learned here?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 115th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 115

- Verse 1 "Not unto us, Lord, not to us, But do thou glory take To thy own name, ev'n for thy truth, And for thy mercy's sake."
- Verse 2 "O wherefore should the heathen say, Where is their God now gone? But our God in the heavens is, What pleased him he hath done."
- Verse 3 "Their idols silver are and gold, The work of men they be. Though mouths they leave, they do not speak; and eyes, they do not see;"
- Verse 4 "Though ears they have, they do not hear; Their noses savor not; Hands, feet but handle not, nor walk; Nor speak they through their throat."
- Verse 5 "Like them their makers are, and all On them their trust that build. O Isr'el, trust thou in the Lord, He is their help and shield."
- Verse 6 "O Aaron's house, trust in the Lord, Their help and shield is he. Ye that fear God, trust in the Lord, Their help and shield he'll be.
- Verse 7 "The Lord of us hath mindful been, And he will bless us still; He will the house of Isr'el bless, Bless Aaron's house he will."
- Verse 8 "Both small and great that fear the Lord, He will them surely bless. The Lord will you, you and your seed, Still more and more increase.
- Verse 9 "Yea truly blest are ye of God, Who made the earth and heav'n. The heav'n, ev'n heav'ns, are God's , but he Earth to men's sons hath giv'n."
- Verse 10 "The dead, and who to silence go, God's praise do not record. But henceforth we forever will Bless God, Praise ye the Lord."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 115th Psalm. Psalms 115:1 "Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, [and] for thy truth's sake."

It is so amazing to me that the people of God are seeking for signs and wonders. They have the strange opinion, that if God has not done any great miracles in the last few days, they cease to hold Him in awe. The Psalmist, here, is seemingly afraid that the people around them have ceased to fear the Lord, and he is asking to show His mighty power once again to make the enemies of Israel fear Israel's God. This is, possibly, a continuation of the same theme that the last Psalm had. In it, the mighty power of God was shown at the Red Sea and, in fact, all across the wilderness. The people in the surrounding area feared Israel's God. Israel now has lost a battle or two and the people have ceased to fear. The verse above is saying, glorify yourself among these heathens. Do it not because of us, but to let them know who God is.

Psalms 115:2 "Wherefore should the heathen say, Where [is] now their God?"

The heathen have ceased to believe that God is truly with Israel. More than that, they have ceased to believe that God truly exists.

Psalms 115:3 "But our God [is] in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased."

God does things on His time table. He does not have to please the whims of a few shallow believers. God does not have to prove Himself to anyone. God is above the ridiculous planning of simple man. If they can not retain their belief, by what He has already shown them, He is not obligated to run and do a miracle every time someone doubts.

Psalms 115:4 "Their idols [are] silver and gold, the work of men's hands."

We have discussed before, that the word that idols was translated from means nothings. Their objects of worship have no power. They are cold metal. This, again, is saying that they are worshipping the creation, rather than the Creator.

Psalms 115:5 "They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not:"

These chunks of metal have mouths, but how can an inanimate object speak? These are the imaginations of men's hearts formed into an idol.

Psalms 115:6 "They have ears, but they hear not: noses have they, but they smell not:"

They have ears formed out of the metal, but it goes no deeper than the surface. They can not hear the cries of their people. They have none of the senses operating in that chunk of metal.

Psalms 115:7 "They have hands, but they handle not: feet have they, but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat."

They cannot hold anything in their hand, neither can they give anything out. Elijah proved these idols for just what they were, when he challenged the prophets of Baal to prove who God really was. 400 of Baal's prophets died that day.

Psalms 115:8 "They that make them are like unto them; [so is] every one that trusteth in them."

Someone who worships an inanimate object is less than wise himself. To worship an idol, brings no power at all. They have no thought deeper than what they can see. Their judgment is impaired as well. As Elijah proved that day, they can not respond at all to the people worshipping them, and the people worshipping them can not respond either.

Psalms 115:9 "O Israel, trust thou in the LORD: he [is] their help and their shield."

Let the uninformed world around you worship whoever, or whatever, they choose, but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. The most real things in life are not the things we see with our physical eyes. Love, is possibly, the strongest force we know of between humans, and you can not see that. There is no greater love than a man would lay down His life for His friends. You cannot see that, but that is just what Jesus did. He is our very present help in trouble. You can not see the wind, but you know it is there, because of the effect it has on other things that you can see. This is like God. We can not see Him, but we know He exists, because of the effect that He has on those things and people around us. Place your trust in the Lord. He is their help, and our help. He is our shield against the storm. The physical house of Israel should have no trouble with this, cause of the effect the presence of God had on the Red Sea.

Psalms 115:10 "O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD: he [is] their help and their shield."

The house of Aaron, the priestly tribe, should know better than anyone else of the greatness of God. They are in the temple with the presence of God, and they should know of the power and protection He provides better than anyone else. Those, who have much knowledge of God, should have the best understanding of Him.

Psalms 115:11 "Ye that fear the LORD, trust in the LORD: he [is] their help and their shield."

We have said, over and over, that the fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom. We have, also, said that trust goes beyond faith. When we know in our heart and rest on that knowledge that God is our shield and help, we find perfect peace. This, to me, is the rest in the LORD. We know that whatever happens, it is God moving in our best interest. Sometimes in the natural, we could look at circumstances around us and our faith might falter. If we trust the LORD, we are not concerned with circumstances. We rise above circumstances and put our total confidence in the LORD.

Psalms 115:12 "The LORD hath been mindful of us: he will bless [us]; he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron."

The desire of the LORD is to bless His people. He will bless us and the physical house of Israel as well, as bless the chosen ministers of God, if we will obey Him. We have only to think how far we have already come in the LORD, to know that His blessings have been abundantly upon us. There are not only blessings for this earth, but He will bless us even more in the eternity to come.

Psalms 115:13 "He will bless them that fear the LORD, [both] small and great."

You do not have to be the high priest in the temple to be blessed of God. Sometimes, I believe that God is even more interested in those of low estate. Jesus fed the hungry, healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, and raised the dead. Not once in all of this, did He regard the person of the one He was ministering to. All, in fact, are small in comparison to Him. He owns the cattle on every hill. All of this is His creation. We can not be high and mighty around Him. He sees the spirit of man, and not his circumstances.

Psalms 115:14 "The LORD shall increase you more and more, you and your children."

All of those who fear the LORD are the believers. If we are believers in Christ, then all the promises made to Abraham are ours, as well. Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." This promise does not die out with one generation, but is for all generations to come.

Psalms 115:15 "Ye [are] blessed of the LORD which made heaven and earth."

These blessings are not from a mere mortal. These blessings are from the Creator of the world. Not only did He make the heaven and the earth, but He made us, as well. We are His creation.

Psalms 115:16 "The heaven, [even] the heavens, [are] the LORD'S: but the earth hath he given to the children of men."

We have discussed before, how He made the world and everything in it, and then He made mankind to dwell there. His plan from the beginning was for us to have a place of habitation. The earth is for the children of men. That is very interesting, in the fact, that Christians are not children of men. We are sons of God. This earth is not the home of the Christian. We are in the world, but we are not of the world. Heaven is our home. Our Father dwells there and His Son has gone there to prepare a place for you and me. My home is in heaven, because I am no longer children of men, I am a son of God.

Psalms 115:17 "The dead praise not the LORD, neither any that go down into silence."

The Bible says, let everything that has breath, praise the LORD. When we are dead, we do not have breath. Our breath has been removed. Those who have no breath {dead} cannot praise the LORD. Those who go to heaven praise the Lord, but they are not dead.

Psalms 115:18 "But we will bless the LORD from this time forth and for evermore. Praise the LORD."

It is natural for the sons of God to praise the LORD. It will matter not whether that it is in this earth, or in heaven to come.

Psalms 118 Questions

1. In verse 1, who was the glory to be given to?
2. If God has not done a miracle in the last few days, they have ceased to hold Him in _____.
3. The countries around did not fear the Israelites, they feared who?
4. What caused the people to cease to fear?
5. Why did the Psalmist want God to glorify Himself?
6. Worse than the fact that the heathen had decided God was not with Israel, was what?
7. Should God follow the wishes of the Psalmist?
8. Their idols are _____ and _____.
9. What is an idol?
10. They are worshipping the _____, and not the _____.
11. They have mouths, but they _____ not.
12. What has been formed into an idol?
13. What prophet proved to the people that these idols were nothing?
14. How many prophets of Baal died that day?
15. Someone who worships an inanimate object is less than _____ himself.
16. Trust thou in the LORD: He is their _____ and _____.
17. What are the real things in life?
18. Why should the physical house of Israel have no problem in believing in God?
19. O house of _____, trust in the LORD.
20. Why should the house of Aaron know more about God?
21. Verse 11 says, that the Lord is whose help and shield?
22. What is trust?
23. How can we rise against the circumstances, and put total confidence in the LORD?
24. God will bless us, if we _____ Him.
25. Name some of the miracles Jesus did for the under-privileged.
26. Quote Galatians chapter 3 verse 29.
27. The earth hath he given to the _____ of _____.
28. Who are the Christians?
29. We are _____ the world, but we are not _____ the world, if we are Christians.
30. Let everything that hath _____, praise the LORD.
31. It is _____ for the sons of God to praise the LORD.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 116th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 116

- Verse 1 "I Love the Lord, for he did hear My voice and supplications all; Because he hath inclined his ear, I while I live, will on him call."
- Verse 2 "Death's sorrows compassed me around, The pains of hell shook all my frame, I trouble great and sorrow found, Then called I on Jehovah's name.
- Verse 3 "O Lord, I humbly thee entreat, From all distress redeem my soul; The kindness of the Lord is great, Our God is just and merciful."
- Verse 4 "The simple with his care are blest; I was brought low, God rescued me; My soul return thou to thy rest, Great love the Lord hath shown to thee."
- Verse 5 "For thou from death hast saved me, Lord, And thou hast freed my eyes from tears, My feet from falling hast secured. With God I'll walk, through all my years."
- Verse 6 "As I believed, so spake I then, When great affliction on me pressed; "How false, how faithless are all men!" Were words I uttered in my haste."
- Verse 7 "What fit return, Lord, can I make For all thy gifts on me bestowed? The cup of blessing I will take, And call upon the name of God."
- Verse 8 "Before God's people I'll appear, And pay my vows there with delight; The death of saints to God is dear, Most precious in Jehovah's sight."
- Verse 9 "O Lord, the high and holy one, I am a servant unto thee, Thy servant and thy handmaid's son, thou hast from bonds delivered me."
- Verse 10 "With sacrifice of thanks I'll go, And on Jehovah's name will call; Will pay to God the vows I owe, In presence of his people all."
- Verse 11 "Yea, I will pay my vows to God In midst of thee, Jerusalem. Within the courts of God's abode. Praise ye Jehovah, praise his name."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 116th Psalm. Psalms 116:1 "I love the LORD, because he hath heard my voice [and] my supplications."

The LORD loves us, in spite of the fact that we sinned. Jesus gave His body on the cross, while we were yet in sin. We love Him because, He loves us in spite of. The psalmist loves the LORD, because He heard his prayer. God's love to man is an unselfish love. Man's love is conditional.

Psalms 116:2 "Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon [him] as long as I live."

While I am alive, I will call upon the name of the Lord. There is no help, except the help the Lord can bring. The Lord always hears our prayer.

He is always listening for the call of His children. I will call, because He hears and answers, is what the psalmist is saying here.

Psalms 116:3 "The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow."

This is describing a man, before he has tasted of the grace of God. Man, within himself, is headed for death and hell. The only solution to the problem, is to let the LORD come into your life and bring life to you. In this world, there is trouble and sorrow. We begin to die the day we are born. There is no chance for man to save himself. God saw the plight of fallen man and sent the Saviour. In Him, we have life.

Psalms 116:4 "Then called I upon the name of the LORD; O LORD, I beseech thee, deliver my soul."

When there is no place to go for help, then it is time to cry out to the LORD, and He will hear and answer. Jesus is the Deliverer. It was the cry of the Israelites to God, that caused God to send Moses to deliver them from bondage. The bondage of the spirit is even more urgent to be delivered from. The LORD has always sent the Deliverer to help His people in time of distress. There is no more earnest prayer, than when it seems there is no hope.

Psalms 116:5 "Gracious [is] the LORD, and righteous; yea, our God [is] merciful."

We all deserve to die for the sins we have committed. It is the grace and mercy of God that saved us. His mercy endureth forever. The one thing that brings help on the double from the Lord, is to cry out: Be merciful to me, a sinner. The righteousness of the Lord has been shared by the Christians. He gave us His righteousness to be clothed in, if we are believers.

Psalms 116:6 "The LORD preserveth the simple: I was brought low, and he helped me."

Those, who are worldly wise and self-sufficient, think they do not need help from the LORD. God helps the humble. I Corinthians 1:27 "But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;"

Psalms 116:7 "Return unto thy rest, O my soul; for the LORD hath dealt bountifully with thee."

There is a rest for the believer. I believe there can be perfect peace for the believer all the time {even in time of trouble}, if we will just put our total trust in the Lord. To be at peace with the world is one thing, but to be at peace with yourself is entirely another thing. The peace that we should all seek is, to be at peace with God and oneself. If you are at peace with God, then somehow, you are at peace with the world. Proverbs 16:7 "When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him." The dealing bountifully with us, could easily be speaking of God giving man the greatest gift that one can receive. He gave us eternal life through the sacrifice of His Son.

Psalms 116:8 "For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, [and] my feet from falling."

The tremendous thing the psalmist is speaking of here, is the salvation provided for us through Jesus. He will wipe away all tears from our eyes. He has delivered us from sin and death. He even strengthens us in our walk here, for Christ in me is my strength. His light is ever shining before us that we might see the way and not stumble and fall. Look, with me, at the next Scripture and you will see how we walk without stumbling and falling. 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 116:9 "I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living."

We see in this, as in the Scripture above, that the walk of the believer in Christ will be upright. Our walk in this life reveals to the world what type relationship we have with the Lord. The land of the living, in this particular Scripture, possibly, means here on this earth in front of the sons of men. Sometimes it means in heaven, where men never die.

Psalms 116:10 "I believed, therefore have I spoken: I was greatly afflicted:"

I believed, is speaking of the faith this psalmist had. He is saying that during the difficulties, his faith kept him going. The affliction was great, but he never stopped believing. The affliction just made him pray that much more earnestly.

Psalms 116:11 "I said in my haste, All men [are] liars."

The psalmist, here, was judging all men as liars, because the people he was around were giving him that impression. He is, also, saying, if I had taken time to think on this, I would not have judged all men by the actions of the few.

Psalms 116:12 "What shall I render unto the LORD [for] all his benefits toward me?"

Not just this psalmist, but all believers have felt this same thing. The Lord has done so much for us, how can we repay Him? The only thing He wants is our faith in Him and our love.

Psalms 116:13 "I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD."

The next Scripture is so beautiful to me, because salvation is so simple. I Peter 1:9 "Receiving the end of your faith, [even] the salvation of [your] souls." Notice in verse 13 above, that it is a conscious act of willingness to receive on the person who gets salvation. It is even a determination {I will} to be saved. Romans 10:13 "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." This leaves absolutely no doubt to how simple it is to receive salvation.

Psalms 116:14 "I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people."

The psalmist has decided, that the rest of his life, he will spend fulfilling all the promises he made to God. He is not ashamed of his Lord. He will do this in the presence of the people. Whatever you promise God, you must do, without exception.

Psalms 116:15 "Precious in the sight of the LORD [is] the death of his saints."

I have been to funerals where the people had not confessed belief in the Lord, and their funerals are very sad. On the other hand, I have been to funerals of some dear old saint, and I felt like shouting, not crying. We know that dear old saint is going home to heaven to be with their Lord. Sure, the Lord would think it precious. The saint that dies will spend all of eternity with Him. All the problems of life are over. Pain and suffering and crying is over. There shall be joy forevermore. It will be a glorious homecoming for the saint, when death of this body occurs.

Psalms 116:16 "O LORD, truly I [am] thy servant; I [am] thy servant, [and] the son of thine handmaid: thou hast loosed my bonds."

This psalmist is not only sure of his own state with the Lord, but is assured of his mother's standing with the Lord, as well. Notice, his mother was a handmaid of the Lord. He is free from the bonds of sin and death, and he knows he is free.

Psalms 116:17 "I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD."

The only thing that he can do for the Lord, is to thank Him. This, to me, is saying that as long as his life continues, he will be thanking God for the wonderful work of salvation that was wrought in his life. This thanksgiving will be part of his regular praise in prayer that he brings before God.

Psalms 116:18 "I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people,"

This is not to be a private thing with the psalmist. He will do this publicly, so that all may see and benefit from this. He is not ashamed of the LORD, and he will tell everyone of his love for Him.

Psalms 116:19 "In the courts of the LORD'S house, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem. Praise ye the LORD."

This is speaking of his place of worship. We hear people say that they worship God alone in the woods. This is alright, but there is a time to worship Him publicly. Jerusalem was where the temple stood, and this would be his choice of places to worship the LORD.

We will continue on with this lesson by giving the 117th chapter of Psalms in metre.

Chapter 117

- Verse 1 "O All ye nations of the earth, Praise ye the mighty Lord;
And all ye people magnify His name with one accord."
Verse 2 "For great to us his mercies are, And lovingkindnesses: His
truth endures for evermore. The Lord O do ye bless."

We will now give the verse by verse study of the 117th Psalm. Psalms 117:1 "O Praise the LORD, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people."

In chapter 116, we saw the psalmist determining to praise the Lord. In this Psalm, he is encouraging everyone everywhere to praise the Lord. This brings into the account of the Lord Jesus saying that people from all nations would love and serve the Lord. The psalmist here was most assuredly a Hebrew, and they thought at the time that this was written, that they were the only true people of God in the world. This, then, is a prophetic Scripture looking unto the time when all nations and people could worship the Lord.

Why should we praise Him? Because He is our Creator and our Saviour. When should we praise Him? All the time, in every circumstance. How should we praise Him? With an humble heart. You can praise Him in song, in word, or in deed. You can even raise your hands in humble praise to Him. I will not tell you how to praise Him. Praise Him the way you feel in your heart.

Psalms 117:2 "For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the LORD [endureth] for ever. Praise ye the LORD."

This is not speaking of just the Hebrews. It is speaking, again, prophetically of all people. This is a continuation of the first verse which is all people in all nations. His kindness is unmatched in all the world. He was merciful to each of us, while we were yet in sin. He saved us and prepared a wonderful place for us, to be with Him. He keeps His covenant to all generations. He not only tells the truth all the time, but is, in fact, the Truth. PRAISE YE THE LORD.

Psalms 119 Questions

1. I love the LORD, because he hath _____.
2. What is different in the type of love we have, and the type of love the LORD has?
3. How long did the psalmist say, that he would call on the name of the LORD?
4. The sorrows of _____ compassed me.
5. What is verse 3 describing?
6. What is the only solution to this problem?
7. When do we begin to die?
8. Who is our Deliverer?
9. Which bondage is the most urgent to be delivered from?
10. What is the one cry that brings help more quickly from God?
11. We all deserve to die for our sins we have committed. It is the _____ and _____ of God that saves us.
12. Quote 1 Corinthians chapter 1 verse 27.
13. How can there be perfect peace for the believer at all times?
14. Quote Proverbs chapter 16 verse 7.
15. Verse 8 tells of three things we have been delivered of, what are they?
16. Quote Galatians chapter 2 verse 20.
17. What does our walk in this life reveal?
18. What is verse 10 saying about his faith?
19. What had he said in his haste?
20. How can we repay God for all that He has done for us?
21. Quote 1 Peter chapter 1 verse 9.
22. What does, I will, in verse 14, tell us?
23. How does the LORD feel about the death of the saints?
24. What does the psalmist call himself in verse 16?
25. What type of sacrifice did he offer in verse 17?
26. Where will he pay his vows?
27. What does verse 16 tell us of the psalmist's mother?
28. What was so special about Jerusalem, to the psalmist?
29. In the first verse of chapter 117, who are told to praise?
30. How do we know this was a prophetic statement?
31. Why should we praise Him?
32. When should we praise Him?
33. How should we praise Him?
34. He not only tells the truth, He is the _____.
35. How will you praise Him?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 118th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 118

- Verse 1 "The Lord is good; O bless his name; His mercy ever is the same, And let the house of Isr'el say, His tender mercy lasts for aye.
- Verse 2 "Let Aaron's house this truth declare, Jehovah's mercies endless are. Let all that fear the Lord proclaim, His mercy ever is the same.
- Verse 3 "I called on God in time of grief; He heard my prayer, and sent relief. The Lord to rescue me is near; What man can do I will not fear.
- Verse 4 "The Lord doth take my part with those Who give me help against my foes; I my desire shall therefore see On those who hatred bear to me.
- Verse 5 "Better to trust the Lord Most High, Than on the help of men rely. Better to trust Jehovah's grace, Than confidence in princes place.
- Verse 6 "The nations all around me came; I'll them destroy in God's great name. They gathered, and around me came; I'll cut them off in God's great name.
- Verse 7 "Like bees they swarm in fiercest ire, They shall be quenched like thorns on fire. In God's great name I shall prevail, And those destroy who me assail.
- Verse 8 "Thou hast thrust sore at me to slay, But God has been my help and stay. My strength and song is God the Lord; To me he safety doth afford.
- Verse 9 "The voice of joy and saving grace Is in the just man's dwelling place; The right hand of the Lord above In mighty deeds, doth valiant prove.
- Verse 10 "The Lord's right hand is lifted high, The Lord's right hand doth valiantly. I shall not die, but live, and praise Jehovah's gracious works and ways.
- Verse 11 "Jehovah hath me chastened sore, But unto death did not give o'er Unfold the gates of righteousness, I'll enter in the Lord to bless.
- Verse 12 "This gate doth to the Lord belong, And hither shall the righteous throng. I will thee praise, for thou hast heard, And hast become my Saviour, Lord.
- Verse 13 "The stone which builders did disown Is now become chief corner-stone. This from Jehovah doth arise, And it is wondrous in our eyes.
- Verse 14 "This day God made; with cheerful voice In it we'll triumph and rejoice, Save now, O Lord we plead with thee; Lord, send us now prosperity.
- Verse 15 "Him ever blest do we proclaim, Who cometh in Jehovah's name; We from the place of his abode Have blest you in the name of God."
- Verse 16 "Jehovah is the God of might; And he to us hath given light. Bring to the altar's horns, and bind The sacrifice with cords

confined.

Verse 17 "My God thou art; thee will I laud; I will exalt thee, O my God. The Lord is good; O praise his name; His mercy ever is the same.

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 118th Psalm. Psalms 118:1 "O give thanks unto the LORD; for [he is] good: because his mercy [endureth] for ever."

Some believe this whole chapter of Psalms to be a song of praise to be sung in the temple when it was built. We see a reference to that very thing, here in Ezra. Ezra 3:10 "And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, they set the priests in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise the LORD, after the ordinance of David king of Israel." Ezra 3:11 "And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the LORD; because [he is] good, for his mercy [endureth] for ever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid." I personally, believe this to, also, be a prophetic Scripture of the Lord Jesus Christ the Chief Cornerstone.

Psalms 118:2 "Let Israel now say, that his mercy [endureth] for ever."

This, also, can be two-fold. The physical house of Israel would certainly be able to say that His mercy endureth forever. They were able to build the temple. Spiritual Israel {Christians} could shout this even more, because the mercy of Jesus Christ is sufficient to save thousands and even millions of people for all generations. It is His great mercy that saves them, if they believe.

Psalms 118:3 "Let the house of Aaron now say, that his mercy [endureth] for ever."

This verse has to do with the physical house, because Aaron had been high priest. The earthly priesthood would have to do with the earthly sanctuary or temple.

Psalms 118:4 "Let them now that fear the LORD say, that his mercy [endureth] for ever."

This verse reaches much further than just the Hebrews. This is for all who fear Him. This includes the Christians. One reason to fear Him, is because we are not worthy to be saved. He saved us, because of His mercy toward us, not because of anything we did for Him.

Psalms 118:5 "I called upon the LORD in distress: the LORD answered me, [and set me] in a large place."

To pray in distress, would mean that this was a sincere prayer of the heart. We have spoken before of how this type prayer gets to the heart of God. The LORD takes him from the closed in place that he was in and freed him. This could have been a physical, or a spiritual, prison that he had been closed up in.

Psalms 118:6 The LORD [is] on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?

Notice the act of the psalmist's will, in stating, I will not fear. This is very similar to the statement, Let not your heart be troubled. In many instances throughout the Bible, we are told to fear not. It is within our ability to fear, but it is not in our best interest. Those who put their trust in the LORD, should not fear. Fear, in a case like that, would be to say that we can not trust God. We must determine in our heart to trust God and not to fear. If God be for us, who can be against us? Man is no match for God. If God is fighting our battles for us, man can do us no harm. There is no reason to fear. Faith is the opposite of fear. Have faith!

Psalms 118:7 "The LORD taketh my part with them that help me: therefore shall I see [my desire] upon them that hate me."

The Lord said vengeance is mine. We are not to take vengeance ourselves. We are to let the Lord handle the problem. Those who offend the chosen of the Lord shall not prosper.

Psalms 118:8 "[It is] better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man."

If you place your confidence in man, he will let you down. The LORD will never let you down.

Psalms 118:9 "[It is] better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes."

Even a prince is a man. They can not really be trusted any more than just an average man. Man, in his weakness, will disappoint you, because he is flesh. God will never let you down. Even though a prince, or anyone else who is in authority, is looked up to in the flesh, they many times have even more temptations, and may even succumb to some of them.

Psalms 118:10 "All nations compassed me about: but in the name of the LORD will I destroy them."

I believe the psalmist here to be David. We do know that he had trouble with the countries around him. We, also, know that God was with him in battle. He is very aware, that with the help of God, he can destroy these nations coming against him.

Psalms 118:11 "They compassed me about; yea, they compassed me about: but in the name of the LORD I will destroy them."

David had discovered when he was just a lad fighting Goliath, that his power in battle was the name of the LORD. We would do well to remember the very same thing, when the enemy surrounds us. We can not fail, if we do battle in the name of the LORD.

Psalms 118:12 "They compassed me about like bees; they are quenched as the fire of thorns: for in the name of the LORD I will destroy them."

Perhaps, the statement about the bees means that they were buzzing around David on every side. A thorn will pierce the skin, but it seems, here, that they were quenched before they even wounded David or his men. He says, again, that the power is in the name of the LORD.

Psalms 118:13 "Thou hast thrust sore at me that I might fall: but the LORD helped me."

The enemies did attack David {thrust sore at me}, but they did not defeat David. If we were to look at this to get us a message for today, we would realize that the devil is like a roaring lion seeking whom he may destroy. We have the same help that David had here. We must use the name of the Lord. The 6th chapter of Ephesians gives us a few suggestions on how to fight this battle. Ephesians 6:10 "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might." Ephesians 6:13 "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." Ephesians 6:14 "Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;" Ephesians 6:15 "And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;" Ephesians 6:16 "Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked." Ephesians 6:17 "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:"

Psalms 120 Questions

1. O give thanks unto the LORD; for He is _____.
2. Where, in the Bible, is the Scriptures that make us think this Psalm is written to be sung at the opening of the temple?
3. What does the author believe about this Psalm?
4. How could verse 2 apply to Christians?
5. Who does the house of Aaron represent, and why?
6. Why did Jesus save us?
7. What is meant by the large place in verse 5?
8. What two words show the Psalmist determined not to fear, in verse 6?
9. If we fear, what are we saying about God?
10. What is the opposite of fear?
11. Those who offend the chosen of God, will not _____.
12. It is better to _____ than to put confidence in man.
13. What happens, if you put your confidence in man?
14. Even a prince is a _____.
15. Even though nations compassed him about, he put his confidence in what?
16. When had David learned that God would help him in battle?
17. They compassed me about like _____.
18. What does the statement {thrust sore at me} mean?
19. Today, what is the devil like?
20. What are we to use against the devil?
21. Describe our armour.
22. What are our loins to be girt around with?
23. What is the breastplate?
24. How are our feet shod?
25. What is the sword of the spirit?

We will continue with chapter 118 of Psalms. Psalms 118:14 "The LORD [is] my strength and song, and is become my salvation."

In the last lesson, we were dealing with the way to win battles. It is the name of the Lord that defeats the enemy. We, also, saw in chapter 6 of Ephesians just how to battle the powers and principalities that come against the believers. Now, we see that David is saying, His strength and song is the LORD. We all know that the Lord Jesus Christ brought salvation to the world. 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." 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."

Psalms 118:15 "The voice of rejoicing and salvation [is] in the tabernacles of the righteous: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly."

Notice, that tabernacles is plural in the verse above. Tabernacle, in the verse above, means tent, dwelling place, or covering. This, then, is saying that the righteous {those in right standing with God} dwell in salvation, and they are rejoicing because of it. The Right Hand of the LORD is Jesus Christ. Salvation is not something that is received every once and a while, but is in fact a state of being saved. The Right Hand in the verse above was the Author of our salvation.

Psalms 118:16 "The right hand of the LORD is exalted: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly."

Since we have established the fact that the Right Hand, here, is Jesus Christ, let's look at just how exalted He will be. Philippians 2:9 "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:" 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 118:17 "I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD."

We know that the Lord Jesus Christ defeated death, when He rose from the grave. Because He rose from the grave, We will rise from the grave, also, and will live {not die} with him eternally. This mortal shall take on immortality. To learn more about this, read in chapter 15 of first Corinthians beginning with the 35th verse. Read to the end of the chapter.

Psalms 118:18 "The LORD hath chastened me sore: but he hath not given me over unto death."

We read that whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth. This is like a loving parent correcting a child.

Psalms 118:19 "Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, [and] I will praise the LORD:"

Jesus is the gate {the Way} that we enter into righteousness. He put us in right standing, when He shed His blood to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. The temple curtain tore from the top to the bottom, when Jesus gave His body on the cross for you and me. The way to the Father had been closed. Now, the shed blood of the Lord Jesus has opened the way to the throne of God and to the Father for all who would believe. The gate is open, but it is our obligation to go therein. What a reason to praise the Lord, this is!

Psalms 118:20 "This gate of the LORD, into which the righteous shall enter."

The righteous are those who have been washed in the blood of the Lamb, and put in right standing with God, because they believe. Romans 4:3 "For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness." Abraham was the father of all the believers. We, like Abraham, are righteous, because we believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. This gate is the entrance to heaven. We must come through faith in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour to enter into eternal life in heaven. This really will be a glorious restoration of the garden of Eden. The big difference is, there is no temptation here. This is, also, the place that Jesus told the thief he would be with Him. It is Paradise.

Psalms 118:21 "I will praise thee: for thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation."

There is no better reason to praise Him, than the fact that He saved you. Salvation is available to all, but to receive it, we must believe in the Lord. Repent of your sins, and ask Jesus to save you, He will not turn you down.

Psalms 118:22 "The stone [which] the builders refused is become the head [stone] of the corner."

This is a prophetic Scripture, speaking of the Lord Jesus who was rejected by the builders. The Corner-stone, here, is the Lord Jesus. He it is who stands at the corner and brings both Jew and Gentile together in Him. We could get into this in great length, but read our study on the 2 sticks that become one in Ezekiel chapter 37. Jesus is the focal point of the Bible. He is in all the books of the Bible. Matthew 21:42 "Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?" This Scripture in Psalms is the one Jesus was speaking of.

Psalms 118:23 "This is the LORD'S doing; it [is] marvellous in our eyes."

This was the plan from the beginning of the world. The 2 walls that fit together are the physical and the spiritual house of Isreal. Who, but God, could figure out so grand a plan that He might save all of mankind by.

Psalms 118:24 "This [is] the day [which] the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it."

There is a set day of God for everything to be done. The Lord has made all the days. He had a set time to send the Messiah {the Lord Jesus Christ} to the earth as Saviour. We saw that there was a set time for Jesus to be crucified. We know this, because He was in their midst preaching and healing daily, and they could not capture Him. It had to be the day that the Lord had planned for it to be. There was a set day for Him to rise from the tomb. There is a set day for His return to the earth. God has it all figured out. Praise God! This is the day that the LORD hath made. I determine in my heart that I will rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalms 118:25 "Save now, I beseech thee, O LORD: O LORD, I beseech thee, send now prosperity."

This prosperity is of the spirit, because it has to do with salvation. I believe this is speaking of the time when God will pour out of His Spirit on all flesh. Acts 2:17 "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:"

Psalms 118:26 "Blessed [be] he that cometh in the name of the LORD: we have blessed you out of the house of the LORD."

Those who minister must be careful to come in the name of the Lord. We can not preach effectively, unless it is in the name of the Lord. We can not praise effectively, unless it be done in the name of the Lord. We can not pray an effective prayer, unless it be in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. We can not do any miracles in our name. It is the name of the Lord Jesus Christ that has the power to minister. We just have the authority to use His name.

Psalms 118:27 "God [is] the LORD, which hath shewed us light: bind the sacrifice with cords, [even] unto the horns of the altar."

The Light, spoken of here, is the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the Light of the world. If His Light does not shine in your spirit, you are in darkness and are lost. The strength {horns} of our sacrifice is in Jesus. Let His Light shine forth from you, because He is in you.

Psalms 118:28 "Thou [art] my God, and I will praise thee: [thou art] my God, I will exalt thee."

Notice the "my" here. The first mention of God here is EL. It means, among other things, Almighty. The last mention of God, here, is another word, Elohim which is plural. It means the Supreme God. This is the same as is in 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." This is the fulness of the Godhead, which mortal man does not fully understand. The praise of God should be continually in our mouth.

As I am working on these lessons, it strikes me that God is so much above mankind that there is no way to fully understand or convey His greatness. All we can do is stand in awe of this Mighty God. To praise just seems so little to do. I want to fall down prostrate before Him, and worship Him with all that is within me.

Psalms 118:29 "O give thanks unto the LORD; for [he is] good: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

This Psalm began and ended the same way. Having done and said all, we come back to the goodness of God and the mercy of God which will never end. This is reason enough to praise Him continually.

Psalms 121 Questions

1. The LORD is my strength and my song, and is become my _____.
2. Quote 1 Timothy chapter 4 verse 10.
3. Quote Acts chapter 4 verse 12.
4. What does tabernacle, in verse 15, mean?
5. What is verse 15 saying?
6. _____ is actually a state of being saved.
7. How exalted will the Right Hand of God be?
8. Where do we find the Scriptures that deal with the mortal taking on immortality?
9. Who does the Lord chasten?
10. What can you compare this chastening with?
11. Who is the Gate?
12. When did Jesus open the way for us to heaven and the Father?
13. What is our obligation in going to heaven?
14. Who are the righteous?
15. Heaven is really a glorious restoration of what?
16. What has the psalmist determined to do in verse 21?
17. The stone, which the builders refused, has become what?
18. Where does Jesus speak of the corner-stone in the New Testament?
19. What chapter in Ezekiel speaks of the two houses that come together in Jesus?
20. Who is the focal point of the Bible?
21. Name some things the Lord set a specific day to happen.
22. What is the prosperity in verse 25?
23. Quote Acts chapter 2 verse 17.
24. Ministers must minister in the _____ _ _ _ _.
25. Who showed us Light?
26. What do horns symbolize?
27. In verse 28, who is the first mention of God referring to?
28. In verse 28, who is the second mention of God referring to?
29. Quote 1 John chapter 5 verse 7.
30. Quote Psalms chapter 118 verse 29.

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 119th Psalm. This is the longest chapter in the entire Bible. Psalms 119:1 "{ALEPH.} Blessed [are] the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD."

We see, in this verse, the hope of a man to be as this one who walked in the law of the LORD. We have discussed before that there is a state beyond being saved and knowing the LORD as Saviour. There is a place in our growth, if we are truly to be the blessed of God, that we can do no less than to make Jesus Christ our Lord. To know Him as Lord means that we walk in His will. The law of the Lord is not grievous to those who love Him. Undefiled, in the Scripture above, means without blemish.

Psalms 119:2 "Blessed [are] they that keep his testimonies, [and that] seek him with the whole heart."

Testimonies means witness in the verse above. Jesus taught a beautiful Gospel of love, when He walked upon the earth as Saviour of mankind. We have talked so much about God not wanting the mind of man. He wants our heart. The testimony of Jesus was that He destroyed sin and death for all who will believe. He broke the curse that had been brought on mankind in the garden of Eden. Men and women who trust in the Lord Jesus Christ are no longer sons of men, but sons of God.

Psalms 119:3 "They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways."

This, again, is speaking of walking in the salvation you have received from the Lord Jesus. Repent is a very misused word. It is good to be sorry for your past sins, but repent means that you will turn from that old way of life and walk a brand new life with Jesus. In the new life, He will not only be with you, but He will be in you. 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." When we are baptized, we are buried with Christ and we rise to new life in Him. We must walk the path of this new life, and not go back into a sinful way of life again.

Psalms 119:4 "Thou hast commanded [us] to keep thy precepts diligently."

We are to carefully guard our salvation. It is the most prized possession we have. It leads to eternal life. We must not get careless about the things of God. Sin is separation from God.

Psalms 119:5 "O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes!"

The way of the Lord is lit up with the Light of Jesus. It must not be an uncertain path. We must gird up our mind and do the will of God. To receive the blessings of God, we must be obedient children to the Father. We must keep our feet on the path that leads to Him.

Psalms 119:6 "Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments."

Guilt and shame are the products of sin. Only those who have not kept their way are ashamed, when they face the Lord as Judge. When we keep His commandments, we will be eager to stand before Him and hear Him say well done.

Psalms 119:7 "I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments."

We cannot do the will of God, until we know what that will is. The way to learn His will, is to study His Word {Bible}, for in it is the secret to life with Him. The only praise that can be pure is praise that originates in a heart stayed upon Him. Even our praise is sweeter when we have a clear conscience, and know that all is well with our soul.

Psalms 119:8 "I will keep thy statutes: O forsake me not utterly."

To live the life that the Lord would have us to live, we must determine in our heart as this psalmist did to keep his statutes. This is a promise from the psalmist who would not be able to face the life without the Lord.

Psalms 119:9 "{BETH.} Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed [thereto] according to thy word."

If there is one theme that goes through all of this chapter of Psalms, it is the Word. We must not only read the Word of God, but we must hide its teachings in our heart, so that we might not sin against God. The only way to be totally clean, is to be washed in the blood of the Lamb and be totally clean. His blood does not just cover sin, but does away with it.

Psalms 119:10 "With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments."

This Psalm sounds so much like David to me. He may have succumbed to the sin of the flesh at one time, but he was a man whose heart was pure before God. The desire of his heart was to please God at all times. Let me wander not from thy commandments, is so near to lead me not into temptation. The psalmist, here, is aware of the weakness in his flesh. He knows that only with the Lord directing his every decision, can he not wander into temptation.

Psalms 119:11 "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

I look around me today and sin is on every side. It seems that the world has gone mad. Even many professing Christians are involved in a sinful life style. The problem with all of these people, is that they do not even know right from wrong. They have not hidden the Word {Bible} away in their heart. They do not even know what sin is. The Bible is our road-map through life. Those who do not carefully read the map, get lost. Some are so sure they do not need help, that they do not see the need for the Bible. How wrong they are. The secret to life is in God's Holy Word {Bible}. The determination of our hearts is to hide the Word of God so deeply in our heart that there will be no room for anything else. We will be so full of His Word that there will be no place for sinful desires. Sin originates in the heart. If the heart is full of God, you will not desire to sin.

Psalms 119:12 "Blessed [art] thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes."

This is the desire of all people, who have disciplined themselves to follow the Lord Jesus Christ. The disciples of old asked Jesus to teach them to pray. They, also, would get Jesus away from the world and ask Him to teach them what the parables He taught meant. Jesus sent all the believers a Teacher and guide. In the book of John, He promised to send the Comforter, who would guide and teach all of His Holy ways. John 14:26 "But the Comforter, [which is] the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." Notice, {bring to remembrance}. You must hear it, before it can be brought to remembrance. The Word of God {Bible} speaks truth to us.

Psalms 119:13 "With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth."

This is a declaring by the psalmist, that the words coming from his lips are the teachings from the Lord's mouth. judgments, here, could, also, be spoken of as the true statements of the Lord. The judgments of the Lord are printed in red in most Bibles. It is a very good idea to concentrate on these Scriptures. They contain life.

Psalms 119:14 "I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as [much as] in all riches."

If the psalmist here is David, and I believe it is, then he had many of the material things of this earth that we call wealth. He is saying, that the Word of God is more valuable to him than all these material things. If you could keep only one of your worldly possessions and had to give all the other things up, would the thing you chose be your Bible? If not, material things are a god to you.

Psalms 119:15 "I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways."

This is a very strong statement of commitment. He is saying, when I am not reading your Word, I will be thinking on its teachings. This is a man stayed upon God. When making decisions, He will see if the answer he is about to give, lines up with the Word of God. If it does not, he will change his answer, until it does line up with the Word. To have your mind stayed upon God is a very healthy situation. Thy ways are above my ways, O Lord. Teach me thy ways. Make thy ways my ways.

Psalms 119:16 "I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word."

Some men, who had been in prison for many years, said, the thing that kept them alive and with hope, was the Scriptures they could remember from their earlier teachings. Some of them even wrote every one they could remember in the sand of their prison floor. To know the Word of God and hide it away deep within yourself is one thing that no one can take away from you. It is pleasant to remember the teachings of the Lord. Nearly all true believers have many Scriptures they have memorized. In time of trouble, it gives you something to hang on to.

If I had to summarize this lesson, I would say that the most urgent task in our life is to read the Word {Bible} and hide its teachings deep within our heart. Use it to help us through this life and quote it aloud to others who are searching for the truth. The two great powers in this world today, are the spoken and the written Word of God.

Psalms 122 Questions

1. Quote verse 1 of Psalms chapter 119.
2. What is a state beyond being saved, if we are growing in the Lord?
3. To know Him as Lord means that we walk in His _____.
4. What does undefiled, in verse 1, mean?
5. What does testimonies mean in verse 2?
6. What was the Gospel that Jesus taught?
7. When you receive Jesus as your Saviour and Lord, you are no longer sons of men, but _____ of _____.
8. God does not want our mind, He wants our _____.
9. What is verse 3 speaking of?
10. What does repent really mean?
11. Quote Galatians chapter 2 verse 20.
12. What does the Christian's water baptism mean?
13. Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts _____.
14. What is the most prized possession that we have?
15. Sin is separation from _____.
16. What is the way of the Lord lit with?
17. _____ and _____ are the products of sin.
18. Who are ashamed, when they face the Lord as Judge?
19. What must we do, before we can do the will of God?
20. How can we learn the will of God?
21. What determination must we have, that is spoken of in verse 8?
22. What does the author believe to be the theme of this Psalm?
23. How is the only way to be totally clean?
24. David may have succumbed to the flesh, but his _____ was stayed upon God.
25. Quote Psalms chapter 119 verse 11.
26. Why are some Christians living in sin?
27. What is the Word?
28. The _____ is our road-map through life.
29. What is the determination of the author about the Word of God?
30. What is the desire of all who have disciplined themselves to follow Jesus?
31. Who is our Teacher and Guide?
32. What is the statement {bring to remembrance} telling us?
33. What is the psalmist speaking with his lips in verse 13?
34. How can you separate the judgments of the Lord from the rest of the Bible?
35. What is more valuable to the psalmist than the material things of life?
36. Would you choose the Bible above all of your worldly possessions?
37. What does the word meditate tell us in verse 15?
38. Quote Psalms chapter 119 verse 16.
39. What kept some of the prisoners going, when they were locked up for years?
40. What is one thing that can never be taken away from you?
41. What are the two great powers in the world today?

We will continue with the verse by verse study of the 119th Psalm in Psalms 119:17 "{GIMEL.} Deal bountifully with thy servant, [that] I may live, and keep thy word."

This dealing bountifully with thy servant shows us that the psalmist here has already made a decision to serve the Lord. We, also, know that this is not speaking of material blessings, because it says so that I might keep thy Word. This is speaking of an empowering from the Lord to better live and keep the word of God. It is as if he is asking to be baptized with the Holy Ghost, so that his life of serving would be more effective. His concern is living the right life, keeping the Word of God.

Psalms 119:18 "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law."

Jesus taught that many have eyes to see, and yet they do not see. The psalmist here, and Jesus in His statement, are not speaking of seeing with the physical eyes. They are speaking of their understanding being opened, that they might know better the will of God. The law is actually an outward expression of the will of God. The Holy Spirit will lead you into all truth. The Holy Spirit is the Teacher and Guide. The disciples did not understand the parables that Jesus taught, until He opened their eyes of understanding. This is what this Scripture is speaking of. We sing a little chorus from the Bible at our church that says, "Open my eyes Lord, I want to see Jesus".

Psalms 119:19 "I [am] a stranger in the earth: hide not thy commandments from me."

The psalmist, here, and all true believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, are aware that they do not belong in this sinful world with this worldly people. We are in the world, but not of the world. We are strangers passing through enemy territory. We are headed for our promised land, {heaven}. If we are to make the journey successfully, we must keep the commandments of God. We can not keep the commandments unless we know what they are. The psalmist here is saying, along with us, make me understand your commandments that I might keep them.

Psalms 119:20 "My soul breaketh for the longing [that it hath] unto thy judgments at all times."

In the flesh, we can not keep the judgments of God. To know that it was impossible to keep the judgments would break your heart. Even Paul, said that he wanted to do the will of God, but many times his flesh protested. The spirit of man desires to please God. The flesh of man wants to please his own flesh. The soul of man is the battle ground. Man must make his flesh obey the spirit, for his soul to be at peace.

Psalms 119:21 "Thou hast rebuked the proud [that are] cursed, which do err from thy commandments."

The proud do not want any one, or anything, telling them what to do. They want to do it their own way. The proud are cursed, because they do not humble themselves and seek the Saviour. The proud are not interested in

doing the commandments of God, because they would not be in total control. The proud will not submit to the authority of God.

Psalms 119:22 "Remove from me reproach and contempt; for I have kept thy testimonies."

The psalmist just has to be David, because this sounds just like him. He has kept the testimonies of the Lord in his heart. It is bad enough to feel the reproach of earthly friends, but David is saying he could not bear the contempt of God. He is asking, here, for all contempt and reproach to be removed.

Psalms 119:23 "Princes also did sit [and] speak against me: [but] thy servant did meditate in thy statutes."

The princes, mentioned here, are probably David's own sons. His sons did speak out against David, and worse than that, they tried to overthrow his rule. In all of David's troubles, he never stopped thinking on the things of God. He considered the law of God in all of His actions.

Psalms 119:24 "Thy testimonies also [are] my delight [and] my counsellors."

Worldly counsellors give bad advice. David is saying here, that his advice was found in the Lord's teachings. There are no problems that arise that the answer cannot be found in the Bible.

Psalms 119:25 "{DALETH.} My soul cleaveth unto the dust: quicken thou me according to thy word."

Jesus Christ is the quickening Spirit. 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." Our body is but dust, and it shall surely return to dust. The psalmist, here, is sorrowful at his earthly connection. He will put his trust and hope in the Word of God.

Psalms 119:26 "I have declared my ways, and thou heardest me: teach me thy statutes."

This is possibly saying, I have repented and you heard me and forgave me. Teach me your ways so that I will not sin against God. I John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." I believe the psalmist, here, has sought and found forgiveness. Now he wants to be sure not to fall back into sin again. That is why he is asking to be taught God's statutes.

Psalms 119:27 "Make me to understand the way of thy precepts: so shall I talk of thy wondrous works."

Precepts, above, means mandate or the law collectively. When we truly understand the teachings of the Lord, then we can minister to others that they might know, also, the teachings of the Lord. The psalmist, here, is very well aware that the understanding of the ways of God are a gift from God. We can accumulate learning of the Word, but until the Lord opens our understanding of His Word, we can not have the wisdom it takes to be able to

apply it to our life. Wisdom is not accumulated learning, it is a gift from God.

Psalms 119:28 "My soul melteth for heaviness: strengthen thou me according unto thy word."

Strengthen my inner man is the request of the psalmist here. The sorrow in his heart is just about to melt him away. When we come to the end of ourself, then God takes over and makes us into what He would have us to be. 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." When we get to the place where we are at the end of what we can do, then God takes over. Praise God! It is not in my power that I write these Bible studies. It is Christ in me.

Psalms 119:29 "Remove from me the way of lying: and grant me thy law graciously."

The psalmist is saying, that not only does he want to not lie himself, but he does not want anyone else to lie to him either. Those who love to and make a lie are listed as those headed for destruction. The grace of God takes the place of the law of God in our lives. Jesus fulfilled the law, that we might live under His grace.

Psalms 119:30 "I have chosen the way of truth: thy judgments have I laid [before me]."

Jesus is the Way and the Truth. There are only two ways to go in this life. One way is to follow after Truth. The other way is the way of Satan, who is the father of all lies. David has chosen the way of Truth. He has put the judgments of God before him and considered them, and has chosen to walk in Truth.

Psalms 119:31 "I have stuck unto thy testimonies: O LORD, put me not to shame."

The psalmist is saying, here, that he has based everything he believes upon the testimonies of the Lord. He has based his life on the Word of God. We should say with David, here, that we have based our life upon the Word of God. We trust in the Living Word. Then he adds, as if there was a possibility that God's covenant with man is questionable, whether it will be kept. I know that David had no such feelings. This little addition here is showing the folly of such thinking. He is saying, keep covenant with me O Lord.

Psalms 119:32 "I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart."

To run, and not walk, shows an eagerness to do the commandments of God. The heart is what a man is. With a heart that is enlarged to the things of God, there would be wonderful activity in doing the commandments.

Psalms 119:33 "{HE.} Teach me, O LORD, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it [unto] the end."

Man can not teach you God's ways. Only God can truly teach you His ways. He is saying, open my understanding to your ways, Lord and I will stay in that way, until the day I leave this world. We can say, from this, if we are truly seeking the ways of God, we will find them. When we truly find the understanding spoken of here, it will be with us all the days of our life. To know and love God is a growing experience. The more we study His Word, the more He reveals to us. The more He reveals to us, the more we want to know. Those who seek the Truth, find it.

Psalms 119:34 "Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with [my] whole heart."

This understanding is not so much a learning on the part of the psalmist, but is a gift from God. Notice, the word {give}. He, also, is saying, that he will not reserve a portion of his heart for worldly things, he will give all his heart to God. Let us look at just how important it is to give God all of our heart. Mark 12:33 "And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love [his] neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."

Psalms 119:35 "Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight."

When I see this it reminds me of {Lead me in the paths of righteousness for thy name's sake}. Lead me, guide me, do not let me wander away. Keep your Light ever before me and draw me unto You. Lord the desire of my heart is to follow You. 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." There is a path that we must walk that is straight and narrow, but it is well lighted by the Light of Jesus. Keep us in thy Light.

Psalms 119:36 "Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness."

One of the commandments of God is, thy shalt not covet. We must not claim, or desire, things that belong to others. You may call it what you want to, but that is coveting. If we have the testimonies of the Lord ever before us, we will not covet. Anything displeasing to God is sin. The psalmist is saying here, cause my heart to be open to your teachings, Lord.

Psalms 119:37 "Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; [and] quicken thou me in thy way."

The very things that got Eve in trouble in the garden of Eden included lusting with her eyes. She looked on the fruit with desire in her heart. Jesus told the disciples, that to look on a woman with lust in their heart caused them to be guilty of adultery. The psalmist knows the danger of looking with lustful eyes at things of the earth. He is saying, do not even let me turn my eyes in the direction of sin. Let me remember thy way and not be tempted by things of this world.

Psalms 119:38 "Stablish thy word unto thy servant, who [is devoted] to thy fear."

When something is established, it means it cannot be moved. He is saying, put your Word so steadfastly in my heart that nothing will be able to move it. Then he says, I greatly fear the Lord. Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. The fear, here, is, also, a great reverence of the Lord. So much reverence and fear causes him to desire that the Word will not be shaken in his heart.

Psalms 119:39 "Turn away my reproach which I fear: for thy judgments [are] good."

David is not alone in fearing the reproach of God. I believe about the worst thing that could happen to someone who loves the Lord, would be rejection by Him. We read in Matthew of those who believed they were saved, and when they stood before the Lord in judgment, He rejected them. They had not lived the salvation they had received. Here is the rejection in the words of Jesus. Matthew 7:23 "And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." We are not to second guess the judgment of God. His judgments are good. We look at the outward appearance of man, but God looks on the heart. He judged their hearts and found them guilty of sin.

Psalms 119:40 "Behold, I have longed after thy precepts: quicken me in thy righteousness."

The desire of all those who are wise, is to receive the righteousness of Christ. We should be aware that our own righteousness is but filthy rags. The only hope for us, is to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and receive His righteousness. His righteousness buys our eternal life for us.

Psalms 123 Questions

1. What shows us that the psalmist, in verse 17, has already made his decision to follow the Lord?
2. Why do we know the blessings that he is seeking are not material?
3. What is it as if the psalmist is asking for here?
4. What is the concern of the servant in verse 17?
5. How do you know the psalmist, in verse 18, was not physically blind?
6. What is verse 18 speaking of, if not physical blindness?
7. The law is actually an outward expression of the ____ -- ---.
8. What 2 things is the Holy Spirit?
9. What are the words of the chorus we sing here?
10. The psalmist said he was a _____ in the earth?
11. Who should be able to say that with the psalmist?
12. We are __ the world, but we are not __ the world.
13. We are we on a journey to?
14. If I am to be successful on my journey, I must keep the _____ of God.
15. The flesh of man wants to please ____ ____ ____.
16. How can the soul of man be at peace?
17. Why are the proud cursed?
18. In verse 22, he asks for two things to be removed from him, what are they?
19. Who are the princes in verse 23?
20. Worldly counselors give _____.
21. Who is the quickening Spirit?
22. Quote 1 Corinthians chapter 15 verse 45.
23. Quote 1 John chapter 1 verse 9?
24. What does precepts mean in verse 27?
25. Wisdom is not accumulated learning, it is a ____ from ____.
26. God's strength is made perfect in our _____.
27. In verse 29, he asks for the Lord to remove what?
28. Who is the Way and Truth?
29. Who is the father of all lies?
30. What does the word, run, show us in verse 32?
31. In verse 33, he promises to keep the statutes of God, how long?
32. The understanding, in verse 34, comes from what?
33. Verse 35 reminds the author of what?
34. Quote 1 John chapter 1 verse 7.
35. What is covetness?
36. What was one of the main things that got Eve in trouble in the garden of Eden?
37. Jesus said, to look on a woman to lust is committing what sin in your heart?
38. What does the word {stablished} mean?
39. Where do we read of Jesus rejecting someone, who thought he was saved?
40. What righteousness do we need?

We will continue the verse by verse study of the 119th Psalm with Psalms 119:41 {VAU.} "Let thy mercies come also unto me, O LORD, [even] thy salvation, according to thy word."

We see in this, the psalmist crying out for mercy. Not any one in their right mind wants justice. We would all fall short, if God meted out justice to us. It is through His great mercy and grace, that we are saved. Salvation is a free gift. It is unmerited favor with the Lord. From Genesis to Revelation, we see the salvation of man through the Saviour. His Word tells of the Saviour.

Psalms 119:42 "So shall I have wherewith to answer him that reproacheth me: for I trust in thy word."

Trust placed in the Word of God, is trust that will produce favor. This type of trust brings life. The world thinks that trust in God is foolish. The world will not be saved. There are several Scriptures I would like to share on that subject here. I Corinthians 1:18 "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." 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." I Corinthians 1:23 "But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;" I Corinthians 1:25 "Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men." There is no need to argue with the world. They do not understand. I Corinthians 2:14 "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know [them], because they are spiritually discerned."

Psalms 119:43 "And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth; for I have hoped in thy judgments."

There is a miracle utterance that this is probably speaking of here. Luke 12:11 "And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and [unto] magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say:" Luke 12:12 "For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say." Matthew 10:27 "What I tell you in darkness, [that] speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, [that] preach ye upon the housetops." All of this speaks of a miracle utterance which the Lord, through the Holy Spirit, has you to say. Ministers call it the anointing of God. He is really saying, if you were to take away the miracle utterance from me, I would not be able to effectively speak of your judgments.

Psalms 119:44 "So shall I keep thy law continually for ever and ever."

This a declaration of a determination on the part of the psalmist to keep the law of God as long as he lives.

Psalms 119:45 "And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts."

Those whom the Lord sets free, are free indeed. Those who desire to live a holy life before the Lord, find that there is liberty in this

decision. They are no longer under the bondage of sin. To seek to know the ways of the Lord is certainly the factor that sets us free.

Psalms 119:46 "I will speak of thy testimonies also before kings, and will not be ashamed."

The truly anointed of God to minister, do not care if the listener be royalty or a commoner, the message is the same. They all need the Saviour. Jesus gave us a very good reason why we should never be ashamed of Him or the gospel. Mark 8:38 "Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Psalms 119:47 "And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved."

I John 5:3 "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous." To those who choose to keep the commandments, they are a delight. The commandments of God were given to help man in his walk with God on this earth. They are not just a set of rules that are hard to keep. They are to benefit man.

Psalms 119:48 "My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved; and I will meditate in thy statutes."

The lifting of the hands upward are a sign of praise to God. He is saying, I will praise God for His commandments. He loves them. He meditates {thinks deeply} about the teachings. In them, he finds life.

Psalms 119:49 "{ZAIN.} Remember the word unto thy servant, upon which thou hast caused me to hope."

The Word of God brings hope. It is the one thing in life that we can depend on. God does not lie. The hope that the Word brings the believer is true. We can see in the covenant that God made with Abraham, that God fulfills His promises. Usually God lets an impossibility in the flesh arise, and then He brings the miracle, as He did in Isaac. Abraham and Sarah were beyond the childbearing years, when God sent them a miracle son, Isaac. The hope of the Christian is of the resurrection.

Psalms 119:50 "This [is] my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me."

What a shame when someone dies in a family, who does not believe in God. They have nothing to comfort them. Even in the afflictions of Job, he was comforted knowing that the Lord would redeem him. The Word of God brings comfort. Jesus is the quickening Spirit.

Psalms 119:51 "The proud have had me greatly in derision: [yet] have I not declined from thy law."

We remember, in a previous verse, that the proud are cursed. Those who are cursed never have much respect for those who have chosen to serve God. Even though the world around us may criticize us for serving God, it does not affect the true believer. They go right on serving God.

Psalms 119:52 "I remembered thy judgments of old, O LORD; and have comforted myself."

Again, we see that the Word of God continues to comfort him. How quickly some forget the blessings of the past. It is good to look back and see the blessings of the past. God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He still will bless us, if we will only believe.

Psalms 119:53 "Horror hath taken hold upon me because of the wicked that forsake thy law."

If we read and study the Word of God, we know that those who decide to turn against God and live for their fleshly desires are facing a horrible future. God blesses abundantly those who love Him and serve Him, but there are terrible things awaiting those who do not accept Him as Saviour. The Word of God has a great deal to say about this.

Psalms 119:54 "Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage."

There is nothing more beautiful, than the Word of God put to music. If you look carefully at the old hymnals, you will see that the people who wrote them, knew the Word of God. They are Scripturally correct in 95% of the cases.

Psalms 119:55 "I have remembered thy name, O LORD, in the night, and have kept thy law."

Probably, when we lay down to sleep at night, we think back over the Words in the Bible more than we do as we are rushing to get a job done in the day. Sometimes when I have the wide-awakes, I get up and pray and read my Bible a large part of the night. It is so quiet, it is a good time to fellowship with God. In looking over the happenings of the day, I realize I have kept the law of the Lord.

Psalms 119:56 "This I had, because I kept thy precepts."

The person who seeks to do the will of God, will be led into these other things we have been reading of here. He is saying that these blessings came to him, because he was doing the will of God.

Psalms 124 Questions

1. Who wants justice from God?
2. Salvation is a _____.
3. The type of trust, spoken of in verse 42, will produce _____.
4. The preaching of the cross is _____ to the Greeks.
5. God chose that by the foolishness of _____ to save people.
6. The _____ of God is wiser than men.
7. 1 Corinthians says, the natural man does not receive the things of God, because they are _____ discerned.
8. What type of utterance is verse 43 speaking of?
9. What ye hear in the ear, preach on the _____.
10. How long has the psalmist promised to keep the law?
11. They are no longer under the bondage of _____.
12. Quote Psalms chapter 119 verse 45.
13. Quote Mark chapter 8 verse 38.
14. This is the love of God, that we _____ His _____.
15. What does the lifting of the hands, in verse 48, show?
16. What does meditate mean?
17. The laws of God are for the _____ of man.
18. What is the one thing, in this life, that we can depend upon?
19. What brings a miracle from God?
20. Job, in his afflictions, was comforted by what?
21. What did the psalmist comfort himself with?
22. What type of future do those have who reject the Lord?
23. There is nothing more beautiful than the Word of God being put to _____.
24. Quote Psalms chapter 119 verse 56.

We will continue the verse by verse study of the 119th chapter of Psalms with Psalms 119:57 "{CHETH.} [Thou art] my portion, O LORD: I have said that I would keep thy words."

We can see, in this, that the LORD is the portion of each person who seeks and finds Him. Salvation is not a collective thing. God offers salvation to the masses, but saves them, one at a time. Our relationship with God, must be a personal relationship. Joining a church is not what I am speaking of. The Lord is my personal God. He would have given His body on the cross, if I had been the only person who needed saving. The psalmist's decision to keep God's Word is, also, personal. I can not promise for anyone, but myself.

Psalms 119:58 "I entreated thy favour with [my] whole heart: be merciful unto me according to thy word."

We used the following Scripture in another recent lesson, but it says so clearly what I need to say here, that I will use it again. Mark 12:33 "And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love [his] neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." If God can not have 100% of your heart, He will not take any at all. He does not want any half-way commitments. These few verses, here, are focusing in on God's part in all of this. The psalmist is not asking for mercy on his own merits, but on the merits of the Word of God.

Psalms 119:59 "I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies."

He is saying, here, that his decision to turn unto God's testimonies was not a sudden decision. He had considered carefully and then made his decision.

Psalms 119:60 "I made haste, and delayed not to keep thy commandments."

After he had carefully considered the Word of God, and decided to follow in the testimonies of God, then he hurriedly made it right with God. This is speaking of speed, after he had decided repentung was the right thing to do. After he made his decision , he realized the urgency of being saved.

Psalms 119:61 "The bands of the wicked have robbed me: [but] I have not forgotten thy law."

A band means that this was not an individual, but a group. They have robbed him of his material goods, but this did not affect his position with God. He still remembers and keeps the law.

Psalms 119:62 "At midnight I will rise to give thanks unto thee because of thy righteous judgments."

If you were to rise at midnight to give thanks to God, it would not be for others eyes. This would be a personal thanksgiving for His righteous

judgments. Jesus is the Righteous Judge. Those, who keep His commandments, have nothing to fear from the righteous judgment of the Lord.

Psalms 119:63 "I [am] a companion of all [them] that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts."

This is saying, that he fellowships with those of like belief. We are told, over and over, not to be unequally yoked to those of unbelief. This would be like fellowshiping with the members of your church. To fellowship with the world brings heartache. Fear, in this instance, is speaking of holding God in reverence.

Psalms 119:64 "The earth, O LORD, is full of thy mercy: teach me thy statutes."

The sun shines, because of the mercy of God. The rain waters the crops, because of the mercy of God. I am living and breathing because of the mercy of God. I could go on and on, but you can get the picture from this. The earth is filled with the mercy of God. The Scripture says, it rains on the just and the unjust. God is merciful. He is not willing for even one to be lost. Someday the patience of God will run out. God will not force Himself upon anyone, but He will teach His ways to those who are willing to receive the salvation that He made available to all.

Psalms 119:65 "{TETH.} Thou hast dealt well with thy servant, O LORD, according unto thy word."

There is a change of tense here. The psalmist is speaking in the past tense. The psalmist is looking back to the times that the LORD had kept His Word with the psalmist. He still speaks of himself as the servant. This means that he had decided to serve the Lord, and the Lord had blessed him mightily.

Psalms 119:66 "Teach me good judgment and knowledge: for I have believed thy commandments."

This is not someone seeking the Lord. This person is already saved. He is just asking to grow in knowledge and judgment. Christianity is a walk. It is not a one time happening, and then never doing any more about it. When we first receive the Lord, we are baby Christians and are fed on milk and honey of the Word. Later, we are supposed to grow in the Lord, and put away childish things, and get into the meat of the Word. The best way to acquire knowledge of the Word, is to study your Bible.

Psalms 119:67 "Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word."

All have sinned and come short of the glory of God, but we do not have to stay in that lost condition. We can repent, and be saved, and then grow each day in the Lord. Salvation is a daily walk. The psalmist is saying, that after he repented, he has kept the Word of God.

Psalms 119:68 "Thou [art] good, and doest good; teach me thy statutes."

There is only one good, and that is God. The psalmist, here, is recognizing the fact that God's ways are good ways. He wants to learn the ways of God, so that he can walk in the goodness God has shown him.

Psalms 119:69 "The proud have forged a lie against me: [but] I will keep thy precepts with [my] whole heart."

There is no reason for the proud not to lie. They are not of God, and they do not keep God's Word. They do not even believe in God's Word, so why would they not lie, if it would benefit them? The psalmist is saying, that he will keep doing the teachings of God. Even though they lied about him to get an advantage over him, he will not lie to get the advantage over them. He regards God's Word too highly to sin to get even.

Psalms 119:70 "Their heart is as fat as grease; [but] I delight in thy law."

This type of heart is an evil heart stayed upon desires of the flesh. The fatness, here, would be a harm and not a help. Those, who delight in the law of God, have a pure heart.

Psalms 119:71 "[It is] good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes."

Many a person has come to God and received salvation during great afflictions. If it takes afflictions to bring a person to God, then bring on the afflictions. This had certainly been the way it had been with the Israelites. They lived in sin, until God allowed afflictions to come upon them. Each time they repented of their sins. Jesus put it even more severe. Mark 9:43 "And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:"

Psalms 119:72 "The law of thy mouth [is] better unto me than thousands of gold and silver."

There is not enough money in the world to trade for the law of God. Gold and silver are temporary luxuries for this earth. The law of God brings life to those who keep it. The law of thy mouth is the spoken Word of God. What would you exchange for your soul?

Psalms 125 Questions

1. Salvation is not a _____ thing.
2. God offers salvation to the masses, but He saves them ____ at a ____.
3. The psalmist decision to keep God's Word is, also, _____.
4. Quote Mark chapter 12 verse 33.
5. What % of your heart is the only % God will settle for?
6. The psalmist is asking for mercy on whose merits?
7. Verse 59 says, that he considered _____, and then made his decision.
8. When did he begin to hurry?
9. Is a band one person or a group?
10. In verse 62, when did he rise to give thanks?
11. What is different about giving thanks at midnight?
12. Who was the psalmist companion to?
13. Who is the Righteous Judge?
14. Name just a few of the merciful things God does every day.
15. Who does God teach His ways?
16. In verse 65, what does the psalmist call himself?
17. In verse 66, what two things did the psalmist ask God to teach him?
18. How is the best way to acquire knowledge of the Word?
19. ____ have sinned and come short of the glory of God.
20. Salvation is a daily _____.
21. Who is the only good One?
22. Why would it be logical for the proud to lie?
23. In verse 70, their heart is as fat as _____.
24. It is good for me that I have been _____.
25. What was the more severe statement Jesus made about afflictions?
26. What is the law of Thy mouth?

We will continue the verse by verse study of the 119th Psalm with Psalms 119:73 "{JOD.} Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments."

This is a recognition by the psalmist of the fact that he was created by God. The statement, fashioned me, reminds me of the fact that God reached into the dust of the earth and formed and fashioned a clay doll that He called man. He breathed the breath of life in that clay doll, and he became a living soul. Genesis 2:7 "And the LORD God formed man [of] the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." He is saying, God you made me, so it is in your power to give me understanding. This is very much like Jesus opening the understanding of the disciples. He does not just want to read the commandments, but he wants to understand what they are saying.

Psalms 119:74 "They that fear thee will be glad when they see me; because I have hoped in thy word."

They that fear Thee, is possibly speaking of those who hold God in high esteem. When God opens our understanding to His teachings, we should share it with others, so that they might understand, too. I love Bible study where everyone shares what God has revealed to them. We can all help each other, if we will do this. Christians should be overjoyed that God has revealed something to someone. There is no place for jealousy among believers. It seems, here, that the Lord revealed the truth to him, because he placed his hope in the Word. Diligently study the Bible, and you will be amazed what God will reveal to you.

Psalms 119:75 "I know, O LORD, that thy judgments [are] right, and [that] thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me."

He trusts the fact that God would not allow anything to come upon him that was not for his own good. Many times, afflictions make us closer to God. We pray more, when there is a problem in our life. Romans 5:3 "And not only [so], but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;" Romans 5:4 "And patience, experience; and experience, hope:" Romans 5:5 "And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." Even Paul had a thorn in his flesh. We will see what Paul has to say the reason for his affliction was. II Corinthians 12:7 "And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure." Afflictions are sometimes for our good. Neither the psalmist here, or Paul, questioned the judgment of God in their afflictions.

Psalms 119:76 "Let, I pray thee, thy merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to thy word unto thy servant."

The psalmist, here, is not asking God to remove the affliction, he is just asking him to make it possible for him to go through the affliction. He is even saying, help me to find comfort in the affliction. God does not mind us reminding Him of His Word. In fact, He likes to know that we know what His Word says.

Psalms 119:77 "Let thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live: for thy law [is] my delight."

Notice, that he has added the word tender to the mercies of God. This type mercy would be the kind a loving Father would show to His young child. Well, is that not what the believers are? Whatever this affliction is, it is so severe that he believes he might die. He is not ready to die, and asks that his life be spared. Again, he reminds God that God's law is not grievous to him.

Psalms 119:78 "Let the proud be ashamed; for they dealt perversely with me without a cause: [but] I will meditate in thy precepts."

Perversely, in this Scripture, means to make crooked. This means that they deceived him in their dealings with them. We remember who the proud are. They are too proud to humble themselves and receive the Lord. They are lost. This would be a common practice of someone who was lost. They would have no conscience, and they would do whatever it took to benefit them. He is saying, that even though they dealt with him in a crooked manner, he will not do the same to them, because he remembers the teachings of God's law. He is saying, I will do it your way, Lord.

Psalms 119:79 "Let those that fear thee turn unto me, and those that have known thy testimonies."

Those that fear Thee, here, are possibly speaking of those who hold God in high esteem. The psalmist, here, is saying for God to cause those who believe in God, to come and line up with him. Christians should forgive their Christian brothers and sisters and take them back in the fold, if they turn away from some sin they have committed.

Psalms 119:80 "Let my heart be sound in thy statutes; that I be not ashamed."

We have said, over and over, that we are what our heart is. The most important thing is to be right in our own heart. This is even more important than having others come and stand with you. To be sound of heart, would mean that the heart was not sick with sin. Only those, who have a conscience, are ashamed when things are not right.

Psalms 119:81 "{CAPH.} My soul fainteth for thy salvation: [but] I hope in thy word."

His soul desired salvation to the point that he almost fainted trying to get it. He placed his hope in the Word of God. He knew that the Word of God promised salvation to whosoever would take it. He was depending on that promise, because he knew the Word of God was true.

Psalms 119:82 "Mine eyes fail for thy word, saying, When wilt thou comfort me?"

Have you ever read the Word of God until the words all seemed to run together? This is, probably, what he is saying here. He is searching the Word of God finding a promise that can comfort him and give him hope.

Psalms 119:83 "For I am become like a bottle in the smoke; [yet] do I not forget thy statutes."

This bottle is probably not made of glass, but leather. If leather gets near a fire, it will dry it out and probably cause it to leak. A cracked bottle would be of very little use. He is saying, I am all dried up and of very little use to any one, but I have not forgotten your Word.

Psalms 119:84 "How many [are] the days of thy servant? when wilt thou execute judgment on them that persecute me?"

He is, asking, how long is he going to live and be persecuted by his enemies. When will you take vengeance on them that persecute me? He reminds God that he is His servant. He knows that God has taught that He would take vengeance for his servants. They are not to do it themselves.

Psalms 119:85 "The proud have digged pits for me, which [are] not after thy law."

God knows that the proud are not followers of His law. He did not need the psalmist to remind him. He tells God that these evil, worldly people have dug a pit to throw him in. Whether these pits were for his body after he died, or just a pit to hold him prisoner in, is not explained.

Psalms 119:86 "All thy commandments [are] faithful: they persecute me wrongfully; help thou me."

God's enemies and the enemies of the psalmist are the same. The psalmist is explaining to God that he was not guilty of the things they accused him of. He, also, reminds the Lord that he would not have done the evil thing they accuse him of, because he lived by God's commandments. He says, I know your commandments are faithful and I would not sin against You.

Psalms 119:87 "They had almost consumed me upon earth; but I forsook not thy precepts."

Even though it seemed he would die at their hand, he would not turn away from the teachings of God to stop them.

Psalms 119:88 "Quicken me after thy lovingkindness; so shall I keep the testimony of thy mouth."

We said, in an earlier lesson, that the testimony of Thy mouth would be the spoken Word. To quicken is to make alive. When Jesus quickens man, it is the spirit that is quickened. You love me and are kind to me, so make me alive in my spirit, is what the psalmist is saying. He also says, if the Lord does this, he will speak the Word to the people.

This has been a mournful cry to God, because of the affliction he suffered. It seems the worldly people around him had taken advantage of the fact that he was afflicted, and they cheated him on every hand. This cry is that God will take vengeance on the psalmist's enemy, who is, also, the enemy of God.

Psalms 126 Questions

1. What does the psalmist recognize God as, in verse 73?
2. What was he asking God to give him?
3. Why did he want this gift from God?
4. What was man formed of?
5. When did man become a living soul?
6. Who will be glad when they see him?
7. Who is it speaking of when it says, they that fear thee?
8. When God opens our understanding to His truths, what should we do with it?
9. Why had God revealed it to him?
10. I know that thy judgments are _____.
11. Quote Romans chapter 5 verses 3, 4, and 5.
12. Why did Paul say that God had not removed the thorn in his flesh?
13. In verse 76, what is he asking the Lord to do?
14. What word did he add to the mercies, that showed the psalmist was God's child?
15. How severe does the psalmist believe his affliction is?
16. Perversely means what?
17. Why does the psalmist not do the same thing as these who cheated him?
18. Who does the psalmist want to line up with him?
19. What does being sound of heart mean?
20. Why was his heart about to faint?
21. What does it mean, in verse 82 saying, Mine eyes fail for thy word?
22. What kind of bottle is verse 83 speaking of?
23. Who digged the pits for him?
24. What were they going to do with the pits?
25. Was the psalmist guilty of the things he was being persecuted for?
26. Quicken me after thy _____.
27. What is the testimony of thy mouth?

We will continue the verse by verse study of the 119th Psalm in Psalms 119:89 "{LAMED.} For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."

Settled, in this particular Scripture, means station. I Peter 1:25 "But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." The Word of God will never change as this Scripture and the one above clearly state. Matthew 24:35 "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."

In the last lesson, we saw the affliction of the psalmist. In this lesson, we see the psalmist seeing the unchangeable nature of the Word of God. It was this same Word that created the world. God spoke - it became.

Psalms 119:90 "Thy faithfulness [is] unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth."

God's faithfulness, is like His Word. It never fails. I have said this before, but it is absolutely amazing that God could make this ball we call earth, and fling it out into space, and tell it to stay there, and it does exactly as He said. Abideth means, continues to remain. This same God is faithful to each person, one at a time, upon this earth.

Psalms 119:91 "They continue this day according to thine ordinances: for all [are] thy servants."

He is Creator, we are His creation. The Creator controls His creation. The whole universe and everything, and everyone, in it is kept in order by the order established at creation. We are not only His servants, but we are His creation. He can do with His creation, whatever He wants to.

Psalms 119:92 "Unless thy law [had been] my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction."

Many people do not understand that the moment of our death is set by the Lord. We die, when He says it is time. We live, until He says it is enough. The psalmist had read and studied the Word of God so much, that he knew he was in the hands of God. He says, if I had not studied the Word of God, I would have just given up and died.

Psalms 119:93 "I will never forget thy precepts: for with them thou hast quickened me."

How many of us have been sick unto death {seemingly}, and then God came along, and put that extra spark of life in us, and we lived?. That extra spark is His Spirit. At the moment, it is fresh in his memory, but he is promising himself and God that he will never forget.

Psalms 119:94 "I [am] thine, save me; for I have sought thy precepts."

Precepts, in this particular instance, means appointed mandate, or commandments. The Psalmist here is giving back to God, that which already belongs to Him. He is committing himself to God. This is total commitment to God. He has studied the commandments of God and has totally given himself to

that teaching. We cannot save ourself. He speaks correctly, when he asks God to save him.

Psalms 119:95 "The wicked have waited for me to destroy me: [but] I will consider thy testimonies."

The wicked may wait to destroy, but they cannot get near those who are covered in the blood of the Lamb. He is placing all his trust in the Word of God, which he has hidden away in his heart. Proverbs 16:7 "When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him."

Psalms 119:96 "I have seen an end of all perfection: [but] thy commandment [is] exceeding broad."

The psalmist is aware that even though he loves God, and studies God's Word, he is not perfect. Only One who ever lived upon this earth was perfect, and that was Jesus Christ. The Word of God is so broad that it speaks of perfection. It, also, shows the way to perfection. In this imperfect world with imperfect people, we are not perfect. He is suddenly aware that he is not perfect, just forgiven.

Psalms 119:97 "{MEM.} O how love I thy law! it [is] my meditation all the day."

To study the law of God is a very good thing. In our study on Leviticus, we could see types and shadows of Jesus, the Lamb of God. We see from the following Scripture, that there was a definite need for the law. Galatians 3:24 "Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster [to bring us] unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith." No one could perfectly live up to the law. It just made all of mankind very aware that they needed a Saviour. He is saying, that he thinks on the law of God all the day long. When a person meditates upon something, it is their choice. That is what is meant by my meditation.

Psalms 119:98 "Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they [are] ever with me."

The people who do not study the Word of God, have no perfect example of how to live before them. The Word of God is very helpful in our day to day affairs of life. We are told who to marry, and who we should not marry. Husbands are told how to be a good husband. Wives are taught how to be a good wife, children are told how to treat their parents. We are even told how to conduct day to day transactions in business. In fact, a government could run its affairs with no problem at all with the laws God set up in Leviticus. It would make a person very wise, if he studied the Word of God everyday. If a problem arose that he did not know how to handle, he would just grab the Bible and look up the answer in God's Word. How much more wise could you be than to have the knowledge of God at your fingertips?

Psalms 119:99 "I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies [are] my meditation."

Unless the teacher spent as much time in the Word as he has spent, this would be true. Absolute Truth is in the Word of God. The teachers opinions are not always correct. Sometimes the teacher is basing what they believe on some other textbook, which is not necessarily so. The type of understanding

that the psalmist is speaking of here is a gift from God through the Holy Spirit, who is the true Teacher.

Psalms 119:100 "I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts."

He has the benefit of learning from the mistakes that the ancients made. Learning the teachings of God, and then keeping His commandments, would put him in a place of more knowledge. As I said, this type of knowledge would have been taught him by the Holy Spirit of God. The lesson opened unto him would be the Word of God. God will not just open your brain and pour in this knowledge. He will give you the ability to understand it more and more as you study. The Holy Spirit brings it to remembrance. That means you had to read and study it first, then He makes you remember. It takes some effort on your part. Hide God's teachings deep within your heart. They will be there, when you need them.

Psalms 119:101 "I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word."

He is speaking of the Bible teaching him the importance of living holy before the Lord. He says, I have disciplined my walk to match up with the Word of God. Many today do not believe it is necessary to walk holy before the Lord. The Bible teaches that you must walk the salvation that you have received. When you repent, it means that you have turned away from your life in the flesh and are walking in the spirit.

Psalms 119:102 "I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me."

I really believe that this is the secret. To walk in the will of God for your life, you must know what that will is. The psalmist has not departed from God's judgments, because he knows what God's judgments are. He has diligently studied the Word of God, and is using what he learned to guide his life. Most people who do not believe it is important to walk the holy life, spend very little, if any time, truly studying God's Word. They are not familiar with what the Bible says. They have taken someone else's word for what the Bible teaches.

Psalms 119:103 "How sweet are thy words unto my taste! [yea, sweeter] than honey to my mouth!"

Have you ever had the sensation that the psalmist is speaking of here? He has read it so much, that it is sweetness to his inner most being. This reminds me of the book that John was told to eat, that was sweet in his mouth as honey. The sweetness of the Word, to me, is that as I study it, it seems to be so personal to me. It is so ageless, that it is current today. Look with me at what Jesus said about this. 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 to partake of the Word of God {Bible} as often as you would physical bread. The Word feeds the soul of man.

Psalms 119:104 "Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way."

This is speaking of those who love the Truth, and despise the lie. The false way is the wide way that leads to destruction. Not only is the psalmist thankful that he learned the way of God and would not be led into this false way again, but he hates this way that others might be deceived into falling in. This false way is the path that leads to the father of all lies, Satan. Again I must stress, the thing that kept the psalmist, here, from getting in that false way was his understanding of the Word of God. The Word of God contains life. The false way leads to death.

Psalms 127 Questions

1. In verse 89, we read that God's Word is settled where?
2. What does settled mean in this particular Scripture?
3. Quote 1 Peter chapter 1 verse 25.
4. In Matthew chapter 24 verse 35, we read that _____ and _____ shall pass away.
5. What does abideth mean?
6. What is amazing to the author about the earth?
7. What keeps all of God's creation in order?
8. What did the psalmist say, caused him to live in verse 92?
9. Who sets the moment of our death?
10. What quickened the psalmist in verse 93?
11. What is the extra spark of life that God gives us?
12. What does precepts, in verse 94, mean?
13. Quote Proverbs chapter 16 verse 7.
14. Who is the only One who ever lived perfect upon the earth?
15. The psalmist is not perfect, just _____.
16. Where is the law of God given in the Bible?
17. Why should Christians study the law?
18. Quote Galations chapter 3 verse 24.
19. In verse 98, what had made him wiser than his enemies?
20. What are some very important things about how to live, that the law in Leviticus tells us?
21. What would make a person very wise?
22. What could possibly make him wiser than his teacher?
23. What advantage did he have over the ancients?
24. The Holy Spirit causes us to remember what?
25. What had the psalmist refrained his feet from?
26. What does repent really mean?
27. How can you walk in His will?
28. Why do people not understand that you must lead a holy life?
29. His Word is sweeter in his mouth than what?
30. Through Thy precepts, I get _____.

We will continue the verse by verse study of the 119th Psalm. Psalms 119:105 "{NUN.} Thy word [is] a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

We are living in a very darkened world. The path of life would be obscured from our view, were it not for the Light of Jesus which lights our way. John 8:12 "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." The Word {spoken of in John chapter 1} and the Light are the same. The One we know as Jesus Christ the righteous is both. The Light that directs my every step is not only that flaming torch of a light mentioned in the first of verse 105 above, but the Bible {God's Word} guides me by enlightening my understanding. If I continue to study His Word, then I will see the path that I am to walk brighter and brighter. It is very important not to go any where, unless the light guides you there. Stay in the presence of Light, until you are like Moses' head: full of His Light. Look, with me, at one more Scripture on this. Ephesians 5:8 "For ye were sometimes darkness, but now [are ye] light in the Lord: walk as children of light:" You see, we not only walk in His Light, but His Light is in us and shines forth from us.

Psalms 119:106 "I have sworn, and I will perform [it], that I will keep thy righteous judgments."

When the day star shines in our lives, it causes us to understand so fully that we will be committed, such as the psalmist is here to keep the judgments of the Lord. II Peter 1:19 "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:" When this day star, {Jesus, the Light}, shines forth within you, it does away with all darkness. It completely changes you from within.

Psalms 119:107 "I am afflicted very much: quicken me, O LORD, according unto thy word."

This is not the psalmist being pushy with God, he is just claiming the promises that God has made in His Word. He says, your Word says that you will quicken me, I believe your Word, so it is done. Remember, that the quickening is of the spirit, and not the flesh.

Psalms 119:108 "Accept, I beseech thee, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, and teach me thy judgments."

This is speaking of the sacrifice of praise. Some sacrifice is of obligation, but the sacrifice of praise is a freewill offering. This is not an obligation. The psalmist desires to praise, and so it is spoken of as a sacrifice of 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 119:109 "My soul [is] continually in my hand: yet do I not forget thy law."

The soul of man is his will. The flesh of man is always trying to take control of the soul of man. The spirit of man is in mortal battle against the flesh, and it, too, is trying to control the soul or will. It is in the psalmist hands what controls the soul. The psalmist decides what he will follow. Will his flesh rule him, or will his spirit rule him? This is, also, a decision that each of us must make, as well. The condition of our soul is in our hands as well. The psalmist has no trouble deciding, because he remembers God's law.

Psalms 119:110 "The wicked have laid a snare for me: yet I erred not from thy precepts."

The wicked are continuously trying to get us to follow the call of our flesh. They try to find out what your weakness is, and lay a trap for you. The man, that has thoroughly studied and accepted God's ways, will not be fooled into falling into this trap.

Psalms 119:111 "Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they [are] the rejoicing of my heart."

The teachings of God are, possibly, the greatest heritage we could have. Parents that truly love their children and teach them the ways of God have left their children a wonderful heritage. They may not have great material blessings to leave their children, but they have given them the greatest gift a person can have, the knowledge of how to acquire Eternal life. Testimonies, in the verse above, is speaking of the covenant of God with man. This covenant promises us eternal life.

Psalms 119:112 "I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes always, [even unto] the end."

He has made a lifetime commitment to God. He has caused his heart to listen to the teachings of the Word. We see a man whose heart is stayed upon God. We are what our heart is.

Psalms 119:113 "{SAMECH.} I hate [vain] thoughts: but thy law do I love."

This is saying, that he rejects vain thoughts. Vain thoughts are thoughts of one's self. I suppose everyone occasionally have a thought they must reject. Satan tempted Jesus with vain things, and Jesus rebuked him with the Word of God.

Psalms 119:114 "Thou [art] my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word."

The only hiding place that any of the believers have, is in the Lord. We could run and hide and the Lord would protect us, but it is time to stand and fight and God will be our shield. This shield covers our heart, where we are the most vulnerable. For the believer in Christ, He builds a hedge around us and over us of the precious shed blood of the Lamb. The blood of Jesus the Lamb, is what defeated Satan on the cross. He is afraid of the blood of Jesus. We must stand and fight for the Truth of God. He will protect us with His blood.

Psalms 119:115 "Depart from me, ye evildoers: for I will keep the commandments of my God."

Do not fellowship with those of unbelief. Witness to them and go home. Do not fellowship with them. When you fellowship with them, it is as if you are approving of their life style. Fellowship with believers, so you can build each other up in the most holy faith. He is determined to keep the Word of God. We, too, must determine in our heart to live for Jesus. We must refuse to be part of the evil that goes on around us.

Psalms 119:116 "Uphold me according unto thy word, that I may live: and let me not be ashamed of my hope."

I believe the psalmist is more concerned about what the world will think about him placing his hope in the word of God, than he is concerned about living. He does not want the worldly people around him to have any comeback at him, because of what he believes.

Psalms 119:117 "Hold thou me up, and I shall be safe: and I will have respect unto thy statutes continually."

He knows the promises of the Word so well, that he knows if God upholds him, he definitely will be safe. I don't believe this is saying that he would lose respect for God, if God doesn't keep him safe. I believe he is saying, if God does not save him, he will die, and from the grave, he cannot uphold the Lord. If he does live, he will spend all of his time uplifting God.

Psalms 119:118 "Thou hast trodden down all them that err from thy statutes: for their deceit [is] falsehood."

There are those who pretend to be of God, and are not. These are the ones spoken of here who are deceitful. Usually, someone who professes to be a believer and is not, does not keep the laws of God. Even ministers, who do not have the right relationship with God, will sometime deceive their people into believing they are doing right, when, in fact, they are sneaking around committing sins against God. Falsehood and deceit are near kinsman. Both are products of Satan. This Scripture is about those who pretend to be of God, and are really of their father, the devil.

Psalms 119:119 "Thou puttest away all the wicked of the earth [like] dross: therefore I love thy testimonies."

When silver or gold is heated to a very hot temperature, the dross comes to the top, and you can skim this trash off of the metal and leave the metal pure. This then, is speaking of God separating the evil people from His followers. The dross {trash} {sinners} are just thrown away. They must be separated from the pure in heart. This is spoken of in heaven when Jesus separates the sheep from the goats. The Bible teaches that the wheat {believers} live in the earth with the tares, until that day when God separates them and burns the tares. The wheat is carried into the great barn called heaven. He is saying, that he has read in God's Word where this will happen, and he knows he will not always have to be tormented by them. This is a promise he is looking forward to having fulfilled.

Psalms 119:120 "My flesh trembleth for fear of thee; and I am afraid of thy judgments."

Fear, or reverence, of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. The fear that a believer has of the Lord is similar to the fear a son has of his father. We know that even the earth trembled before the Lord. We know that when the presence of God was on the mountain, the mountain would tremble before Him. It would be more unnatural for us not to tremble before Him. The judgments of God are righteous. We are not righteous in our own right. The only thing that makes us able to stand before the Judge of all the world, is the fact that we are clothed with His righteousness.

Psalms 128 Questions

1. Quote Psalms chapter 119 verse 105.
2. What lights the way of the believer?
3. The Word and the Light are the _____.
4. The Word of God enlightens my _____.
5. Quote Ephesians chapter 5 verse 8.
6. Quote John chapter 8 verse 12.
7. What had the psalmist sworn in verse 106?
8. Quote 2 Peter chapter 1 verse 19.
9. Who is the Day Star?
10. Remember that the quickening is in the _____.
11. What are the freewill offerings of the mouth?
12. Quote Hebrews chapter 13 verse 15.
13. How is his soul in his hand?
14. What two things, in a man, are in constant battle?
15. What are they fighting over?
16. Why does the psalmist have no trouble deciding between the flesh and the spirit?
17. What is the snare the wicked tries to lay for those who follow God?
18. What has the psalmist taken as his heritage?
19. What is the greatest gift your parents can give you?
20. What is testimonies, in verse 111, speaking of?
21. What kind of commitment is spoken of in verse 112?
22. What are vain thoughts?
23. Thou art my _____ and my _____, I hope in the Word.
24. What is the protection that the believer in Christ has?
25. If we fellowship with those of unbelief, it is as if we are saying what?
26. Uphold me according to thy _____.
27. What is verse 117 really saying?
28. Their deceit is _____.
29. Who is verse 118 speaking of?
29. What is dross?
30. How is dross removed from silver or gold?
31. Give two more examples when the evil and those who love God are symbolized, when a separation is made?
32. What type of fear is verse 120 speaking of?

We will continue with the verse by verse study of the 119th Psalm in Psalms 119:121 "{AIN.} I have done judgment and justice: leave me not to mine oppressors."

I have mentioned before in these verses from the 119th Psalm that I believe David to be the penman. Saul had been the first of the kings of Israel, and he had done things very displeasing unto God in the last of his reign. I Samuel 28:7 "Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and inquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, [there is] a woman that hath a familiar spirit at En-dor." You see, instead of consulting with God, he had turned to a witch for advice. Saul was evil in the sight of God. David was the opposite of Saul. David had no counselors except God. David was a good king and judged the people with God's kind of justice. David's only sins against God was taking Bathsheba when she was another man's wife, and having her husband, Uriah, killed, so that he could marry her. In David's whole lifetime, his heart was stayed upon God. He had done good to the people he reigned over and had tried to live exactly the way God would have him to live. Here, David has come to the only place there had ever been help for him. He came to God for help. David always upheld God's Word, and he knew God had never let him down, either.

Psalms 119:122 "Be surety for thy servant for good: let not the proud oppress me."

He is asking God to be his security, here. You could have no better security than God. That is just what the Lord Jesus did for all the believers. The proud are not just the enemy of David, but they rejected God, and they are His enemy, as well. You stand good for me, is another way to say what David is asking here.

Psalms 119:123 "Mine eyes fail for thy salvation, and for the word of thy righteousness."

His eyes fail means that he has been looking so intently waiting to see his salvation that he can barely hold his eyes open any longer. David wants to hear the righteous Word of God speak up for him against his oppressors. You could, also, look at this prophetically, and say that we, too, get to the point that it seems we are about to go under. We cry out for salvation. Sometimes we look and look, before we see the salvation in our life.

Psalms 119:124 "Deal with thy servant according unto thy mercy, and teach me thy statutes."

Notice David calls himself, thy servant. He has made his commitment to God, and he will not go back on it. He asks for God's mercy. He says, after you have forgiven me by your mercy, teach me thy statutes.

Psalms 119:125 "I [am] thy servant; give me understanding, that I may know thy testimonies."

I hear many people say that they have read the Bible, and still do not know what it is saying. The Holy Spirit of God reveals the meaning to those who diligently seek out the Word. We must pray and ask God to open our

understanding, as David is asking here. David's desire is to serve God. He wants the Spirit of God to be his Teacher that he might understand more fully.

Psalms 119:126 "[It is] time for [thee], LORD, to work: [for] they have made void thy law."

When David asks the LORD to work here, he is saying, intervene on my behalf. David has done all he can do to make things better with these people, and all the things he has done have been to no avail. Now he says, Do it for me LORD. They have not only been opposed to David, but were trying to do away with the law of God, as well.

Psalms 119:127 "Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold."

Gold was the most expensive metal at this time and David knew just how valuable it was, because he had so much of it. All of the gold stacked up had not been able to free him from this problem. David knew that the commandments of God were not to be compared with earthly things like gold. David would have given all the gold in his possession, if necessary, for the commandments. David did give a tremendous fortune of gold and silver for the use in building the temple in Jerusalem.

Psalms 119:128 "Therefore I esteem all [thy] precepts [concerning] all [things to be] right; [and] I hate every false way."

Since these ungodly people around David tried to destroy the law of God in a previous verse, we see David upholding it even more. David put the laws of God above everything, except God Himself. David knew that God and His law were absolute truth. David learned well the teaching of God, and he knew that anything false was from the devil himself. David's hate for the false way was really a righteous hate.

Psalms 119:129 {PE.} "Thy testimonies [are] wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them."

Testimonies, in the verse above, has to do with witness. The wonderful witness of the Word {Jesus Christ} turned the believing world upside down. David is saying, that the Word is so wonderful, is why he keeps them. We can say with David, that the Bible is so wonderful. You can read the same Scripture a thousand times and find something brand new every time you read it. The Word of God is alive. The same Word that ministered to people a thousand years ago is still current today. The Bible is more current than your daily newspaper. I could go on and on , but that is wonderful enough for me to desire to live by it.

Psalms 119:130 "The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple."

When you read and study the Word of God {Bible}, it is like an electric light bulb of understanding goes off in your mind. The Word sheds Light on every aspect of life. It is so strange, to me, that people who never went beyond the second grade in school are the very people who understand the meaning of the Scriptures better than some college graduates. The understanding is a gift from God. This understanding is not accumulated

learning in school. Jesus taught a simple message of salvation. One of the problems today is that we complicate it with big words, thinking that makes us look intelligent.

Psalms 119:131 "I opened my mouth, and panted: for I longed for thy commandments."

This Scripture reminds me of the Scripture that speaks of hungering and thirsting after righteousness. Matthew 5:6 "Blessed [are] they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." David is so diligently seeking the teachings of God, that it is as if he is out of breath for the search.

Psalms 119:132 "Look thou upon me, and be merciful unto me, as thou usest to do unto those that love thy name."

Those that love the name of God and His teachings, can get audience with God at any time. David is asking for the mercy, he has been reading about, to be available to him. This is like saying, may I have your attention for a moment. David does not want God to turn away from him.

Psalms 119:133 "Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me."

Show me, in your Word, what you would have me to do. David is asking God to protect him from temptations. Let me study your Word, and let it direct me away from temptation, would be another way of saying this.

Psalms 119:134 "Deliver me from the oppression of man: so will I keep thy precepts."

It is a fact that some men who attack us so bitterly, sometimes cause us to sin, when we get angry with them. Moses is a very good example of that, when the people had so angered him, that he disobeyed God and struck the Rock instead of speaking to it. David is saying, here, that if God would remove the oppression from these men, he could better keep God's precepts. He would not be feeling so much anger toward them, which might cause him to sin.

Psalms 119:135 "Make thy face to shine upon thy servant; and teach me thy statutes."

If God looks upon him, not with gloom and a solemn face, then he says, He made His face to shine upon me. David is speaking as if this shining down upon him will open his knowledge to the statutes of God. Perhaps, the following Scripture can say it better than I can. 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." David is saying, shine your Light in my heart, and let Your Spirit open up my knowledge of the glory of God.

Psalms 119:136 "Rivers of waters run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law."

David is weeping so much over the lost people around him that his tears are like a river. David is not only weeping for the lost people, but he is,

also, weeping for God's law, which has been taken so lightly. So many times, I have cried out myself, why do they not understand and keep your law, God? I suppose this is what is called a pastor's heart. David, and those who really are concerned about the lost people of the world around them, have a loving and caring heart. Many a mother has cried and prayed to God for her lost children. Don't you know it breaks God's heart to see His creation taking the Word of God so lightly?

Psalms 129 Questions

1. I have done _____ and _____ : leave me not to mine oppressors.
2. Who does the author believe to be the penman here?
3. What evil council did Saul seek?
4. Who was David's only counselor?
5. What was the blemish in David's walk with God?
6. David always upheld God's _____.
7. What is David saying, when he asks God to be surety for him?
8. Who are the proud the enemy of?
9. What is meant by, mine eyes fail for thy salvation?
10. How does David want God to deal with him?
11. What did David call himself in verse 124?
12. What did David want understanding for?
13. What reveals the meaning of the Scriptures to one seeking to know the meaning?
14. What is David saying, when he asks God to work in verse 126?
15. He said he loved what above gold?
16. What was the most expensive metal in David's time?
17. Anything false is of the _____.
18. Thy testimonies are _____.
19. Who turned the believing world upside down?
20. What does the author believe is wonderful about reading the Word?
21. The entrance of thy _____ giveth light.
22. Strangely enough, who seems to understand the meaning of Scriptures better than the college graduates?
23. Why is this so?
24. Quote Matthew chapter 5 verse 6.
25. David is so diligently seeking the teachings of God, that it seems like he is doing what?
26. Who can get audience with God any time?
27. Order my steps in thy _____.
28. Deliver me from the _____ of man.
29. Make thy _____ to shine upon thy servant.
30. Quote 2 Corinthians chapter 4 verse 6.
31. What are 2 reasons David is weeping a river of tears?

We will continue the verse by verse study of the 119th Psalm with Psalms 119:137 "{TZADDI.} Righteous [art] thou, O LORD, and upright [are] thy judgments."

LORD, here, is Jehovah. Righteousness is the character of Jehovah. Jesus Christ {the Word} is, also, righteous. The judgments of God are above all other judgments. They are right, they are pure, they are truth. Just as there is no blemish to be found in the judgments of the LORD, there is no blemish in His Word.

Psalms 119:138 "Thy testimonies [that] thou hast commanded [are] righteous and very faithful."

This is so clear in its meaning, that it leaves nothing to be said. The Word is beyond question. It is absolute truth. You can depend on it, it will not let you down. This is, also, true of not just the testimonies, but of the One who spoke them, as well.

Psalms 119:139 "My zeal hath consumed me, because mine enemies have forgotten thy words."

David is so heart sick, because their enemies {his and God's}, have not realized how perfect the Words of God are. They not only did not realize, but they did not even accept them as the Word of God. If they did not believe there was a God, then possibly that explains why they do not believe His Word. If they would stop and listen to it, or read it, then they would have to admit that it far surpassed all other things written or spoken. This is just saying, that he is utterly grieved by them not accepting God's Word.

Psalms 119:140 "Thy word [is] very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it."

If this were speaking of gold, it would be stated that it was 24 Kt. All of the imperfections of most writings are not found in this Word. It is perfect. It must not be added to, or taken away from. David loves it, because it is perfect. It can not be improved upon. Truth, in its purest form, can not be improved upon, and that is what God's Word is. Perfection would be a good description.

Psalms 119:141 "I [am] small and despised: [yet] do not I forget thy precepts."

This would almost make you believe that this is not David, but you must remember he is doing the talking here. This is his own description of himself. Even though those around him despise him, he still remembers the teachings of God.

Psalms 119:142 "Thy righteousness [is] an everlasting righteousness, and thy law [is] the truth."

The righteousness of God is like God himself, it has no beginning and has no end. Jesus said I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. Jesus is the fulfillment of the law.

Psalms 119:143 "Trouble and anguish have taken hold on me: [yet] thy commandments [are] my delights."

David's life had been full of sorrow and anguish over his children and grandchildren. Absalom, had given him many heartaches, because of his jealousy over Solomon. Power and money in this life have a tendency to bring sorrow more than poverty does. Families that are torn apart can bring more sorrow than we can bear. The delights that helped David through all of this was the commandments of God. The covenant that God had made with man was an Unbreakable covenant. David looked at God's Word in time of sorrow, and it helped him.

Psalms 119:144 "The righteousness of thy testimonies [is] everlasting: give me understanding, and I shall live."

If he could only truly understand the teachings of God, it would cause him to have life back in his spirit. Family problems can break your spirit to the point, that sometimes, it seems hardly worth the effort to go on. If David's understanding were opened, he would be able to see the end of all this and a better tomorrow.

Psalms 119:145 {KOPH.} "I cried with [my] whole heart; hear me, O LORD: I will keep thy statutes."

This prayer to God is a sincere prayer from the heart. The fact that the prayer brought tears, is another sign of the sincerity of the prayer. Open your ears to me, and do not close me out LORD. Notice, the determination of David in this prayer to keep the ways of the LORD. The keeping of the statutes is not a condition of the prayer. David would keep the statutes anyway. He is just reminding God that he does keep his statutes.

Psalms 119:146 "I cried unto thee; save me, and I shall keep thy testimonies."

This keeping of the testimonies is conditional. He would keep the testimonies, if the Lord saved him. If he were not saved, he would not be wishing to do the testimonies of the LORD. The only way to get saved, is to sincerely cry out to be saved.

Psalms 119:147 "I prevented the dawning of the morning, and cried: I hoped in thy word."

This is saying, he was up all night praying. He did not wait until break of day to begin. He has studied God's Word, and knows that it promises salvation to all who seek it. His hope is that he has fulfilled his part, so that salvation will come to him.

Psalms 119:148 "Mine eyes prevent the [night] watches, that I might meditate in thy word."

This is just saying, that he did not go to bed at the usual bedtime. He stayed up and prayed, and thought on God's Word. He finds comfort in God's Word. He knows it is true, and he is praying that it will come true in his life.

Psalms 119:149 "Hear my voice according unto thy lovingkindness: O LORD, quicken me according to thy judgment."

He is asking God to hear him, because God is kind, and loving and good. David does not even try to claim any rights with God. He wants God to hear him, because God is kind, not because he deserves to be heard. We said, in a previous lesson, that the quickening is of the spirit, and not of the flesh. You can read about this in the 15th chapter of 1 Corinthians. He does not fear the judgment of God, because he knows God is merciful to those who admit their sin.

Psalms 119:150 "They draw nigh that follow after mischief: they are far from thy law."

Those who do not keep the law of God are not of God, they are of the devil. They are like the devil, in that they roam around seeking whom they may destroy. They are not happy to be lost themselves, they would like to cause others to get in the mischief with them. They prey on those they believe to be helpless. This would have been the case with David, but he had the LORD on his side. One, and the LORD, are a majority.

Psalms 119:151 "Thou [art] near, O LORD; and all thy commandments [are] truth."

We are promised in the Word of God that He will never leave us, or forsake us. He is always as close as our next prayer. David is now feeling the presence of God. He glorifies the commandments of the LORD one more time.

Psalms 119:152 "Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever."

From the time that David had been a young lad, he had known and loved God. He knew that God had been with him, when he herded the sheep and fought off the wild animals. When David came against Goliath, he came in the name of God. He had always known and trusted the testimonies of God. This same God had kept Saul from killing him. He had known from his old time relationship with God, that The LORD God He is God. He knew that He was the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, from the things he had read about them. There had never been a doubt with David that God had founded His testimonies forever.

Psalms 130 Questions

1. LORD, in verse 137, is whom?
2. What is the character of Jehovah?
3. Describe the judgments of God.
4. Thy testimonies that thou hast commanded are _____ and _____.
5. This not only covers the testimonies, but who?
6. What has consumed him in verse 139?
7. What is verse 139 talking about?
8. What explains why they do not believe His Word?
9. What Kt. would the Word be, if it were gold?
10. Why does David love the Word so much?
11. What would almost make you believe that it is not David writing verse 141?
12. Why can we assume it is David?
13. What is the righteousness of God like?
14. _____ is the fulfillment of the law.
15. What was the anguish in David's life?
16. What helped David through the anguish?
17. Why would it help David, if his understanding were opened?
18. What is verse 145?
19. How do you know it is in earnest?
20. What did preventing the dawning mean?
21. What was meant by, preventing the night watches?
22. What did David do, while he was up?
23. Hear my voice according to thy _____.
24. Where do we read more about the quickening Spirit?
25. Those who are not following God are who?
26. How do we know God is near?
27. Name several times when David knew for sure God was with him.

We will continue this verse by verse study of the 119th Psalm with Psalms 119:153 "{RESH.} Consider mine affliction, and deliver me: for I do not forget thy law."

Consider, in the verse above, is from a prime root word that means to see. Look upon my afflictions, and understand my plight, and deliver me from all my afflictions. This, again, is an urgent prayer of David. He reminds God that he has never forgotten His law.

Psalms 119:154 "Plead my cause, and deliver me: quicken me according to thy word."

The Christians are promised that we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous. This verse above is as if God will plead on the side of David. David knows that he is helpless unless God takes his side. This is like an attorney who pleads your case for you. He works on your behalf. The second Adam, is the quickening Spirit. He has nothing to do with our body. He quickens our spirit.

Psalms 119:155 "Salvation [is] far from the wicked: for they seek not thy statutes."

Salvation is offered to everyone. The secret is that we must avail ourself of it. It is a free gift, but to receive a gift, you must open your hand and receive it. 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." The wicked do not receive the salvation that is offered them. How can they receive something that they do not believe exists? They do not seek the law of God, because they do not believe in God.

Psalms 119:156 "Great [are] thy tender mercies, O LORD: quicken me according to thy judgments."

More than anywhere else in the Bible, I guess, is the mercy God showed these adulterous people, when they made the golden calf and worshipped it. I just knew that He would utterly destroy them for this. Moses plead their case, and God did not utterly destroy them. It is amazing to me, also, how He forgave them over and over. His patience and mercy is far above what we can imagine. God is slow to wrath and is easily found when a person desires to repent and come to him.

Psalms 119:157 "Many [are] my persecutors and mine enemies; [yet] do I not decline from thy testimonies."

In the greatest persecutions, David still reaches out for and depends on the testimonies of the Lord. David has faced many an enemy with very little except his faith to protect him.

Psalms 119:158 "I beheld the transgressors, and was grieved; because they kept not thy word."

In another verse similar to this, we found that David had cried seemingly rivers of tears over this very same thing. These law breakers

{transgressors} were living very close to David, because he had seen them himself. As we said before, part of David's grief was for the transgressors themselves being lost, and the other thing he was grieved for was God's law being broken.

Psalms 119:159 "Consider how I love thy precepts: quicken me, O LORD, according to thy lovingkindness."

He is saying here, take into consideration how I love your teachings. Make me alive, O Lord, with thy Spirit. He is saying, again, that he does not deserve this favor from God, but is depending on the lovingkindness of the Lord.

Psalms 119:160 "Thy word [is] true [from] the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments [endureth] for ever."

God does not make fleeting judgments. His judgments are from everlasting to everlasting. Once God has said it, there is no turning back. His judgments are absolute. They are unshakeable. John 1:1 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Notice, that the Word was in the beginning. The Word was God. God is Truth.

Psalms 119:161 "{SCHIN.} Princes have persecuted me without a cause: but my heart standeth in awe of thy word."

We have discussed, in a previous lesson, that these princes are probably David's sons. David was the King and his sons would have been princes. Even though David's own sons have persecuted David and even tried to kill him, David still knows that God's Word is true. He will not abandon the Word of God, even though his sons have turned away from God. Sometimes, belief in God's Word separates families.

Psalms 119:162 "I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil."

Spoil is free for the taking, and so is the Word of God. He rejoices that something as valuable as the Word can be had for the taking.

Psalms 119:163 "I hate and abhor lying: [but] thy law do I love."

Lying is one of the sins that will keep you out of heaven. The Bible says that those who love and make lies are of their father the devil. The devil is the father of lies. The law is the opposite of lying which David hates. The law is unshakeable Truth.

Psalms 119:164 "Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments."

Seven, is symbolic of spiritual completeness. This just shows the extreme importance of praising God. The righteous judgments are truly something to be praising God for.

Psalms 119:165 "Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them."

This peace is that peace that passes all understanding. This is the peace that comes from the King of Peace {the Lord Jesus}. Philippians 4:7 "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." These who have this special peace that cannot be understood are peace makers. They are dead in Christ. Dead people are not easily offended.

Psalms 119:166 "LORD, I have hoped for thy salvation, and done thy commandments."

When the rich young ruler came before Jesus, he said, what must I do to be saved? Jesus told him to keep the commandments. He said he had kept them from his youth. Jesus told him he lacked one more thing, if he were to be perfect. He loved his money so much that he refused the last condition. You see, just doing the commandments are not enough. We must have no other gods before Him. This young ruler's god was his money.

Psalms 119:167 "My soul hath kept thy testimonies; and I love them exceedingly."

We discussed how the soul of man has to do with his will. David is saying, in this, that his will has followed the teachings of God and his spirit has overruled his flesh. He is saying, the battle within him was won by the spirit. His love for God's Word is what caused his will to line up with his spirit.

Psalms 119:168 "I have kept thy precepts and thy testimonies: for all my ways [are] before thee."

David is aware, here, that God knows more about him than he knows about himself. He says, I am an open book to you. He knows that God has looked upon his heart and found it pure.

Psalms 119:169 "{TAU.} Let my cry come near before thee, O LORD: give me understanding according to thy word."

This cry of David's is not just to come before Him, but to be near Him. This understanding that David is crying out for, here, is a gift of the Spirit of God.

Psalms 119:170 "Let my supplication come before thee: deliver me according to thy word."

Supplication, in this particular verse, means, graciousness, or entreaty. The Word of God promises deliverance for those who love and serve God. David is bringing his petition before God, coupled with God's Word.

Psalms 119:171 "My lips shall utter praise, when thou hast taught me thy statutes."

Praise from lips that do not understand God's statutes are false praise. The true praise is when your whole heart, full of understanding, praises God aloud. How can I praise except I know?

Psalms 119:172 "My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments [are] righteousness."

The tongue is the most evil part of the body. When the most evil part of the body speaks words of praise, it means the person is totally consumed with praise. When it is settled in his heart that the commands of God are righteous, there is nothing left to do but praise Him with everything within them.

Psalms 119:173 "Let thine hand help me; for I have chosen thy precepts."

The Hand of God is speaking of the Lord Jesus. A decision to follow God, always brings help from the Right Hand of God.

Psalms 119:174 "I have longed for thy salvation, O LORD; and thy law [is] my delight."

Every person who ever lived, has a longing in his heart to worship God. All the material things they might accumulate, and all the fame they might get, will not fill this longing of their heart. The Saviour is the only One who can fill this longing. Salvation is the gift we receive, when we find Him and accept Him. He is the fulfillment of the law.

Psalms 119:175 "Let my soul live, and it shall praise thee; and let thy judgments help me."

God breathed the breath of life in man, and he became a living soul. It is God that gives life. The breath of the Spirit of God can renew David's soul. When this breath of the Spirit of God comes in, it brings eternal life. David is speaking of his soul praising Him, when he says it shall praise thee. Let everything that has breath, praise the Lord. God's judgments have always been to benefit man.

Psalms 119:176 "I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek thy servant; for I do not forget thy commandments."

The Great Shepherd will always go in search of the sheep that has strayed. If you are His sheep, you belong to Him. He will seek, until you are found. This really is a cry of repentance from David. David's heart has been always stayed on God. He never stopped belonging to God, even though he strayed.

Psalms 131 Questions

1. What does consider mean in verse 153?
2. Who is the advocate with the Father for the believer?
3. David realizes that he is helpless, unless what?
4. Who is the quickening Spirit?
5. Who is salvation offered to?
6. What do we have to do for it to be ours?
7. Quote 1 Timothy chapter 4 verse 10.
8. Why do the wicked not receive salvation?
9. Where is one prominent place in the Bible that we see the mercy of God?
10. In David's greatest persecutions, what does he do?
11. Why was David grieved over the transgressors?
12. David wants to be quickened according to what?
13. God does not make fleeting _____.
14. Who are the princes in verse 161?
15. What is spoil?
16. In verse 163, David abhors _____.
17. How many times a day did David praise God?
18. What is that number symbolic of?
19. What is the peace spoken of in verse 165?
20. Quote Philippians chapter 4 verse 7.
21. Why did the rich young ruler go away from Jesus sorrowful?
22. The soul of man has to do with his _____.
23. What does supplication, in verse 170, mean?
24. What is important about the tongue speaking of God's Word?
25. What does every person having a longing for?
26. What can renew David's soul?
27. Who should praise the Lord?
28. In verse 176, David says he has gone astray as a _____.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 120th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

PSALM 120

- Verse 1 "In my distress to God I cried, And he gave ear to me. From lying lips and guileful tongue, O Lord, my soul set free."
 Verse 2 "What shall be given thee? or what be done to thee, false tongue? Ev'n burning coals of juniper, Sharp arrows of the strong."
 Verse 3 "Alas for me, that I abide In Mesech's land so long! That I in tabernacles dwell, To Kedar that belong."
 Verse 4 "My soul with him that hateth peace Hath Long a dweller been. I am for peace; but when I speak, For battle they are keen."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 120th Psalm. Psalms 120:1 "{A Song of degrees.} In my distress I cried unto the LORD, and he heard me."

The song of degrees is believed by many to be the song that was sung in front of the ark of the covenant, as it was brought back into the land. In all of these lessons, we have been looking more at the meaning of the Scriptures, rather than the history of the Scriptures. We are attempting to find practical applications of the Scriptures to our every day life.

I find that most of mankind does not call on the Lord, until they have run out of ideas about how to get out of the problem they are in. It is a desperate cry, then, that calls to the Lord. When you are in something, it means it surrounds you on every side. Truly the place to go in such a desperate situation is to the Lord. The most wonderful statement in the verse above is, He heard me.

Psalms 120:2 "Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying lips, [and] from a deceitful tongue."

We find, now, just exactly what the distress is. To have your reputation slandered is probably the worst hurt you can have. It does not just break your bones, it breaks your heart. There is really no way to get away from this type of attack. If a person came at you with a physical sword, you could knock it out of their hand, but cutting you to pieces with their tongue is hard to fight against. Only God could deal with this type of attack. The tongue is the most evil part of the body. It can cut you to pieces.

Psalms 120:3 "What shall be given unto thee? or what shall be done unto thee, thou false tongue?"

If Jesus were answering this, He would say cut it out. Get rid of it. Of course, that is pretty drastic. You could not trade slander for slander, because that would make you as evil as the slanderer. The slanderer probably already has a bad reputation, and is trying to bring the person he is

slandering down to his own level. There is really nothing man can do about this type of attack. The punishment must be left up to God.

Psalms 120:4 "Sharp arrows of the mighty, with coals of juniper."

There are two ways to look at this little verse. The mighty could have been speaking of the mighty of this earth. Their lies and slander against David would have been like sharp arrows shot into David's heart. Another way one might look at this is if this is the punishment from God Almighty for the terrible slander brought upon David. Those who live by the sword, must die by the sword. The coals of juniper speak of a hot fire, that burns a long time. It would fit either. My own personal opinion, is that these were still arrows from the evil tongue.

Psalms 120:5 "Woe is me, that I sojourn in Mesech, [that] I dwell in the tents of Kedar!"

The psalmist, here, is feeling a very saddened plight for himself. Meseck and Kedar were similar to Gypsies. They wandered constantly and were at war with everyone they came into contact with. They even fought with each other from time to time. There really was nothing good that could be said of either of them. David is comparing his living among these liars as being in such an awful place. The word, sojourn, means that you are passing through. Dwell, however indicates a somewhat more permanent situation. At any rate, the psalmist feels that he is caught in the middle of a group of very sinful people.

Psalms 120:6 "My soul hath long dwelt with him that hateth peace."

It seemed that the psalmist here, {who is probably David}, had lived among these evil people for a very long time. It reminds me of the believers in Christ, who are living in a very evil world. We do not understand the ways of these people, because we are not one of them. Christians are like an island to themselves. They are sojourners in an evil land. Thank goodness, we do not fit in with the liars and thieves around us. These people in the previous verse were said by historians to have been armed heavily, just looking for a fight to get into. This would be a terrible place for the peaceful little shepherd boy to live.

Psalms 120:7 "I [am for] peace: but when I speak, they [are] for war."

David was always for peace, but when he was forced into war, the Lord was with him in battle. It seemed there was no way to have peace with these people, who thought of nothing but war. Even while he was speaking to them, trying to find peaceful solutions to the problems, they had their weapons drawn ready for war.

We will continue on by giving chapter 121 in metre.

- Verse 1 "To the hills I'll lift mine eyes, Whence my hopes of succor rise; From the Lord comes all my aid, Who the earth and heav'n hath made."
- Verse 2 "He will ever be thy guide, And thy foot shall never slide; God his Israel that keeps, Never slumbers, never sleeps."
- Verse 3 "God thy keeper still shall stand, As a shade on thy right hand; Neither sun by day shall smite, Nor the silent moon by night."
- Verse 4 "God shall guard from every ill, Keep thy soul in safety still; Both without and in thy door, He will keep thee evermore."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 121st Psalm. Psalms 121:1 "{A Song of degrees.} I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help."

Sometimes, when we are in the valley of despair, as the psalmist was in the last chapter, everything looks hopeless. This verse above is the answer, not only for the psalmist, but for all who are in trouble. In this life, we go through valleys, but we must always look up for help, and climb back up to the mountaintop. Do not keep looking downward in a cast down fashion, look up to the hills, for help is on its way. Let's look at something Jesus had to say about the very same thing in the following verses. 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." Luke 21:27 "And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." Luke 21:28 "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." This is speaking of a time when trouble is everywhere you look. There is only one help for the psalmist, or for anyone else, who is surrounded with problems. Look up and rejoice, God will come to your rescue.

Psalms 121:2 "My help [cometh] from the LORD, which made heaven and earth."

LORD, here, is Jehovah. To add, which made heaven and earth, adds to the name Jehovah, the Word. 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." The spoken Word of God created the heaven and earth. God said, Let there be, and it was so. The God that was Creator of everything, including me, would be the best help a person could have. Notice, there is no doubt in his statement. He does not say, maybe He will help me. He says cometh, which means continues to come. My help continues to come from the Lord.

Psalms 121:3 "He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber."

In Hebrews chapter 13, we read that He will never leave us, or forsake us. God is a present help. He is always there to help us night and day. If you are standing on the Rock that cannot be moved, you will not slip. The Great Shepherd never sleeps or lets the wolves come in and get the sheep. He

is ever watchful over His sheep. The assurance is, that He will be with us even unto the end of the earth.

Psalms 121:4 "Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep."

This does not just mean physical Israel, who the presence of God was continually with on their way to the promised land. Spiritual Israel {Christians} are on a journey to their promised land {heaven}. God is with His own every step of the way to make sure our journey is completed. The presence in the wilderness was the fire by night and the cloud by day. The presence with the believer, now, is the Holy Spirit which is our Comforter and our Guide. He will guide us to eternal life in heaven {our promised land}.

Psalms 121:5 "The LORD [is] thy keeper: the LORD [is] thy shade upon thy right hand."

LORD, here, is Jehovah. The promise is that the evil one can not snatch you away from God. He is our Keeper. Look, with me, at the following 2 Scriptures that tell exactly what I want to say here. 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 shade, here, means a protector from harm. The right hand always has to do with the spirit. This, then, would be saying that God Himself protects the spirit of His followers.

Psalms 121:6 "The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night."

The key word in this is, smite. Smite means to strike you lightly, or severely. Day and night God is our Protector. The elements of nature would cooperate with the believer, and not be harmful to them. Just as the Spirit of God was with physical Israel, He will be with and protect spiritual Israel {Christians}.

Psalms 121:7 "The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul." Psalms 121:8 "The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore."

Evil may be all around you, but the LORD will build a hedge around you. Psalms 91:7 "A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; [but] it shall not come nigh thee." Just as the LORD made a separation from the firstborn of Egypt and the firstborn of the Hebrews, He will make a separation for us, as well. Preserve means keep. The sum total of this is, that he will keep our soul. When I look at this, I see the 23rd Psalm. He is our Shepherd. He leads me where I should go. He leads me to green pastures, He leads me to clear water, He watches over me while I rest. The wolves cannot get me because He protects me. When the Shepherd is there, I fear no evil even though I am walking through the shadow of death. He not only leads me to this green pasture once, but over and over as I need food. He watches His sheep, as they go out and come in, to make sure they are all there, and that they are in good shape. If they wander off, He goes after them. I shall not want, because He provides all my needs. Notice, that when I am in His presence, He restores my soul. He leads me in the straight and

narrow path of righteousness. He even prepares a table before me in the presence of my enemies. He fills my cup so full that it runs over.

If I belong to the Great Shepherd, surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalms 132 Questions

1. In my distress I _____ and He heard me.
2. What do many believe the song of degrees to be?
3. We are looking at the _____ rather than at the history of the Scriptures.
4. When Does most of mankind call on God?
5. What is the most wonderful statement made in verse 1?
6. What is the distress the psalmist was in?
7. Slander does not break your bones, but your _____.
8. What is the evil weapon used against the psalmist, in verse 2?
9. What would Jesus say, to do with such an evil tongue?
10. What are the two ways to look at the sharp arrows of verse 4?
11. What do the coals of Juniper speak of?
12. Where did the psalmist sojourn?
13. He dwelled in the tents of _____.
14. These two were similar to _____.
15. What kind of people were these people, that the psalmist lived around?
16. Verse 6 says, they hated _____.
17. Who is the psalmist in chapter 120, probably?
18. Christians are _____ in this evil land.
19. The psalmist says, he is for _____ in verse 7.
20. Even when he was speaking to them about peace, They had their _____ drawn for _____.
21. Quote Psalms chapter 121 verse 1.
22. When we are in the valley of despair, things look _____.
23. Quote Luke chapter 21, verses 26, 27, and 28.
24. My help cometh from the _____.
25. Quote John chapter 1, verses 1, 2, and 3.
26. What would be the best help a person could have?
27. Where, in the Bible, do we read that He will never leave us, or forsake us?
28. If you are standing where, you will not slip.
29. What was the presence of God in the wilderness seen by the children of Israel?
30. What is the Presence with the believer now?
31. Quote John chapter 10, verses 28, and 29.
32. What is the shade mentioned in verse 5?
33. Quote Psalms chapter 91 verse 7.
34. What does the author see in verse 7 and 8 of the 121st Psalm?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 122nd Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 122

- Verse 1 "With joy I hear my friends exclaim, "come let us in God's temple meet." Within thy gates, Jerusalem, Shall ever stand our willing feet."
- Verse 2 "A city built compact and fair, Jerus'lem stands, the sacred place To which the gathering tribes repair, Tribes of Jehovah's chosen race."
- Verse 3 "'Tis there by his command they meet, To render thanks and pay their vows; And there is Judgment's royal seat, There are the thrones of David's house."
- Verse 4 "Pray that Jerus'lem's peace endure, For all that love thee God will bless; Peace dwell within thy walls secure, And joy within thy palaces."
- Verse 5 "For sake of friends and kindred dear, My heart's desire is "peace to thee;" And for the house of God, my prayer shall seek thy good continually. "

We will begin the verse by verse study of the 122nd Psalm. Psalms 122:1 "{A Song of degrees of David.} I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD."

Are you glad, when someone says let's go to church? David, of course, is the penman here. David loved the Lord. He was always excited when it was time to go to worship with his God. He was not only glad for himself, but he was glad that others wanted to go as well. This is probably speaking of the physical house of the LORD here on the earth. It would be said, also, of those who have run their race and are prepared to meet their LORD at His throne in heaven. Many times I ask someone, why do you go to church? Is it a joy to go? Would you rather be doing something else? Are you going because you are obligated to go, or do you go because you want to go? In David's case, here, he was excited about just the thought of going. It was with great anticipation that he went. He knew the Presence of God was there over the mercy seat. O, to be just in the near vicinity of the LORD. I can truthfully say, that it is with joy I think upon the possibility of going to church. I am likewise anticipating the day when I can go home to be with Him and never have to leave again. When I think of Anna that was in the temple day and night, praying and fasting, I think of a woman who truly loved God. She just stayed, because she did not want to leave that Presence of God. Think on these things.

Psalms 122:2 "Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem."

The word stand, here, means a stationary fact. This means they are not leaving, but standing. The joy of the first verse has run on over in this. It is such a joy just to stand within the gate. Those who have travelled to Israel can vouch for the joy of just standing in the gate. There is a heavenly Jerusalem that this can be looking forward to, as well.

Psalms 122:3 "Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together:"

Probably, when David penned this, the city was not what we see there today. Possibly, he was speaking of it prophetically. It is very compact with a wall completely around it. The city, many times in the Bible, is speaking of the church. We know that the church, also, is compact. It is a close-knit group {family}.

Psalms 122:4 "Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the LORD."

Now we see, an important reason for going up to the temple. This is still one of the reasons for going to church. O, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good. There were twelve tribes of Israel, but the thing that kept them together was their God. The temple in Jerusalem would be their gathering place of worship. The families of the tribes would come at least three times a year to the temple to worship.

Psalms 122:5 "For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David."

The throne of judgment was in Jerusalem. David was the leader of all 12 tribes at this time. Each tribe had a leader, but matters of great importance were judged by David in Jerusalem.

Psalms 122:6 "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee."

Jerusalem was taken from the word Salem, which means peace. The city of peace has known very little peace. Perhaps, its name is for the peace it will know when Jesus reigns on the earth. We should all pray for Jerusalem, the city of our Great God. This city is the called the city of God. We should all love this city. I believe this is, also, speaking in a prophetic way about the church. Those who love it are blessed.

Psalms 122:7 "Peace be within thy walls, [and] prosperity within thy palaces."

This is a prayer for peace within the walls. Again, this can be speaking of the walls of physical Jerusalem, or it could be speaking of the walls of the church.

Psalms 122:8 "For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace [be] within thee."

This Psalm started with someone asking David to go the house of the Lord. His brethren and companions, here, are the same as those mentioned in the 1st verse. This is saying, that all believers would benefit by the peace of Jerusalem. This is not a private place for just David to worship. It is a place for all who love God to worship.

Psalms 122:9 "Because of the house of the LORD our God I will seek thy good."

David was not allowed to build the temple in Jerusalem, because he was a warrior. We said in a previous lesson, that David was a man of peace who

had been forced into war. David wanted the temple in Jerusalem built so badly, that he gave a fortune in gold and silver for the building. We see, in the verse above, that David made peace around him, so the house of the Lord could be built in peaceful times.

We will continue this lesson by giving Psalms chapter 123 in metre.

- Verse 1 "O THOU that dwellest in the heav'ns, I lift mine eyes to thee. Behold, as servants' eyes attend, Their masters' hand to see,"
- Verse 2 "As handmaid's eyes her mistress' hand; So do our eyes attend Upon the Lord our God, until To us he mercy send."
- Verse 3 "O Lord, be gracious unto us, Unto us gracious be; For filled with insolent contempt Exceedingly are we."
- Verse 4 "Our soul is filled with scorn of those That at their case abide, And with the insolent contempt for those that swell in pride."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of Psalms chapter 123. Psalms 123:1 "{A Song of degrees.} Unto thee lift I up mine eyes, O thou that dwellest in the heavens."

Dwellest means continues to dwell. We saw, in a previous lesson, the psalmist looking from the valley to the hills. Here, we see him looking into heaven itself. 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." There is a throne in heaven, and we are told that the Lord Jesus is at the right hand of the Father. We, also, know that the Christians have an advocate with the Father. Our help is in the heavens. You can not depend on people to help you. They will let you down. Our help is in heaven at the throne of God. We are allowed to look into the heavens to the throne of God, because Jesus opened the way for me. Many a saint like Stephen actually saw the throne of God. Do not look to this earth for answers to problems, you will just get more problems. Look to heaven and the Lord.

Psalms 123:2 "Behold, as the eyes of servants [look] unto the hand of their masters, [and] as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress; so our eyes [wait] upon the LORD our God, until that he have mercy upon us."

Behold, says, stop for a moment and pay close attention to this. These servants, mentioned here, were watching for their master to direct them to the next job. The maiden looking at her mistress is the very same thing. We must, also, look at the signs and signals we get from the Lord. We are not to be caught up in the signs, but we are to use them to tell us what is about to happen. Matthew chapter 24 gives us a list of things to watch for. We must keep our attention on the Lord at all times. It is a very dangerous thing to take your eyes off the Lord, and start looking around you at things of the earth.

Psalms 123:3 "Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us: for we are exceedingly filled with contempt."

We have discussed several times how urgently we need the mercy of our Lord. We do not want justice, because of our shortcomings. The fact that he asked twice for mercy just shows the seriousness of the request. Contempt, in this particular instance, means disrespect. It could also mean bitterness. The contempt they were filled with was from those around them. The evil people around the psalmist had no respect for him at all. They were bitter and hateful in their dealings with him.

Psalms 123:4 "Our soul is exceedingly filled with the scorning of those that are at ease, [and] with the contempt of the proud."

The proud, we decided, were lost and were living for just the here and now. They had not humbled themselves and come to the Lord. They felt that they were their own boss, and they did not want anyone telling them what to do. Those that are at ease, possibly, means that they were well off financially and thought they did not need God. They ridiculed the psalmist for his stand he had made for God. They actually hated the psalmist and what he stood for.

Psalms 133 Questions

1. Quote verse 1 of Psalms 122.
2. Are you glad when someone says, let's go to church?
3. Why do you go to church?
4. Would you rather be doing something else?
5. What was David's attitude about going to meet with God?
6. What was Anna's reason for living in the temple?
7. What does the word, stand, mean in verse 2?
8. _____ is builded as a city that is compact together.
9. Many times in the Bible, the city is speaking of what?
10. What is an important reason to go up to the temple?
11. What kept the 12 tribes together?
12. How often did they come to Jerusalem to the temple to worship?
13. Matters of great importance were judged by whom?
14. Pray for the peace of _____.
15. What does Salem mean?
16. Verse 8 says, for my _____ and _____ sake.
17. Who would benefit by the peace of Jerusalem?
18. Why did he seek good?
19. What does dwellest mean?
20. Quote 1 John chapter 5 verse 7.
21. Where is Jesus in heaven?
22. Where is our only real help?
23. Who was a good example of someone on earth who looked into heaven?
24. Where should believers be looking?
25. What is "behold" telling us?
26. Where can we read about signs we should be watching for?
27. Where is the contempt, in verse 3 of chapter 123, coming from?
28. Who are the proud?

We will begin this lesson by giving Psalm 124 in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 124

- Verse 1 "Had not the Lord, may Isr'el say, Had not the Lord maintained our side, When men, to make our lives a prey, Rose like the swelling of the tide;"
- Verse 2 "The swelling tide had been our grave, so fiercely did the waters roll: The waters proud, with wave on wave, Had swept above our drowning soul."
- Verse 3 "Blest be the Lord; let praise be given, That we escaped from death so nigh; As when the fowler's snare is riven, The bird escaping soars on high:"
- Verse 4 "The snare is rent, and we are free, Our grateful souls to God arise; For all our help has come from thee, Great maker of the earth and skies. "

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 124th Psalm. Psalms 124:1 "{A Song of degrees of David.) If [it had not been] the LORD who was on our side, now may Israel say;"

This is certainly not a complete statement, but means so much. Out of all the peoples of the world, God chose Israel to be His. On the journey from Egypt to the promised land, God went with them and helped them. He subdued their enemies, who in many instances were mightier in battle. The countries around them realized right off that God was on Israel's side in battle. They were aware of the Red sea parting for Israel and then drowning the Egyptians. They were not afraid of Israel, but they were afraid of Israel's God. Israel had not been trained for war. They had been slaves in Egypt. Only the mighty hand of God brought them out, and then preserved them in the wilderness and against their enemies. Had it not been for the LORD, they would have died.

Psalms 124:2 "If [it had not been] the LORD who was on our side, when men rose up against us:"

You must remember, the land they went into had belonged to someone else. The countries around Israel hated her. The battle they did attempt, without God's instruction to fight, left Israel the loser.

Psalms 124:3 "Then they had swallowed us up quick, when their wrath was kindled against us:"

This one little group of people would have been no match for the evil countries around them, if God had not stepped in and fought their battles for them. This is like the church today, if God were not standing between the world and His church, the church would not be able to stand. God will even protect and individual who is doing His will in the midst of all the trouble. If it were not for God, we would not have a chance.

Psalms 124:4 Then the waters had overwhelmed us, the stream had gone over our soul:

The flood of opposition to the church would be such an overwhelming flood that it would overcome the church, if it were not for God. The strangest thing, to me, is that the church seems to grow the most under the greatest opposition. Always the underground church, in countries where it was forbidden to have churches, has been very strong. There were so many enemies of Israel, that if the Lord had removed His protection, they would have fallen as they did to Babylon.

Psalms 124:5 "Then the proud waters had gone over our soul."

In the opposition to the church, the oppressors have not only classed us as religious fanatics, but they arrogantly proclaim their contempt for the believers and the church body. It seems to come like waves on the sea, but then the Lord speaks to the sea, and it calms down. The devil and his crowd can roar and try to threaten and scare us, but if we stand against the wiles of the devil, He will flee.

Psalms 124:6 "Blessed [be] the LORD, who hath not given us [as] a prey to their teeth."

The Lord will protect us from such heavy onslaught. They may rattle their weapons at us, but the Lord has built a hedge of defence around us. In the 58 chapter of Psalms, you remember, the psalmist asked the Lord to break out their teeth and render them harmless. That is just what He does. The devil is defeated. Jesus defeated him at Calvary. Blessed be the name of the Lord. We can not praise the Lord enough for the things He has done on our behalf, and is still doing.

Psalms 124:7 "Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are escaped."

The snare was the curse. Jesus took the curse, that we might be set free. Galatians 3:13 "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed [is] every one that hangeth on a tree:" We have escaped from that curse like the bird who gets out of a trap and flies away. Our soul is free like the bird that escaped. The psalmist is speaking of being free from the wicked people who had set a trap to get them. The Lord is our help and our strength.

Psalms 124:8 "Our help [is] in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth."

The name of the Lord for the Christian is Jesus. All believers in Christ have been given the authority to use that name. You should read all of chapter 14 of John, but I will give a couple of verses that show what we can do in that name. John 14:13 "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." John 14:14 "If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do [it]." How much power does the name have and where? 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;"

We will continue this lesson by giving the 125th Psalm in metre.

- Verse 1 "He that in God confideth, Like Zion Mount shall be, Which evermore abideth Unmoved eternally."
Verse 2 "As mountains, which defend her, Jerusalem surround, His saints secure to render, God compasseth around."
Verse 3 "The sinner's rod shall never on just men's lot abide, Lest upright men should ever To sin be turned aside."
Verse 4 "Thy goodness, Lord, our Saviour, To all the good impart; And ever show thy favor To men of upright heart."
Verse 5 "But those whose choice is rather In crooked ways to go; With sinners God shall gather; On Israel peace bestow."

Psalms 125:1 "{A Song of degrees.} They that trust in the LORD [shall be] as mount Zion, [which] cannot be removed, [but] abideth for ever."

Mount Zion is symbolic of the church. This is not only showing the steadfastness of the mount, but is showing the steadfastness of the church, as well. Mount Zion cannot be removed. The gates of hell shall not prevail against God's church. The church may shake, and shake out a few of the lukewarm believers, but the true church cannot be moved. The rain may come, but it will not wash away the foundation of the church, because it is built on the Rock. Abideth means continues to abide forever. Who is the church? They that trust in the Lord are the true church.

Psalms 125:2 "As the mountains [are] round about Jerusalem, so the LORD [is] round about his people from henceforth even for ever."

If you have ever been to the city of Jerusalem, you know that it is surrounded by small mountains on every side. This is saying, that the Lord is not just in front of you , but is behind you and on either side of you. The true church has the Lord dwelling within them and they are dwelling within Him. He is our strong fortress. We have spoken before about trust going beyond faith. Trust is when you place yourself in His hands, and then know that all is well. There is a steadfastness with God that cannot be moved by the wind, or the storm, or the shaking. To be established in God is to be like the mountain here. Whatever comes or goes, our trust is in the Lord. The longer we know Him the sweeter He grows.

Psalms 125:3 "For the rod of the wicked shall not rest upon the lot of the righteous; lest the righteous put forth their hands unto iniquity."

There is tribulation for all, and that includes the righteous. This is saying that God will not allow the tribulation to go on so long that the Christian will not be able to bear up under it. There is a breaking point for almost anyone. Mark 13:20 "And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days." Even the elect, suffer tribulation, but they will not see the wrath. In the Scripture above, it says the rod shall not rest on the righteous. It may come to them, but not continue on them. It seems every day, that wickedness is increasing in the land. Those who truly love God can hardly bear to hear the slander on God's good name. It seems those who promote wickedness are increasing and getting worse and worse. This is the time for the righteous to stand against these evils.

Psalms 125:4 "Do good, O LORD, unto [those that be] good, and [to them that are] upright in their hearts."

There is only One Good and He is God. Many Christians are upright in heart. We are what our heart is. If we are to do any good, it must originate in the heart. The psalmist, here, is asking God to bless those with an upright heart.

Psalms 125:5 "As for such as turn aside unto their crooked ways, the LORD shall lead them forth with the workers of iniquity: [but] peace [shall be] upon Israel."

These have been on the side of the Lord and have turned away to crooked ways like the people around them. This does not tell us whether they turned aside because of hardships, or whether the lust of their flesh led them astray. The main thing is, that they left their godly way of life and turn to evil. They are no better than the workers of iniquity, if they have given up what they had and gone back into the ways of the world. This is speaking of those who had made a confession of faith, and then, later on thought the grass was greener on the side of the wicked. The way of the wicked and the fallen away is the same. It is the broad way that leads to destruction. Those, who remain with God, shall inherit peace that only the Lord can bring.

Psalms 134 Questions

1. What small nation did God choose out of all the nations to be His?
2. What miracles, that God did for Israel, influenced the people around them?
3. What were they joining nations afraid of?
4. What happened in the battle the Israelites fought that God had not sent them to?
5. Quote Psalms chapter 124 verse 3.
6. What keeps the waters of opposition from overwhelming the church?
7. When does the church seem to grow the most?
8. Who did Israel fall to?
9. What are the proud waters?
10. What must we do to cause the devil to flee?
11. What did the psalmist, in chapter 58, ask the Lord to do?
12. Our soul is escaped as a _____ out of the snare.
13. What was the snare symbolic of?
14. Quote Galations chapter 3 verse 13.
15. Our help is in the _____ of the _____.
16. Quote John chapter 14 verse 13.
17. What is mount Zion symbolic of?
18. Why can the church not be washed away?
19. Who is the church?
20. Where does the true church dwell?
21. Who tastes of tribulation?
22. Quote Mark chapter 13 verse 20.
23. Do good, O Lord, on those that _____.
24. Who are upright in heart?
25. Who is verse 5 speaking of, when it says such as turn aside unto their crooked ways?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 126th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 126

- Verse 1 "When Zion's bondage God turned back, As men that dreamed were we. Then filled with laughter was our mouth, Our tongue with melody;"
- Verse 2 "The heathen people said, The Lord Great things for them hath wrought. The Lord hath done great things for us, Whence joy to us brought."
- Verse 3 "As streams of water in the south, Our bondage, Lord, recall. Who sow in tears, a reaping time Of joy enjoy they shall."
- Verse 4 "That man who, bearing precious seed, In going forth doth mourn, He, doubtless, bringing back his sheaves, Rejoicing shall return."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of chapter 126 of Psalms. Psalms 126:1 "{A Song of degrees.} When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream."

This is a glorious redemption. It is so wonderful that they are asking themselves, could it be true or is this a dream?. Remember, Zion symbolizes the church. After the time of darkness and falling away, there will be a time when the spirit will be poured out on all the church, and all shall know the Lord from the least to the greatest. This is not speaking of this being for all the world, but for the church {Zion}. Acts 2:17 "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:" Acts 2:18 "And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:"

Psalms 126:2 "Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The LORD hath done great things for them."

You can see, in this verse, the separation from the non-believers and the church. The non-believers are spoken of as the heathen. When you have been freed from such great oppression as this is speaking of, it would cause great joy and laughter. Joy in your heart will stimulate singing from a heart too full to contain the joy. The world will look on, and think what wonderful things the Lord has done for them.

Psalms 126:3 "The LORD hath done great things for us; [whereof] we are glad."

They are giving credit where credit is due. The Lord delivered them, when they could not deliver themselves. The joy and singing is coming from a thankful heart and directed to their Helper, the Lord.

Psalms 126:4 "Turn again our captivity, O LORD, as the streams in the south."

The joy they had been singing about, was remembering the wonderful things the Lord had done in the past. Now, they are asking the Lord to do it, again.

Psalms 126:5 "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy."

We must not stop sowing the seed of the Word, even though there seems to be no one listening. Plant the seed anyway. When the rain comes, the seed will sprout and grow. There is joy in heaven over one sinner who comes to Christ.

Psalms 126:6 "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves [with him]."

Ministers, we must not worry about the harvest, or the growth of the seed {Word}. Our job is to plant the seed, God sends the rains, and after they are ripe unto the harvest, the Lord will send the reaper to bring the souls produced into His barn in heaven. The harvest of the souls of believers is very near. God is the Lord of the harvest. We are told to look and see that the fields are ripe unto harvest. When the wheat is harvested, then the rejoicing comes.

We will continue this lesson by giving the 127th Psalm in metre.

- Verse 1 "Except the Lord do build the house, The builders lose their pain: Except the Lord the city keep, The watchmen watch in vain."
- Verse 2 "'Tis vain for you to rise betimes, Or late from rest to keep, To feed on sorrow's bread; so gives He his beloved sleep."
- Verse 3 "Lo, children are God's heritage, To parents his reward. The sons of youth as arrows are, For strong men's hands prepared."
- Verse 4 "O happy is the man that hath His quiver filled with those; They, unashamed, within the gate Shall speak unto their foes."

Psalms 127:1 "{A Song of degrees for Solomon.} Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh [but] in vain."

I believe this to be a Psalm written by David to his son Solomon. David knew not to build the house himself, because God wanted a man of peace to build the temple. It was God's idea for Solomon to build the temple. Even if Solomon knew that God wanted him to build the temple, it would have failed, if he had not taken God's instruction on how to build it. The things we do ourself, without God's authorization, seldom work. Notice, also, that God wanted Solomon to build the house, but Solomon had to do the work. God gave the instructions to Solomon, and Solomon built it. It took both things to make it work. A very good example of this very same thing was Noah. God gave Noah the wisdom and instructions to build the ark, and Noah built it. We know that the tower of Babel was not by God's instructions, and it was never finished. We know that guards around a city are of no use at all, unless God guards the city. The great city of Babylon {heavily fortified} was overthrown, even though it seemed impossible. Guards are just fine to have, but the best guard we can have is the Lord and His angels.

Psalms 127:2 "[It is] vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: [for] so he giveth his beloved sleep."

You can try to do all you can do in the flesh. You can stay up late and get up early, but it will not get done, unless the Lord is in it.

Psalms 127:3 "Lo, children [are] an heritage of the LORD: [and] the fruit of the womb [is his] reward."

This has to be David saying, how blessed he has been in God through his son Solomon. David had wanted the temple built, but God would not allow him to do it. He will know of the building of the temple by his son. As we have said in many of these lessons, the most important thing you can leave to your children is the knowledge to know how to become sons of God. David loved God, and it was his desire that his family would love God, also. He got his desire in his son Solomon. Wealth and fame are no good, except you have children to pass them down through.

Psalms 127:4 "As arrows [are] in the hand of a mighty man; so [are] children of the youth."

These arrows in his hand symbolized the fact that he did not have to be in hand to hand combat to win the war. The arrows could go and fight for him. This is saying, that even though David would not be able to build the temple, he could send his son to do what he could not. It was one generation away from him. but the job was done.

Psalms 127:5 "Happy [is] the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate."

In a battle, it was important to have many arrows to go and do the fighting at a distance. This is speaking of the children and grandchildren of David. He was pleased to have many children. This could, also, be speaking prophetically of Jesus who certainly had many followers. This family would have been great indeed.

Psalms 135 Questions

1. What is verse 1 of chapter 126 speaking of?
2. What does Zion symbolize?
3. Quote Acts chapter 2 verse 17.
4. In verse 2, their mouth was filled with what?
5. Who are the heathen?
6. Quote Psalms chapter 126 verse 3.
7. The joy and singing is coming from a _____ heart.
8. They that sow in tears, shall reap in _____.
9. What usually happens to the seed we sow in tears?
10. What is verse 6 saying to the ministers?
11. Quote chapter 127 verse 1.
12. Who wrote the 127 Psalm? Who did he write it to?
13. What was the purpose of it?
14. What was necessary, besides Solomon's desire to build the temple for it to be built?
15. What is a good example of God giving someone something to build, and them building it?
16. What is an example of someone building without God's blessing, and it failing?
17. What city, that seemed impossible to attack because of its fortification, was overthrown?
18. What is verse 2 in chapter 127 speaking of?
19. Lo, _____ are the heritage of the Lord.
20. Who wanted to build the temple, but God would not allow him to?
21. Who did God instruct to build the temple?
22. Why did God choose him over his father?
23. What is the greatest heritage you can give your children?
24. Wealth and fame are no good except what?
25. What is verse 4 saying, about the arrows?
26. Quote chapter 127 verse 5.
27. What is it speaking of prophetically?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 128th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 128

- Verse 1 "The man is blest who fears the Lord, And walketh in his ways; For of thy labor thou shalt eat, And prosper all thy days."
- Verse 2 "Thy wife shall as a fruitful vine By thy house sides be found; Thy children like to olive-plants Thy table shall surround."
- Verse 3 "Behold, the man that fears the Lord, Thus blessed shall he be The Lord shall out of Zion give His blessing unto thee."
- Verse 4 "Thou shalt Jerus'lem's good behold, Whilst thou on earth dost dwell. thou shalt thy children's children see, And peace on Israel."

We will begin the verse by verse study of the 128th Psalm. Psalms 128:1 "{A Song of degrees.} Blessed [is] every one that feareth the LORD; that walketh in his ways."

Fear, or reverence, of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. It is one of the major factors that we build upon. Many of the other attributes that Christians have are started right here. If we did not reverence Him, we might not do the things that He wills us to do. Notice the word {walketh}. Walketh means continues to walk. We must continue to walk in the fear and reverence of the Lord, if we are to be blessed. This blessing is for this earth and for the eternity to come.

Psalms 128:2 "For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy [shalt] thou [be], and [it shall be] well with thee."

We find that even though we are the blessed of God, we still must work. God will bless the work of our hands, if we are walking in His ways. He, in fact, will bless the work of our hands, and make it to prosper. People who work and accomplish something with that work are happy. This happiness comes especially, when we know what we are doing is pleasing to God.

Psalms 128:3 "Thy wife [shall be] as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table."

Hebrews believed that children were a blessing from God. The Hebrew women were very upset, if they did not bear children. They even thought it to be a punishment from God, if they did not have children. A good wife, who does her husband good and not evil, is said to be more precious than rubies to a man. The wife and husband are one in the flesh. When the husband is blessed, she is blessed, as well. This speaking of the olive plants round the table are speaking of the many children around the table of their parents. Olive trees have very long lives. Whether something about this is mentioned, I can not say.

Psalms 128:4 "Behold, that thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the LORD."

The blessings of a happy home are tops on the list of blessings. The fact that he had a good wife and many children would bring him happiness at home, and respect in the community. To fear the Lord, as we said, is the beginning of wisdom. This would be a wise man indeed, who would raise his family in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

Psalms 128:5 "The LORD shall bless thee out of Zion: and thou shalt see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life."

The Hebrews looked to the temple in Jerusalem for blessings. This is the same as Zion. In the spiritual sense, Zion being the church, the blessings do flow from the church to the people. The LORD {Jehovah} does bless the people through the workings of the church. Jerusalem was not overrun in David's time, and all the days of his life he did see the good of Jerusalem.

Psalms 128:6 "Yea, thou shalt see thy children's children, [and] peace upon Israel."

At the end of David's reign and the 40 years that Solomon reigned, there was peace in Jerusalem. One of the things that Solomon did was make peace treaties with the countries around them. Children's children are the crown of old men. We seem to live again in our grandchildren, and it is a joy to live to see them grow up.

We will continue this lesson by giving the 129th Psalm in metre.

- Verse 1 "HOW oft from youth may Isr'el say, How oft from youth have foes assailed! How sorely troubled me have they! Yet ne'er against me have prevailed."
- Verse 2 "Upon my back the plowers plowed, Upon me long their furrows drew. The righteous Lord subdued the proud, In mercy cut their cords in two."
- Verse 3 "Let all be shamed, and made to flee, Who have to Zion hatred shown; As grass on house-tops let them be, As grass which fades ere it be grown."
- Verse 4 "Its blades no mower's hand may press, To sheaves no binder may lay claim; No strangers say. "The Lord thee bless, We bless you in Jehovah's name."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 129th Psalm. Psalms 129:1 "{A Song of degrees.} Many a time have they afflicted me from my youth, may Israel now say:"

This is looking back at the afflictions through life. Have is past tense, This is speaking of physical Isreal, who no one can deny, went through terrible afflictions. They were bad, even though they brought them on themselves by disobeying god. The Christians {spiritual Israel} have gone through terrible persecutions, as well. We know the disciples and the early Christians paid a terrible price for us to be able to worship as freely as we do.

Psalms 129:2 "Many a time have they afflicted me from my youth: yet they have not prevailed against me."

Now, David has jumped back from the afflictions of the house of Israel to himself. He did suffer great affliction in his youth from Saul. Notice, that he looks back to remember that God delivered him from those afflictions. It is no good to look back, unless we learn a lesson from it.

Psalms 129:3 "The plowers plowed upon my back: they made long their furrows."

I do not recall David being flogged in the manner mentioned here. This, to me, is speaking prophetically of the lashes the whip made on the back of Jesus our Lord. This indicates the lashes went all the way across the back and they were deep as a plough would make. By His stripes, we are healed.

Psalms 129:4 "The LORD [is] righteous: he hath cut asunder the cords of the wicked."

They were evil men, prodded by Satan, that made the slashes on the back of Jesus. He was far above man. He was the purest of the righteous. He even said, Father forgive them for they know not what they do. He cut the cords that were binding all of mankind, when He defeated Satan at the cross.

Psalms 129:5 "Let them all be confounded and turned back that hate Zion."

Zion, again, is the church. Those who hate Zion in the physical, or the church which is spiritual Zion, are those who are lost. They are the

unsaved. They are the ones upon whom the wrath of God will fall. They are those who will be thrown into the lake of fire.

Psalms 129:6 "Let them be as the grass [upon] the housetops, which withereth afore it groweth up:"

Grass growing in this manner, does not need to be killed, it dies of its own account. That is what evil man is doing. The Bible says that he will destroy himself.

Psalms 129:7 "Wherewith the mower filleth not his hand; nor he that bindeth sheaves his bosom."

There is no wheat in this . There will be no harvest. It is dead. Wheat is bound in sheaves to take into the barn. There is no wheat here. We know that wheat symbolizes the Christians. Psalms 129:8 "Neither do they which go by say, The blessing of the LORD [be] upon you: we bless you in the name of the LORD."

How can you bless those in the name of the LORD, who have denied that He exists. They would not appreciate the blessing, even if you spoke it. There is no need to speak a lie, and that is what it would be, because God does not bless those who reject Him.

We will continue on by giving the 130th Psalm in metre.

Chapter 130

- Verse 1 "FROM depths to thee, O Lord, I cried, My voice, Jehovah, hear; And to my supplication's voice O give attentive ear."
- Verse 2 "Lord, who shall stand, if thou, O Lord, Shouldst mark iniquity? But yet with thee forgiveness is, That feared thou mayest be."
- Verse 3 "I wait for God, my soul doth wait, My hope is in his word. Yea, more than they for morn that watch, My soul waits for the Lord;"
- Verse 4 "Yea, more I wait than they that watch The morning light to see. Let Isr'el in Jehovah hope, For with him mercies be."
- Verse 5 "Redemption plentiful and free Is ever found with him. And he from all iniquity Shall Israel redeem."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 130th Psalm. Psalms 130:1 "{A Song of degrees.} Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O LORD."

We have discussed before that the best place to reach the Lord is from our depth of despair. When we are at the very bottom, then we cry out to the Lord, and He hears us and answers our plea. There is one good thing about the bottom, there is no way but up to go. When we reach the end of ourselves, we reach up to God. This is the cry that the Lord hears, because it is sincere.

Psalms 130:2 "Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications."

He is always attentive to our cry. If we are not used to calling His name, we are not aware of that fact. The Bible says He knows our needs even before we cry out to Him. He is there waiting for our cry.

Psalms 130:3 "If thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?"

The answer to the above question is no one. Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" Praise God! There is a solution to this dilemma. He took my sin upon His body on the cross. My sin died upon the cross. I only have to accept Him as my Saviour to receive full pardon.

Psalms 130:4 "But [there is] forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared."

This forgiveness is not just a covering of our sin with the blood, but our sins have been removed from us and put as far away from us as the east is from the west. They are so far away, We can never find them again. We have taken on His righteousness. We are a new creature in Christ. We now have no sin. He {Jesus Christ} has bought and paid for us with His precious blood.

Psalms 130:5 "I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope."

In His Word {Bible} I am promised everlasting life in Him, forgiven forever of my sin. I read His Word, I believe what I read, and I wait for that blessed day when He will return for me, and I will ever be with Him.

Psalms 130:6 "My soul [waiteth] for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning: [I say, more than] they that watch for the morning."

This morning is that beginning of that eternal day. We may pray all night and wait for day, but this is speaking of more than a normal day. This is speaking of like a bride waiting on the bridegroom to come. This is the church of the Lord Jesus, who are watching and waiting for the trumpet to blow in the sky, when we will begin that one eternal day with Him.

Psalms 130:7 "Let Israel hope in the LORD: for with the LORD [there is] mercy, and with him [is] plenteous redemption."

This Israel is that spiritual Israel {believers in Christ} who hope in the Lord. We received redemption by the mercy of God. Redemption is offered to all. Only those, who do what it says in Romans chapter 10 verses 9 and 10, receive this redemption.

Psalms 130:8 "And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities."

The sting of sin is death. Death is the penalty for sin. All, who believe in Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord, have no sin. Jesus took their sin upon His body on the cross. He traded them a robe of righteousness washed in His precious blood for their sin. He redeemed all, who will receive it, freedom from sin and death, and gave them everlasting life in Him.

We will continue by giving the 131st Psalm in metre.

- Verse 1 "My heart's not haughty, Lord, Nor lofty is mine eye; I meddle not in matters great, In things for me too high."
Verse 2 "I surely have composed And soothed myself to rest, Yea, I even as a weaned child Upon its mother's breast,"
Verse 3 "My soul is like a child Weaned and submissive grown; O Isr'el, now and evermore Trust in the Lord alone. "

We will continue the verse by verse study of the 131st Psalm. Psalms 131:1 "{A Song of degrees of David.} LORD, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty: neither do I exercise myself in great matters, or in things too high for me."

This is just saying, Lord I can not figure out what you have done for me in salvation. I accept it on simple faith. I am humbled that so great salvation has come to me in such a simple manner.

Psalms 131:2 "Surely I have behaved and quieted myself, as a child that is weaned of his mother: my soul [is] even as a weaned child."

Except ye come to God as a little child, you shall not receive salvation. We can not figure out salvation, we must be saved through simple childlike faith. We see from this, that faith alone is the answer. We must not guess, but truly believe, and we shall be saved. We must be separated from family and make this decision on our own.

Psalms 131:3 "Let Israel hope in the LORD from henceforth and for ever."

There is no hope, but in God. It is our faith that is counted unto us as righteousness. Hope in the Lord, and He shall never fail you.

Psalms 136 Questions

1. Quote chapter 128 of Psalms verse 1.
2. What does walketh mean?
3. Thou shalt eat the _____ of thy hands.
4. What is meant by thy wife being a fruitful vine?
5. What does it mean about children like olive plants round about the table?
6. Hebrews believed children were a _____ from God.
7. Hebrew women thought it to be what, if they did not bare children?
8. What would bring the man happiness at home?
9. In verse 5, what blessings is it speaking of out of Zion?
10. How long did Solomon reign?
11. Children's children are the crown of _____.
12. The terrible afflictions that physical Israel had they _____ on themselves.
13. Who paid a terrible price, so that we might worship freely?
14. What is chapter 129 verse 3 speaking of prophetically?
15. Who cut the cords that were binding all of mankind?
16. Who are those that hate Zion?
17. What will the evil man do that is like this grass that dies?
18. What is verse 7 saying, pertaining to harvest?
19. In verse 8, he blessed them in whose name?
20. When is He attentive to our cry?
21. Quote Romans chapter 3 verse 23.
22. What happened to the sins of the Christians.
23. How did Jesus purchase us?
24. What is the Word, in verse 5?
25. Let Israel hope in the _____.
26. What is the morning, in verse 6, speaking of?
27. We received redemption by the _____ of God.
28. The sting of sin is _____.
29. What happened to the sin of the believer?
30. What is chapter 131 verse 1 speaking of?
31. If I can not figure out salvation, what must I receive it on?
32. Quote Psalms chapter 131 verse 3.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 132nd Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 132

- Verse 1 "O LORD, remember David now, His troubles think upon; How unto God he swore, and vowed To Jacob's mighty One."
- Verse 2 "I will not come within my house, Nor rest in bed at all; Nor shall my eyes take any sleep, Nor eyelids slumber shall;"
- Verse 3 "Till for the Lord a place I find, Where he may make abode; Until I find a dwelling-place, For Jacob's mighty God."
- Verse 4 "Lo, at the place of Ephratah Of it we understood; We also found it in the fields, And city of the wood."
- Verse 5 "We'll to his tabernacles go, And at his footstool bow. Arise, O Lord, into thy rest, Thy ark of strength bring thou."
- Verse 6 "Let all thy priests be clothed, O Lord, In robes of righteousness; And let all those that are thy saints shout loud for joyfulness"
- Verse 7 "And for thy servant David's sake, Do not deny thy grace; Nor of thy own anointed one Turn thou away the face."
- Verse 8 "The Lord in truth to David swore, He will not turn from it, I of thy body's fruit will make Upon thy throne to sit."
- Verse 9 "My cov'nant if thy sons will keep, And laws to them made known, Their children then shall also sit Forever on thy throne."
- Verse 10 "For God of Zion hath made choice; There he desires to dwell. this is my rest, here will I stay; For I do like it well."
- Verse 11 "Her food I'll greatly bless; her poor With bread will satisfy. Her priests I'll clothe with health; her [saints Shall shout forth joyfully."
- Verse 12 "And there will I make David's horn To bud forth pleasantly: For him that mine anointed is A lamp ordained have I."
- Verse 13 "As with a garment I will clothe With shame his en'mies all; But yet the crown that he doth wear Upon him flourish shall."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 132nd Psalm. Psalms 132:1 "{A Song of degrees.} LORD, remember David, [and] all his afflictions:"

The LORD did bless David abundantly and frequently. There is no need for David to continue to ask for blessings on his own personal self. I believe this is asking the Lord to allow the ark to come to Jerusalem, and a temple be built for it, so that all of David's children and grandchildren will be blessed.

Psalms 132:2 "How he sware unto the LORD, [and] vowed unto the mighty [God] of Jacob;"

We see the seriousness of this request, when we see that David swore unto the LORD. He loved God and wanted to build Him a house. We must be very careful what we swear to do. David should have checked with God first on this. God does not take swearing lightly. In fact, Jesus said swear not at all. That is the best policy.

Psalms 132:3 "Surely I will not come into the tabernacle of my house, nor go up into my bed;"

Psalms 132:4 "I will not give sleep to mine eyes, [or] slumber to mine eyelids,"

Psalms 132:5 "Until I find out a place for the LORD, an habitation for the mighty [God] of Jacob."

Now, we see what the oath he took was all about. He could not stand the thought of him having a home and the LORD not having a home. This is a man devoted to God. David said, I want this so badly, I can not sleep, until I have it settled where the LORD's house will be built. The ark had not had a permanent dwelling place since the wilderness wanderings. David had a beautiful home for himself, and he resolved that God would have a more beautiful place for the ark to rest.

Psalms 132:6 "Lo, we heard of it at Ephratah: we found it in the fields of the wood."

The ark symbolized the presence of Almighty God. How could it be hid? David had heard that it was at Ephratah, and he wanted to go get it and make a permanent place for it. To David, this meant the presence of God in close proximity. It seems David had searched it out and found it in the field. This reminds me so much of the dark ages. Christianity was hidden away. Thank goodness, someone sought it out and brought it into the Light.

Psalms 132:7 "We will go into his tabernacles: we will worship at his footstool."

David wanted a quick restoration of a place to worship near unto the ark. He is saying, here, I will bow down before the presence of God, over the ark, and will worship my God.

Psalms 132:8 "Arise, O LORD, into thy rest; thou, and the ark of thy strength."

It seems to me that there were times throughout history, when the presence of God in His church has been at a very low ebb, almost as if the presence was in hiding. Then a Moses, or a David, or someone of this magnitude, seeks God out and brings Him to the masses. When the children of Israel moved the ark in the wilderness, the cloud, or the fire, would arise and lead to the next destination. This is what the psalmist is asking here. Arise O LORD and lead the procession.

Psalms 132:9 "Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness; and let thy saints shout for joy."

The priesthood had been in terrible decay, because they had no place to function. It seems they had been fulfilling more of a civil function than a religious. There would be priests and high priest sought, who were righteous men, who were of the tribe of Levi. These men would not be like the rest of

the people, but would be holy men of God, dedicated to the keeping of the temple and God's law. No man should be chosen for the priesthood, who was not interested in living holy separated lives. The people who loved God would shout for joy, because they would have a place and a presence of God that they could closely relate to. A nation that has lost their God, is in terrible sad shape.

Psalms 132:10 "For thy servant David's sake turn not away the face of thine anointed."

David knew that God loved him. He is pleading with God to do this for him, if he would not do it for all. David even reminds God, that it was He who anointed David to be king. Some believe this to be Solomon pleading for David, but I believe this is David.

Psalms 132:11 "The LORD hath sworn [in] truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne."

This is not just speaking of Solomon, who will truly sit upon David's throne for forty years, but is looking unto Jesus Christ, who will sit on the everlasting throne. The kingdom of Jesus will never end. In the kingdom of our Lord Jesus, we will be kings and priests. Not priests, because we are from the Levitical tribe, but because we are sons of God. This kingdom is not an earthly kingdom, but a heavenly kingdom. Notice, in the very first line of the verse above [sworn in truth]. God swore upon himself, because there was no greater.

Psalms 132:12 "If thy children will keep my covenant and my testimony that I shall teach them, their children shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore."

The condition of the above verse was more than the physical house of David would do, and so, they were divided into two kingdoms. What David's physical lineage could not do in keeping God's law; the seed of David fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. This kingdom, of the Lord Jesus Christ, is not only a physical kingdom, but is a spiritual kingdom, in that He set it up in all believers. The biggest word in the verse above is, if. You see, the sin of the physical house of David brought their downfall.

Psalms 132:13 "For the LORD hath chosen Zion; he hath desired [it] for his habitation."

This Scripture, as so many, has a double meaning. God truly chose mount Zion to be His place of dwelling in the temple Solomon would build. There is another Zion, the church of Jesus Christ. God has chosen to dwell in His church. In the tabernacle in Jerusalem, on mount Zion, the point of contact to God was through the ark of the covenant. The point of contact to God for the Christian is in the mighty name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 132:14 "This [is] my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it."

This is a statement from God Himself. The Zion, spoken of here, is the church. II Corinthians 6:16 "And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in [them]; and I will be their God, and they shall

be my people." One of the most heart-warming statements in the Bible, if you are a Christian, is the following. 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 132:15 "I will abundantly bless her provision: I will satisfy her poor with bread."

We read, Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Psalms 37:25 "I have been young, and [now] am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." The needs of God's people are taken care of, not their greed. The provision of those who truly love God is a bountiful provision.

Psalms 132:16 "I will also clothe her priests with salvation: and her saints shall shout aloud for joy."

We remember that the priests are symbolic of the believers in Christ. Jesus is the High Priest, and we are the priests. How many times have we spoken of the robe of righteousness that Jesus provides for us being the robe washed in the blood of the Lord? Salvation is through His shed blood. The joy that we feel is the joy that only the blessedness of salvation can bring.

Psalms 132:17 "There will I make the horn of David to bud: I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed."

We have learned in these studies that the horn is symbolic of the strength or power. The strength of David budded in the Lord Jesus. The name of David would be lightened in the seed, who was Jesus Christ the Light. Jesus was not only the seed of David in the flesh, but was David's God in the Spirit.

Psalms 132:18 "His enemies will I clothe with shame: but upon himself shall his crown flourish."

The true enemy, who is just demonstrated in all of these earthly enemies, is Satan, himself. Jesus defeated Satan on the cross. The shame of Satan was made worse, when Jesus went into Satan's place of dwelling and brought captivity out with Him. He took the keys of hell and death away from him, as well. The crown and rule of Jesus is an eternal rule. It will never diminish.

We will continue this lesson by giving the 133rd chapter of Psalms in metre.

- Verse 1 "Behold, how good a thing it is, And how becoming well,
Together such as brethren are In unity to dwell!"
- Verse 2 "Like precious ointment on the head, That down the beard did
flow, Ev'n Aaron's beard, and to the skirts Did of his
garments go."
- Verse 3 "As Hermon's dew, the dew that doth On Zion's hills descend;
For there the blessing God commands, Life that shall never
end."

We will continue this lesson with the verse by verse study of the 133rd Psalm. Psalms 133:1 "{A Song of degrees of David.} Behold, how good and how pleasant [it is] for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

The word, behold, always means to stop and take notice. Notice, who it is who are to dwell together. It is brethren. All believers in Christ are the sons of God. We are brothers of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the natural, and only begotten Son of God. We are His adopted brothers. Even women are spoken of as brothers, just as all men and women are spoken of as the bride of Christ. With God there is no male or female. We are children of God in our spirit body, not in our body of flesh. In the flesh, there is a separation of men and women, for the purpose of procreating life. In the Spirit, there is no marrying and taking in marriage. Look at the difference in the flesh body and the spirit body in 1 Corinthians. Why cannot all believers in Christ not get along on this earth? It has to do with the frailty of the flesh. Earthly sisters and brothers do not get along very well. The flesh gets in the way.

Psalms 133:2 "[It is] like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, [even] Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments;"

This oil, is the oil of the Holy Spirit. It was poured in abundance on the high priest in the temple. The fact that it covered his entire body, showed a total dedication to the Lord. This very same oil was used to dedicate the priests, as well. Remember, the priest symbolize all believers in Christ. It is the Spirit of God that draws us closer together in the unity of Christ. 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:"

Psalms 133:3 "As the dew of Hermon, [and as the dew] that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, [even] life for evermore."

People do not have anything at all to do with the dew falling. God sends it wherever He will. The dew that falls from God is symbolic of the Spirit. Notice, the word mountains is plural in the verse above. Mountains are symbolic of nations. Zion symbolizes the church. We see, in this, the fact that God will pour His Spirit out unto the Christians {who are the church} in all nations. There is no greater blessing to be bestowed upon man than the blessing of everlasting life. The believers in the Lord Jesus Christ are blessed with this greatest of all blessings. Look, with me, at the pouring out of God's Spirit. Joel 2:28 "And it shall come to pass

afterward, [that] I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:" Joel 2:29 "And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit."

We will continue this lesson by giving the 134th Psalm in metre.

Verse 1 "BEHOLD, O bless the Lord, all ye that his attendants are,
Ev'n you who in God's temple stand, And praise Him nightly
there."

Verse 2 "Your hands within God's holy place, Lift up, and praise his
name. From Zion hill the Lord thee bless, That heav'n and
earth did frame."

Psalms 134:1 "{A Song of degrees.} Behold, bless ye the LORD, all [ye]
servants of the LORD, which by night stand in the house of the LORD."

The eyes cannot behold the glorious things of the Lord. Stop, look and
take notice. What blessings belong to the LORD who created all? These
servants of the LORD are believers of all ages with faithful Abraham. It is
even more directed to the Christians. Notice, standing indicates a
steadfastness. We are not sitting in laziness, but standing.

Psalms 134:2 "Lift up your hands [in] the sanctuary, and bless the
LORD."

When you lift up your hands to the Lord, you are recognizing Him as the
object of your worship. It shows our humbleness of heart to the Deity who is
above all. When you do this, open your hands with palms upward for the LORD
to fill your hands. The angels in heaven cry Holy, Holy, Holy. The saints in
the church here can do no less. He is my God, and I will praise Him. God
inhabits the praises of His people.

Psalms 134:3 "The LORD that made heaven and earth bless thee out of
Zion."

This is like a benediction being poured out on the people from the
church {Zion}. The true source of the blessing is from God. The minister in
charge is acting as God's agent here on the earth, as they speak this
blessing on all people.

Psalms 137 Questions

1. What blessing is David really asking for in verse 1 of the 132nd chapter of Psalms?
2. What shows us the seriousness of this request?
3. Jesus said, _____ not at all.
4. What did David say, he would not do, until he found a place for the habitation of God?
5. The ark had not had a dwelling place since when?
6. Where had he heard of the ark as being?
7. What did the ark symbolize?
8. Where had David found it?
9. What does this remind the author of?
10. What is David saying in verse 7?
11. What happens when the Presence of God diminishes in the church?
12. When the ark moved to a new destination, what led it?
13. What were the priests to be clothed in?
14. The priests for the new temple must be from what tribe?
15. Why would the saints shout?
16. A nation, who has lost their God, is in _____ .
17. What two fruit is verse 11 speaking of?
18. Why will the Christians be priests?
19. Who had God sworn by?
20. What the physical lineage of David could not do in keeping Gods law; the seed of David did in the person of _____ .
21. Where has God chosen to dwell?
22. In the tabernacle in Jerusalem, what was their point of contact?
22. What is the point of contact with the Christians?
23. Quote 2 Corinthians chapter 6 verse 16.
24. What does the author think to be one of the most heartwarming Scriptures in the Bible.
25. Quote Psalms chapter 37 verse 25.
26. The _____ of God's people are taken care of, not their _____ .
27. Verse 16 says, He will clothe her priests with _____ .
28. Who are these priests?
29. What is the horn symbolic of?
30. Jesus was not only the seed of David, but was David's ____ .
31. Who is the true enemy?
32. How good and pleasant it is for the brethren to _____ together in _____ .
33. Where can we read about the spirit body and the flesh body?
34. What is the oil, in verse 2 of chapter 133?
35. Quote Ephesians chapter 4 verse 13.
36. What is the dew of Hermon symbolic of?
37. What do mountains symbolize?
38. There is no greater blessing than what?
39. Quote Joel chapter 2 verse 28.
40. Quote Psalms chapter 134 verse 1.
41. What are we told to do in verse 2 in the sanctuary?
42. How does the author suggest that you do this, and why?
43. What is verse 3 of chapter 134?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 135th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 135

- Verse 1 "O PRAISE the Lord, his praise proclaim; All ye his servants
praise his name, Who in the Lord's house ever wait, Who
stand in our God's temple gate."
- Verse 2 "The Lord is good, his praise proclaim, Since it is
pleasant, praise his name; He for himself did Jacob take,
And Isr'el his possession make."
- Verse 3 "I know the Lord is high in state, Above all gods our Lord
is great; The Lord performs what he decrees, In heaven and
earth, in depths and seas."
- Verse 4 "He makes the vapors to ascend In clouds from earth's
remotest end; He for the rain gives lightning wings, The
wind out from his treasures brings."
- Verse 5 "He smote from greatest to the least Of Egypt's first-born,
man and beast; In midst of thee, O Egypt land, Sent signs
and wonders from his hand."
- Verse 6 "He made his wonders dread to fall On Pharaoh and his
servants all: He many nations overthrow, And mighty kings
and princes slew."
- Verse 7 "He Sihon slew, and Bashan's king, On Canaan's thrones did
ruin bring; Their land for heritage bestowed On Isr'el for
their own abode."
- Verse 8 "O Lord, eternal is thy name, Thy mem'ry lives in endless
fame; And to his servants turn again."
- Verse 9 "The heathen idols all are nought, But silver, gold, by
man's hand wrought; With mouths, no power of speech they
find, With eyes to see, they yet are blind."
- Verse 10 "With ears, they hear no voice or sound, And in their mouth
no breath is found; Their makers all their likeness bear;
Who trust in them their fate shall share."
- Verse 11 "O house of Isr'el, bless the Lord; Let Aaron's house him
praise accord; Him blest, Let Levi's house proclaim Bless
ye the Lord, who fear his name."
- Verse 12 "Forever let the Lord be blest; From Zion let it be
expressed; Jerus'lem is his dwelling-place. Praise ye the
Lord, make known his grace."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 135th Psalm. Psalms 135:1 "Praise ye the LORD. Praise ye the name of the LORD; praise [him], O ye servants of the LORD."

The first praise is telling us what to do, praise. The second praise is telling us who to praise, the Lord. The third praise is saying who is to do the praising, servants of the Lord. The fact that praise is mentioned three times means, praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. The universal word for praise is Hallelujah.

Psalms 135:2 "Ye that stand in the house of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God,"

You that are established {stand} in the Lord, it seems not to matter whether you are the minister, or those in the outer court, the congregation.

Psalms 135:3 "Praise the LORD; for the LORD [is] good: sing praises unto his name; for [it is] pleasant."

When you run out of words to praise Him with, just burst out into song and praise Him with that. Let me be a sweet, sweet, sound in His ear.

Psalms 135:4 For the LORD hath chosen Jacob unto himself, [and] Israel for his peculiar treasure.

Jacob, in the verse above, is speaking of him, and his 12 sons, and their physical descendents. Why God chose Jacob, no one knows. It is wonderful to be the chosen of God. To be chosen of God carries great obligation with it, as well. The physical house would have so much to praise God for. He separated them out of all the peoples of the world to show himself through. His law was given to them. He made special covenant with them and protected them. Jacob's family, God's chosen, will later be called the harlot wife in Hosea. Israel being separated, in the verse above, makes me think that this is speaking of the spiritual house of Israel {Christians}. These are not spiritual Israel who were descended from Jacob, but they who do the will of God.

Psalms 135:5 "For I know that the LORD [is] great, and [that] our Lord [is] above all gods."

This was proved over and over. Elijah proved to the people and the prophets of Baal on mount Carmel that our God is God. God showed Himself, over and over, in the 10 plagues of Egypt, when He defamed the gods of Egypt. The very reason Lucifer was thrown out of heaven, was because he thought he was as good as God.

Psalms 135:6 "Whatsoever the LORD pleased, [that] did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places."

The only thing necessary for Him to do was speak, and the elements of all nature obeyed 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;" 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."

Psalms 135:7 "He causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; he maketh lightnings for the rain; he bringeth the wind out of his treasuries."

Every element in the universe is under His control. He made it all for a purpose. There is no need going into all of the creation act here. We dealt fully with it in our Genesis study. It is enough for me to know that He did it all. It rains when He tells it to rain, and it stops when He tells it to stop. He is supreme Ruler of the universe.

Psalms 135:8 "Who smote the firstborn of Egypt, both of man and beast."

This was one of the great examples of separation of those who belong to God, and those who are of the world. The night that death visited Egypt and killed all the firstborn of the Egyptians, the Hebrews, who had the blood of the lamb on their door, were all spared.

Psalms 135:9 "[Who] sent tokens and wonders into the midst of thee, O Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his servants."

These tokens and wonders were things like the Red Sea parting, and the 10 plagues on Egypt.

Psalms 135:10 "Who smote great nations, and slew mighty kings;"

The nations where God sent the Hebrews were overcome very easily. The nations around them were afraid of Israel's God. The nations knew that God fought for the Hebrews.

Psalms 135:11 "Sihon king of the Amorites, and Og king of Bashan, and all the kingdoms of Canaan:"

God gave these kingdoms the opportunity to repent of their evil. When they did not, God brought the Israelites in to overthrow them, and gave their land to the Israelites. Canaan was the land that God had long ago promised Abraham and His descendants as their promised land.

Psalms 135:12 "And gave their land [for] an heritage, an heritage unto Israel his people."

This land of Canaan was to be the promised land. It became the land of the tribes of Israel. It was to be theirs forever as their heritage.

Psalms 135:13 "Thy name, O LORD, [endureth] for ever; [and] thy memorial, O LORD, throughout all generations."

There is no question about the eternity of the Lord. He is Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the Everlasting One. The world may pass away, but He will never pass away. He is life.

Psalms 135:14 "For the LORD will judge his people, and he will repent himself concerning his servants."

The Lord, Jehovah, is no less than the One we call Jesus here. Jesus is the Righteous Judge of all the earth. II Timothy 4:8 "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." The repenting of concerning His servants, just means that they will be counted pardoned. This is speaking of those who have put their faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 135:15 "The idols of the heathen [are] silver and gold, the work of men's hands."

Heathens are those who have not accepted the Lord as their Saviour. Idols means nothings. They are worshipping things made with hands, that they can see with their physical eyes. Christianity is not believing in things we can see, but is faith in the One we know in our heart exists. Things made

with man's hands are the creation. We must worship the Creator and not His creations.

Psalms 135:16 "They have mouths, but they speak not; eyes have they, but they see not;"

Psalms 135:17 "They have ears, but they hear not; neither is there [any] breath in their mouths."

They are exactly what the word idols means. They are nothings. They have no powers at all.

Psalms 135:18 "They that make them are like unto them: [so is] every one that trusteth in them."

This is just saying, that anyone foolish enough to make them, and especially those who are foolish enough to worship them are exactly what these idols are: nothings. They have no future.

Psalms 135:19 "Bless the LORD, O house of Israel: bless the LORD, O house of Aaron:"

The house of Israel has plenty room to bless the LORD, whether they be the descendents of Jacob {physical Israel}, or whether they be the spiritual house of Israel {Christians}. The house of Aaron is the house privileged to draw the closest to the LORD in the temple. All who are the called of God, such as ministers, should have even more reason to praise the Lord. Those who know the most about God should bless Him the most. To whom much is given, much is required. Of course, we really can not bless God except by loving Him and doing His will in our life.

Psalms 135:20 "Bless the LORD, O house of Levi: ye that fear the LORD, bless the LORD."

Psalms 135:21 "Blessed be the LORD out of Zion, which dwelleth at Jerusalem. Praise ye the LORD."

The tribe of Levi are chosen from all the tribes to minister unto the Lord in His temple. This tribe was set aside by God for holy service. Therefore they should lead the way in blessing the LORD. Church {Zion}, bless the Lord. Even the temple located in Jerusalem should bless the LORD. Let everything that has breath, praise the LORD.

Psalms 138 Questions

1. What 3 things is verse 1 telling us about praise?
2. What does the word, stand, in verse 2 indicate?
3. When you run out of words to praise Him with, what should you do?
4. Who is the mention of Jacob in verse 4 speaking of?
5. Jacob's family will later be called who, in Hosea?
6. Who is spiritual Israel?
7. Name two or more times when God showed that He was greater than the false gods.
8. Why was Lucifer thrown out heaven?
9. Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that He did in _____ and in _____ and all the _____.
10. Quote Philippians chapter 2 verse 10.
11. All things consist by whom?
12. Where do the winds come from?
13. Who smote the firstborn of Egypt?
14. What was this an example of ?
15. Name one thing that the tokens and wonders were like.
16. Who were the nations around Israel afraid of?
17. What land had God promised to Abraham?
18. Give some names of God that show His eternity.
19. Who is the Righteous Judge?
20. Quote 2 Timothy chapter 4 verse 8.
21. The repenting concerning His servants, is speaking of whom?
22. What are the idols of the heathen?
23. What does idol mean?
24. What were those who worshipped idols?
25. What special privilege did the house of Aaron have?
26. Blessed be the Lord out of _____.

We will begin by giving the 136th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 136

- Verse 1 "PRAISE God, for he is kind: His mercy lasts for aye: Give thanks with heart and mind To God of gods alway: For certainly His mercies dure Most firm and sure Eternally."
- Verse 2 "The Lord of lords praise ye, Whose mercies always last: The Lord alone is he Who doeth wonders vast. For certainly, etc."
- Verse 3 "To him, by wisdom's hand, Who heavens did create; To him who stretched the land Above the waters great. For certainly, etc."
- Verse 4 "To him great lights that made, the sun to rule by day; The moon and stars arrayed; To rule the night are they. For certainly, etc."
- Verse 5 "To him who Egypt smote In first-born everywhere; And Isr'el thence he brought, From those who en'mies were. For certainly, etc."
- Verse 6 "Who, with strong hand to guide, And arm that stretched out was, The Red sea did divide, And through made Isr'el pass. for certainly, etc."
- Verse 7 "But Phar'oh overthrew In Red sea with his host; And led his people through The deserts to their coast. For certainly, etc."
- Verse 8 "To him who great kings smote, Yea famous kings he slew; Sihon of Am'rites lot, And Og of Bashan, too. For certainly, etc."
- Verse 9 "By lot he gave their lands To Israel for aye: To those who his commands Did faithfully obey. For certainly, etc."
- Verse 10 "He thought on us when foes Had brought to low estate; And he from all our woes Did grant deliv'rance great. For certainly, etc. "
- Verse 11 "And from his bounty he All flesh its food hath given. O thanks to God give ye; He is the God of heav'n. For certainly, etc."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 136th Psalm. Psalms 136:1 "O give thanks unto the LORD; for [he is] good: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

The psalmist is not just praising the LORD himself, but encourages others to praise Him, as well. There is only one good, and that is God. He is not just good, He is goodness in its entirety. His mercy is like He is, it is everlasting.

Psalms 136:2 "O give thanks unto the God of gods: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

He is the Creator of all these things that people have for little gods in this earth. We have already gone into the fact that He has proved, over and over, His superiority to all gods.

Psalms 136:3 "O give thanks to the Lord of lords: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

The One we have known as our Saviour will return to the earth, and He will be Lord of lords. The little letter lords will be those who will rule with Him as his subordinates.

Psalms 136:4 "To him who alone doeth great wonders: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

We know that the miracles that Jesus did were so many, that there would not be enough books in all the world to contain them, if they were all written down.

Psalms 136:5 "To him that by wisdom made the heavens: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

This we have spoken of so many times. The powers in the world that are really powers, are the spoken and the written Word. The spoken Word brought the heavens into existence.

Psalms 136:6 "To him that stretched out the earth above the waters: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

In Genesis it says, God said and it was. In John chapter 1, it says that the Word made it all. In fact, it says that without Him, was not anything made that was made.

Psalms 136:7 "To him that made great lights: for his mercy [endureth] for ever:"

A more understanding way to say this would be the great containers for the Light. The sun and the moon are two fixtures that we see light in, but they are not creative Light. Jesus is that Light. Jesus is the source of all Light. His Light gives all things the power to exist.

Psalms 136:8 "The sun to rule by day: for his mercy [endureth] for ever:"

Now we see the purpose in the sun. It is to rule over the day. The word endureth means continues to endure.

Psalms 136:9 "The moon and stars to rule by night: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

The moon, being a lesser light, is to rule over the darkness. All of these things were made to benefit man. We can easily see why we can say His mercy endureth forever.

Psalms 136:10 "To him that smote Egypt in their firstborn: for his mercy [endureth] for ever:"

This, too, was an act of love for His chosen. He did this to make the Pharaoh let His people go. His mercy was great in this, in the fact that the firstborn of the Hebrews were saved by the blood of the lamb over their door.

Psalms 136:11 "And brought out Israel from among them: for his mercy [endureth] for ever:" Psalms 136:12 "With a strong hand, and with a stretched out arm: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

It was the mighty hand of God that brought them out. He had mercy on them and delivered them from Egypt {the world}.

Psalms 136:13 "To him which divided the Red sea into parts: for his mercy [endureth] for ever:"

Psalms 136:14 "And made Israel to pass through the midst of it: for his mercy [endureth] for ever:"

He saw the terrible situation the Israelites with their backs to the sea, and the Pharaoh facing them. He had mercy on them and opened the Red Sea for them to cross on dry land. He even held the Pharaoh back with His flame, until the Israelites had everyone crossed the Red Sea.

Psalms 136:15 "But overthrew Pharaoh and his host in the Red sea: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

When, the nearly 3 million Israelites had finished crossing over, the Lord removed the fire, and Pharaoh's chariots and soldiers followed into the sea. When they were all in the sea, the Lord released the walls of water and drowned all of Pharaoh's army. Why? Because His mercy toward Israel endures forever.

Psalms 136:16 "To him which led his people through the wilderness: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

He led them with a fire by night and a cloud by day. He has such tender mercy for them that even their shoes did not wear out in 40 years. He fed them with bread from heaven, because of His great mercy toward them.

Psalms 136:17 "To him which smote great kings: for his mercy [endureth] for ever:" Psalms 136:18 "And slew famous kings: for his mercy [endureth] for ever:"

The Lord fought for Israel. It did not make any difference that the king was great in the land. God removed them from the way of the Israelites, because His mercy toward Israel endures forever.

Psalms 136:19 "Sihon king of the Amorites: for his mercy [endureth] for ever:"

Psalms 136:20 "And Og the king of Bashan: for his mercy [endureth] for ever:"

This is not just kings in general, but specific powerful rulers who God destroyed for passage for His chosen, Israel.

Psalms 136:21 "And gave their land for an heritage: for his mercy [endureth] for ever:"

This may seem cruel to many, but God gave them time to repent, and they did not. This was the land God had promised to their ancestor, Abraham, as a heritage. God's Word is good.

Psalms 136:22 "[Even] an heritage unto Israel his servant: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

Israel was God's chosen people and this land had been their heritage since Abraham. God does not have to explain to us why He does these things, but He does explain that His mercy toward Isreal endures forever.

Psalms 136:23 "Who remembered us in our low estate: for his mercy [endureth] for ever:" Psalms 136:24 "And hath redeemed us from our enemies: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

The psalmist puts a little personal note in here by saying, our low estate. Surely Israel was about as low as they could have gotten. They were really slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt, and God brought them out to inherit this land.

Psalms 136:25 "Who giveth food to all flesh: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

Not only were the physical house of Isreal fed with the bread from heaven, but the spiritual house of Israel can daily feed upon His Word {Bread}. Even our physical food comes from the miracle of God providing food for everyone from the earth.

Psalms 136:26 "O give thanks unto the God of heaven: for his mercy [endureth] for ever."

The God of heaven is the true God, who has mercy toward all His children that endures forever. The very least we can do, is thank Him with everything within us.

Psalms 139 Questions

1. Quote Psalms chapter 136 verse 1.
2. What is the psalmist doing, besides praising God?
3. What is God called in verse 2?
4. Who will Jesus be, when He returns to the earth to set up His kingdom?
5. How many miracles did Jesus do?
6. What are the two powers in the world?
7. Where do we find the statement, that The Word made it all?
8. The great lights, in verse 7, were what ?
9. Who is the source of all Light?
10. What was the sun made for?
11. What were the sun and moon made to benefit?
12. Who killed the firstborn of Egypt? What saved the firstborn of the Hebrews?
13. How did He bring them out?
14. Why did God part the Red Sea?
15. How did He hold Pharaoh and his men back, until the Israelites crossed the sea?
16. What happened to Pharaoh's men?
17. What did God use to lead the children of Israel across the wilderness?
18. Who were two specific rulers the Lord removed from before Israel?
19. Who had God originally promised this land of promise to?
20. Who were God's chosen people?
21. How did the psalmist put a little personal note on this?
22. What was the low estate they had been in?
23. What Bread should the Christians feed on?
24. Who is the God of heaven?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 137th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 137

- Verse 1 "By Babel's streams we sat and wept, When Zion we thought on, In midst thereof we hung our harps The willow-trees upon."
- Verse 2 "For there a song required they, Who did us captive bring: Our spoilers called for mirth, and said, A song of Zion sing."
- Verse 3 "O how the Lord's song shall we sing Within a foreign land? If thee, Jerus'lem, I forget, Skill part from my right hand."
- Verse 4 "My tongue to my mouth's roof let cleave, If I do thee forget, Jerusalem, and thee above My chief good do not set."
- Verse 5 "Remember Edom's children, Lord, Who in Jerus'lem's day, Ev'n unto its foundation stone, Raze, raze it quite, did say."
- Verse 6 "O daughter thou of Babylon, To ruin hastening on, He shall be blest who thee rewards As thou to us hast done."
- Verse 7 "Yea, happy shall he be, Thy tender little ones Who shall lay hold upon, and them Shall dash against the stones."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 137th Psalm. Psalms 137:1 "By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion."

This Psalm tells of the captivity of the children of Israel in Babylon. When they stopped and thought back of their homeland, the main thing that came to their remembrance was their place of worship. This weeping was for remembering Zion. One of the saddest things a person can feel, is their separation from their place of worship. We know that in many countries of the world there has been a time when Christians could not come to their place of worship. What a sad remembrance. I look back over the things that have changed our churches, and I weep as these did who sat by the river in Babylon. The world today, has turned to a Babylon. The church is really being pushed out of the main stream.

Psalms 137:2 "We hanged our harps upon the willows in the midst thereof."

These were harps that they had played joyfully in their temple. They might as well be hanging in a tree for what good they could do for them.

Psalms 137:3 "For there they that carried us away captive required of us a song; and they that wasted us [required of us] mirth, [saying], Sing us [one] of the songs of Zion."

What an even more hurtful thing to do. The songs would not be joyful in captivity. To be forced to be cheerful does not work. The singing of the songs that had brought such joy in the temple, would now bring sad memories.

Psalms 137:4 "How shall we sing the LORD'S song in a strange land?"

The song they were trying to get them to sing was a song that had been part of the worship service of the temple. It might even be thought of being disrespectful to God to sing this song in a heathen land.

Psalms 137:5 "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget [her cunning]."

The Jewish people have always thought of Jerusalem as their homeland. Their loyalty, even if they are citizens in another land, has always been to Jerusalem, their holy city. The psalmist, here, is just saying that it is more likely that he would forget how to use his right hand than it is that he would forget Jerusalem. All Jewish people have a soft place in their heart for Jerusalem. This would be magnified here, because they were captives.

Psalms 137:6 "If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy."

This is about the same thing as the verse above, except instead of forgetting how to use his right hand, he is saying, here, he would be unable to talk. Jerusalem is the very center of his heart's desire.

A few years ago, we were forced by things beyond our control to leave a church that had meant so very much to us. It was like these Jewish people spoken of here. There just seemed to be no joy in anything we did. To lose one's special place of worship is pretty close to the feelings you have in the death of a loved one.

Psalms 137:7 "Remember, O LORD, the children of Edom in the day of Jerusalem; who said, Rase [it], rase [it, even] to the foundation thereof."

Edom had been opposed to Israel ever since the days of Jacob and Esau. It seems that when Jerusalem was overthrown, that the Edomites wanted it to be totally destroyed. Even though they were relatives, they hated each other. Those same people are still having trouble, today, over Isreal.

Psalms 137:8 "O daughter of Babylon, who art to be destroyed; happy [shall he be], that rewardeth thee as thou hast served us."

This was a prophetic Scripture about the destruction of Babylon. Many times cities are spoken of as a daughter, or as a woman. In Revelation, Babylon the great is spoken of in this manner. It is as if the psalmist is saying, you deserve what you get, because of what you have done to us.

Psalms 137:9 "Happy [shall he be], that taketh and dasheth thy little ones against the stones."

This very thing had taken place in the overthrow of Jerusalem. He is wishing for the same horrors that they committed against Jerusalem to come to them. This sounds very cruel, but these children of Israel have always believed in an eye for an eye.

We will continue on by giving the 138th Psalm in metre.

- Verse 1 "With all my heart I'll praise thy name, Before the gods thy praise proclaim; I'll worship in thy holy place, And praise thee for thy truth and grace."
- Verse 2 "For thou o'er all thy name, O Lord, Hast magnified thy faithful word; Thou didst me answer when I cried, thou hast my soul with strength supplied."
- Verse 3 "All kings of earth shall give thee praise, When from thy mouth they learn thy ways; They in Jehovah's ways shall sing, For great in glory is our King."
- Verse 4 "The Lord, though high, respects the law; But he the proud far off doth know; Though waves of trouble round me roll, thou, Lord, wilt yet revive my soul.
- Verse 5 "My foes enraged, my way withstand; Against them thou wilt stretch thy hand; Thine own right hand shall set me free, And perfect make thy work for me."
- Verse 6 "O Lord, thy mercy never ends, Throughout all ages it extends; Then on thy servant pity take, Thine own hands' work do not forsake."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 138th Psalm. Psalms 138:1 "{ [A Psalm] of David.} I will praise thee with my whole heart: before the gods will I sing praise unto thee."

We see that the psalmist, here, is saying, I may be in an alien land, but I am not ashamed to praise my God. The gods that he was going to sing praises before are the false gods of this evil land. His heart was so full of His God, that he would have praised the LORD, even if they had killed him for it.

Psalms 138:2 "I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name."

One of my friends wrote a song that said look to the temple and pray. Not that the prayer would be heard any better that way, but it reminded the psalmist of the times he had gone to the temple to pray. It helped the psalmist in remembering. It, also, helped him remember the blessings that the LORD had brought. God's lovingkindness was a pleasure to remember. It helped him remember that this captivity would pass away, if he kept the faith. In the Word of God, there is the promise of deliverance. The psalmist knows that God has elevated His Word even above His name. He will deliver him, because His Word says so.

Psalms 138:3 "In the day when I cried thou answeredst me, [and] strengthenedst me [with] strength in my soul."

Many times the answer to a prayer comes in our heart long before the answer becomes a reality. God answered this prayer immediately. The manifestation will come later.

Psalms 138:4 "All the kings of the earth shall praise thee, O LORD, when they hear the words of thy mouth."

Kings are elevated in this earth, but the way for them to come to the Lord is the same as for anyone else. Many times it is harder for people who are thought of as something special on the earth, to humble themselves and come to God. It is very easy to get self-centered, if your peers have elevated you to stardom. There is a time when every eye shall see Him, and all will bow their knee to Him. 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."

Psalms 138:5 "Yea, they shall sing in the ways of the LORD: for great [is] the glory of the LORD."

This has to be speaking prophetically of the time when the Lord Jesus will preach, and they all hear and believe. This has to be a supernatural understanding such a sin in the next verse. Ephesians 1:17 "That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:"

Psalms 138:6 "Though the LORD [be] high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly: but the proud he knoweth afar off."

We have discussed how difficult it is for the proud to humble themselves long enough to come unto the Lord. The humble, on the other and, think of themselves in a different light. They seek the Saviour, because they know that they have need to be saved. The proud are too proud to admit they need a Saviour.

Psalms 138:7 "Though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt revive me: thou shalt stretch forth thine hand against the wrath of mine enemies, and thy right hand shall save me."

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me. The time we know for sure He is with us {if we are a believer}, is when we are in terrible trouble. The Right Hand of God is Jesus. He saved us from sin and death on the cross. He will still save us from harm.

Psalms 138:8 "The LORD will perfect [that which] concerneth me: thy mercy, O LORD, [endureth] for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands."

When we are first saved, we are babes in Christ. As we walk with the Lord each day, the Holy Spirit teaches us the things we must know. The Lord continues working on us and perfecting us, until the day we go home to be with Him. The works of His own hands are all of His creation, which includes us.

Psalms 140 Questions

1. In verse 1, when did they weep?
2. What is this Psalm telling about?
3. What was the main thing they thought of, when they thought of their homeland?
4. Where had they hung their harps?
5. Their captives required of them, what?
6. If they sang these songs of the temple in captivity, what effect would it have on them?
7. Quote Psalms chapter 137 verse 4.
8. What does verse 5 say, that is to be forgotten, if he forgets Jerusalem?
9. The Jewish people have always thought of _____ as their homeland.
10. What is meant by the tongue cleaving to the roof of the mouth?
11. What does the author compare losing your special place of worship to?
12. What did the people of Edom say, to do to Jerusalem?
13. What is the daughter, in verse 8?
14. What horrible thing, in verse 9, had taken place in Jerusalem before?
15. I will praise thee with my whole _____.
16. What gods was he going to sing praises before of his God?
17. He worshipped toward what?
18. Why did the psalmist do this?
19. In the Word of God, there was a promise of _____.
20. What two things was he going to praise His name for?
21. In chapter 138 verse 3, where was he strengthened?
22. What is the way for a king to come to the Lord?
23. Quote Romans chapter 14 verse 11.
24. Quote Ephesians Chapter 1 verse 17.
25. God hath respect for the _____.
26. Though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt _____ me.
27. Verse 8 says, forsake not what?
28. How long does the Lord continue to work on us to perfect us?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 139th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 139

- Verse 1 "Lord, thou hast searched me, and hast known My rising up and lying down, And from afar thy searching eye Beholds my thoughts that secret lie."
- Verse 2 "Thou know'st my path and lying down, And all my ways to thee are known; For in my tongue no word can be, But, lo, O Lord, 'tis known to thee."
- Verse 3 "Behind, before me, thou dost stand, And lay on me thy mighty hand; Such knowledge is for me too strange, 'Tis high beyond my utmost range."
- Verse 4 "O whither shall my footsteps fly, Beyond thy Spirit's searching eye? To what retreat shall I repair, And find not thy dread presence there?"
- Verse 5 "If I to heaven shall ascend, Thy presence there will me attend; If in the grave I make my bed, Lo, there I find thy presence dread."
- Verse 6 "If on the morning wings I flee, And dwell in utmost parts of sea; Even there thy hand shall guide my way, And thy right hand shall be my stay."
- Verse 7 "Or, if I say, to shun thine eye, In shades of darkness I will lie, Around me then the very noight Will shine as shines the moon-day light."
- Verse 8 "From thee the shades can nought disguise, The night is day before thine eyes; The darkness is to thee as bright As are the beams of noon-day light."
- Verse 9 "My very reigns belong to thee; Thou in the womb didst cover me; And I to thee will praise proclaim, For fearful, wondrous is my frame."
- Verse 10 "Thy works are wonderful, I know; And when in depths of earth below, This complicated frame was made, 'Twas all before thine eyes displayed."
- Verse 11 "My substance yet unformed by thee, Thy searching eyes did clearly see; My days were written every one, Within thy books, one yet begun."
- Verse 12 "Thy thoughts, O God, to me are dear, How vast their numbers do appear! More than the sand my rock'nings make, I'm still with thee when I awake."
- Verse 13 "Thou wilt the wicked slay, O God; Depart from me, ye men of blood; Who speak of thee for ends profane, Thy foes who take thy name in vain."
- Verse 14 "Do not I hate thy haters, Lord? And thy assailants hold abhorred? A perfect hatred them I show, And count each one to me a foe."
- Verse 15 "Search me, O God, my heart discern, Try me, my very heart to learn; See if in evil paths I stray. And guide me in th'eternal way."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 139th Psalm. Psalms 139:1 "{To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.} O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known [me]."

This is speaking of the all knowing God. God's eyes can look into our heart and read us like a book. He not only knows what we have done and said, but he knows why we did those things. He knows whether we really love Him or whether that to is a facade. If you truly love God, then you are overjoyed at the fact that He has searched you and know what you are. The world around us judges us for what they see. God judges our heart.

Psalms 139:2 "Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off."

He knows everything about you. Thank goodness that Satan does not know your thoughts. Only God knows your thoughts. The wonderful thing is that He not only knows your thoughts, but understands the reasons behind your thoughts. He really knows us better than we know ourselves.

Psalms 139:3 "Thou compassed my path and my lying down, and art acquainted [with] all my ways."

Compassed in this verse means to toss about. Even when we are sleeping, He knows our subconscious thought. I personally believe that God directs us many times by our dreams.

Psalms 139:4 "For [there is] not a word in my tongue, [but], lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether."

This statement {in my tongue} means that He knows the words that we want to say that we have not said yet.

Psalms 139:5 "Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me."

The psalmist, here, is speaking of a very close relationship with the Lord. He is saying that He is going before him and clearing the way and He is guarding the back side as well. Really if we are where we really need to be, we are in Him and He is in us.

Psalms 139:6 "[Such] knowledge [is] too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot [attain] unto it."

This is so far beyond our understanding. Of course, as I have said before, the fact that He created the earth and everything in it is beyond my comprehension as well. When you think of someone who has no beginning and no end is beyond our understanding as well.

Psalms 139:7 "Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?"

God is omnipresent, which means He is everywhere all at the same time. You would not be able at all to get away from that. We are looking into a mystery that is far beyond comprehension of the mortal mind. The psalmist is comforted in knowing the presence of God.

Psalms 139:8 "If I ascend up into heaven, thou [art] there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou [art there]."

One of the greatest promises to me, in all the Bible, is that He will never leave us or forsake us. His throne is in the highest heaven and that is home to Him, but He is also wherever His people are, even to the depths of hell.

Psalms 139:9 "[If] I take the wings of the morning, [and] dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;" Psalms 139:10 "Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me."

Even if I had wings like an eagle and could fly to some remote part of the earth where there would be a little hidden sea. The Lord would be there. The Right Hand {Jesus} would be there to help me just as He is here. We are His creation and He is concerned about us wherever we are.

Psalms 139:11 "If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me."

Have you ever been alone on a very dark night? For those who do not know the Lord, this is a very frightening situation. For the Christian, we are comforted in knowing, though the night be dark around us, He is there to help us. He is the Light of the world. We can be comforted in knowing that we have the Light with us in this darkness.

Psalms 139:12 "Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light [are] both alike [to thee]."

The darkness can not prevail against the Light. The Light will always do away with darkness. It matters not whether this darkness is spiritual or physical. The only way the darkness and light are alike is that they both are controlled by Him.

Psalms 139:13 "For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb."

The psalmist is assured that God has been caring for him from the time he was in his mothers womb. Have you ever noticed the special care that God has taken in protecting His own even before they make a decision to follow Him? In my own life it seems as if He has been leading and guiding me to this very moment to do this very thing.

Psalms 139:14 "I will praise thee; for I am fearfully [and] wonderfully made: marvellous [are] thy works; and [that] my soul knoweth right well."

Have you ever thought of what a miracle it really is for a child to be born with 10 fingers and 10 toes and with eyes to see and a mouth to speak? To look at all the parts in the human body and know that God figured all of this out, is so far above what mortal man can do. How could anyone doubt there is God. The more you learn about the human body the more you should believe in the superiority of God. Even the mind of man is the most intricate advanced computer in existence. No wonder so many doctors, after beginning practice, believe in God.

Psalms 139:15 My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, [and] curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth."

The mystery of how a human being can be formed from the sperm planted is so far above what we know. I am still wondering how you can plant an acorn in the ground and a great oak tree becomes. The secret part of this is going on in the mother's womb, away from eyes of wonder. When the baby is born, it is already developed into a living soul.

Psalms 139:16 "Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all [my members] were written, [which] in continuance were fashioned, when [as yet there was] none of them."

This is just saying, You alone know what I was made of. God could see man, even before he picked up the clay to make him with. We are formed in the hands of God. He breathes life into us. If we are His, He is still working with us, shaping us with His hands into a vessel pleasing unto Him. To the world, I may seem as nothing but clay, but in His eyes, He sees the finished product.

Psalms 139:17 "How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!"

What a wonderful thought to know that I am on His mind. Each individual in all the earth is on His mind. When Jesus hung on the cross and shed His precious blood, it was because we were on the mind of God. He made a way for us where there seemed to be no way. When I think upon this, it brings tears to my eyes, that He cared this much for me and you. His thoughts are above our carnal thoughts.

Psalms 139:18 "[If] I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee."

If we were to compare His thoughts to ours: it would be as our thoughts are like one grain of sand and His thoughts are like all the grains of sands. We cannot with this small mind of ours know the mind of God. We are promised in the Word, that we can take on the mind of Christ if we are believers. I Corinthians 2:16 "For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ." This is saying that we know what the Lord would have us to do.

Psalms 139:19 "Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God: depart from me therefore, ye bloody men."

When God slays the wicked, I do not want to be close by. We have discussed how we must not fellowship with evil men. It is as if you approve of their doings when you fellowship with them. You would be guilty by association.

Psalms 139:20 "For they speak against thee wickedly, [and] thine enemies take [thy name] in vain."

If we are a Christian, truly, we can not bear to hear someone talking badly about our God. Even worse than that would be to hear them curse His holy name. Those who truly love God will not listen to this type of degrading conversation.

Psalms 139:21 "Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee?"

This is righteous jealousy for the name of God. The Lord's enemies and the enemies of the Christian should be the same. It breaks my heart to hear someone curse the name of God.

Psalms 139:22 "I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies."

This hatred is not so much of the person as what the person is doing. This type of hatred is not sin.

Psalms 139:23 "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:"

The psalmist {probably David} is assured that when God looks into his heart he will find nothing but love for God. Thoughts come from the heart. If our heart is right, then the thoughts that we have will be pure thoughts as well. One very good reason for a request like this would be, for God to find anything that needs to be changed and help him change.

Psalms 139:24 "And see if [there be any] wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

The psalmist here, is asking for a spiritual house cleaning. The one who leads us and guides us and teaches us is the Holy Spirit of God. Everyone of us have something in our life that could be improved upon. WE need to join in with this psalmist and ask God to search our innermost being and to purge out those things which be not of God. The best way to get rid of any darkness that we might have hidden away, is to turn the Light on it. The Light does away with all darkness.

Psalms 141 Questions

1. In verse one, who had searched him and known him?
2. The world around us judges us by what they can see, God judges our _____.
3. Besides knowing your thoughts, what does God know?
4. What does compasses mean?
5. The author believes God sometimes directs us in our _____.
6. What does {in my tongue} mean?
7. What is verse 5 speaking of?
8. What are some things about God that are absolutely beyond our understanding?
9. Why is it impossible to go where God is not?
10. From verse 8, what is the greatest promises in the Bible?
11. What are we to the Right Hand of God?
12. What comfort does the Christian have in the darkness?
13. Darkness can not prevail against the _____.
14. I will praise thee for I am _____, and _____ made.
15. What is the mind of man?
16. What is the secret spoken of in verse 15?
17. What is verse 16 saying, about the knowledge of God?
18. He made a way for us where there seemed to be ____.
19. Compare our thoughts to God's thoughts.
20. Quote 1 Corinthians chapter 2 verse 16.
21. Since God will destroy the wicked, the psalmist tells _____ to depart from him?
22. When you fellowship with evil people, what is it as if you are doing?
23. Thine enemies take thy name in _____.
24. Who is it not a sin to hate?
25. Search me O God, and know my _____.
26. Why would we want the Lord to do this?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 140th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 140

- Verse 1 "Jehovah, from the evil man, Do thou deliver me; And from the man of violence, O keep me safe and free."
- Verse 2 "They in their heart imagine wrong, And evil meditate; And they for battle and for war From day to day are met."
- Verse 3 "For like a serpent's piercing tongue Their tongues they sharp do make; And underneath their lips there lies The poison of a snake."
- Verse 4 "Lord, keep me from the wicked's hands, From vi'lent men me save; Who utterly to overthrow My going purposed have."
- Verse 5 "The proud a snare and cords have laid, And they a secret not Have by the way-side for me spread; they traps for me have set."
- Verse 6 "I toÿJehovah said, Thou art My God; then to cry Of all my supplications, Lord, Do thou thine ear apply."
- Verse 7 "O God the Lord, who art the strength Of my salvation great; A cov'ring in the day of war, Thou on my head hast set."
- Verse 8 "Unto the wicked man, O Lord, His wishes do not grant; Nor further thou his ill device lest they themselves should vaunt."
- Verse 9 "As for the head and chief of those About that compass me, Ev'n by the mischief of their lips Let thou them covered be."
- Verse 10 "Let burning coals upon them fall, Them throw in fiery flame, And in deep pit, that they no more May rise up from the same."
- Verse 11 "Let not a man of evil tongue On earth established be; Let mischief hunt the violent, Till ruined utterly."
- Verse 12 "I know God will th' afflicted save, The poor defend will he; The just shall surely praise thy name, The upright dwell with thee."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 140th Psalm. Psalms 140:1 "{To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.} Deliver me, O LORD, from the evil man: preserve me from the violent man;"

This Psalm is certainly from David, crying out to the only help he has. He was persecuted and even hunted down by Saul, but this goes even further than that. David knew persecution and sorrow from his own son, as well. The evil man mentioned, here, however, is probably Saul. David does not specifically speak of an individual. This makes this Psalm a prayer that any of us could pray to God. Satan is after all of us who are trying to live for God. The name of the violent man may not be the same in our case, but certainly there is a violent man in each of our problems.

Psalms 140:2 "Which imagine mischiefs in [their] heart; continually are they gathered together [for] war."

Evil men have evil hearts and their imaginations, which come from this evil heart are, also, evil. Evil people have no peace. The only way they think they can satisfy their evil heart, is to bring war to those at peace. They feel, they can make themselves feel better, if they can take something that does not belong to them. These people are not peacemakers, they are warmongers.

Psalms 140:3 "They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent; adders' poison [is] under their lips. Selah."

The most cutting weapon a person has is an evil tongue. Just as poison is in the bite of the serpent, there is poison coming from the tongue of this evil person. The tongue is the most evil part of the body. The tongue can not only wound a person's body, but can literally break his heart. This is why it is so important to give your tongue to God. We all need to bridle our tongue.

Psalms 140:4 "Keep me, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked; preserve me from the violent man; who have purposed to overthrow my goings."

To be in the hands of the wicked would be a terrible tragedy. The Israelites in Egypt felt the tragedy of just such a thing happening to them. This evil Pharaoh had made them work like animals. The World War 2 men, on the death march, could tell you how bad it is to fall into the hands of the wicked. The wicked have no moral code, so they have no feeling for anyone else. David was praying, whatever happened, God please do not let him fall into wicked hands. These wicked men thought of nothing night and day, but to overthrow David and take over themselves.

Psalms 140:5 "The proud have hid a snare for me, and cords; they have spread a net by the wayside; they have set gins for me. Selah."

They may act proud, but this is a sneaky way to fight. They set traps for him, instead of coming face to face with him. Gins, in the verse above, means noose like they catch animals with. Selah is a time to pause and think on these things.

Psalms 140:6 "I said unto the LORD, Thou [art] my God: hear the voice of my supplications, O LORD."

There was never a question in David's mind that he belonged to God. We must learn from David about this, also. Even though our enemies seem to be surrounding us, we must never forget that the Lord is our God. This is almost a desperate cry from David saying, You are my only help, don't let me down.

Psalms 140:7 "O GOD the Lord, the strength of my salvation, thou hast covered my head in the day of battle."

David, in looking back, knows that God had protected him from harm so many times before. In all of David's battles, God had covered his head from harm. The covering that David had been blessed with was the presence of the Lord. When David fought, he fought in the name of the most high God. We can learn a lesson from this, too. When we fight the battles in our life, do not try to fight them on your own. Fight them in the name of Jesus. Stand against

the devil in the name of the Lord and he will flee from you. Our salvation is in our belief in the name of Jesus.

Psalms 140:8 "Grant not, O LORD, the desires of the wicked: further not his wicked device; [lest] they exalt themselves. Selah."

David should be saying here, I know that you will not grant their wicked desires. David knows, and we should know, that the wicked do not even believe in God, so why would they pray to Him? We know that all of humanity, good or bad, is dependent upon the workings of God, whether they are aware of it, or not. God will not help further the wicked against His own people. They would have to exalt themselves, because God would not exalt them. We must pause a moment and think on these things.

Psalms 140:9 "[As for] the head of those that compass me about, let the mischief of their own lips cover them."

This is saying, let their own sin fall upon their head. They may surround me with wickedness, but no harm will come unto me. This is usually the very thing that does happen to those who say evil things about others, these very evil things come home to rest upon their own head.

Psalms 140:10 "Let burning coals fall upon them: let them be cast into the fire; into deep pits, that they rise not up again."

In the 25th chapter of Proverbs, we read about the enemies of those who are living for God. It says that God will heap coals of fire upon their head. David is saying, if these coals come from above, it will leave no doubt that God is the one punishing them. We do know that if they do not repent of their evil ways, there is a lake of fire awaiting them.

Psalms 140:11 "Let not an evil speaker be established in the earth: evil shall hunt the violent man to overthrow [him]."

An evil speaker would be full of lies. For an evil one to be established in the land would do the same thing as one rotten apple in a barrel. Pretty soon the whole land would be bad. The violent man has sown the wrong kind of seed. The seed that he planted was violence. The crop that he receives from his planting, will be violence, as well. If you live by violence, you shall die by violence.

Psalms 140:12 "I know that the LORD will maintain the cause of the afflicted, [and] the right of the poor."

All through the Bible, God has been on the side of the oppressed and the poor. The wealthy prominent person can take care of his own. God helps those who actually need His help. Notice, the emphatic statement of David here, I know. We can all take heart of the fact, that the Lord cares for His own.

Psalms 140:13 Surely the righteous shall give thanks unto thy name: the upright shall dwell in thy presence.

In the last verse, we saw an assurance of all the wonderful care and protection God shows. Now in this verse we see the statement that surely we would praise Him for it. Those who have been put in right standing with God,

{the righteous} should praise the Lord for the free gift of salvation. We know that there will come a time when the upright shall dwell in heaven near the throne of God with Jesus. This is saying, that even now, we can be in the presence of God. We read in these lessons that He is omnipresent. Even though He is heaven on the throne, He is right here with us, as well. The upright, not only feel His presence once in a while, but we are surrounded by His presence all the time. His name is above all names. We can do no less than to thank Him with everything within us.

Psalms 142 Questions

1. Deliver me from the _____.
2. Who is the violent man of verse 1, probably?
3. Where do these mischievous imaginings come from?
4. They are continually gathered together for _____.
5. They have sharpened their tongue like a _____.
6. What is under their tongue?
7. An evil tongue breaks not only bones, but can break your _____.
8. We all need to _____ our tongue.
9. Keep me, O Lord, from the _____ of the wicked.
10. Who could better tell us of how bad it is to be in the hands of the wicked?
11. What did these wicked men have on their mind night and day?
12. What is gins, in verse 5?
13. There was never a question in David's mind about what?
14. Who is the strength of His salvation?
15. What had God done for David in battle?
16. What lesson can we learn from David fighting in the name of the most high God?
17. Grant not the desires of the _____.
18. Why would the wicked have to exalt themselves?
19. In verse 9, David says to let what cover them?
20. In what chapter of Proverbs do we read about the coals of fire on the head of the wicked?
21. Let not an _____ be established in the earth.
22. The violent planted what kind of seed?
23. What will they produce?
24. Who will maintain the cause of the afflicted?
25. Surely the righteous shall give _____ unto thy name.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 141st Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 141

- Verse 1 "O Lord, my God, to thee I cry; Swift to my aid in mercy fly; And when to thee my cries ascend, In pity to my voice attend."
- Verse 2 "As fragrant incense on the air, So mount to heaven my early prayer; And let my hands uplifted be, As evening sacrifice to thee."
- Verse 3 "Set, Lord, a watch my mouth before, And of my lips keep thou the door; Nor leave my sinful heart to stray Where evil footsteps lead the way."
- Verse 4 "Let me not of the feast partake Which wicked men delight to make; Let righteous men in mercy smite, In their reproofs I'll take delight."
- Verse 5 "Let righteous lips my errors chide, Like healing oil the accents glide: If voice of faithful friend reprove, Such smiting comes to me in love."
- Verse 6 "For them, when they are in distress, To God I will my prayer address; Their judges cast on rocky ground, Then sweet to them my words shall sound."
- Verse 7 "Around the graves our bones are left, As branches by the woodman cleft: To thee, Lord God, I lift my eyes; On thee my helpless soul relies."
- Verse 8 "Preserve me from the secret net, The toils which impious hands have set; In their own snares let sinners fall, While I by grace escape them all."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 141st Psalm. Psalms 141:1 {A Psalm of David.} LORD, I cry unto thee: make haste unto me; give ear unto my voice, when I cry unto thee.

We see an urgency in this prayer of David. I love the fact that even though things were bad with David, he never stopped praying. He knew where his help would come from, when it came. He just wanted God to hear and answer this prayer now. God loves this type prayer, because He realizes David's sincerity in his belief that God will help him. When we pray, we must know in our heart that the only true help for us is in God.

Psalms 141:2 "Let my prayer be set forth before thee [as] incense; [and] the lifting up of my hands [as] the evening sacrifice."

The smoke that rose to heaven from the burning incense in the temple was symbolic of the prayers of the saints. This is something that David would know, and that is what he is saying here. Praise is the sacrifice that God really 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." As we said, in a previous lesson, the praise that is accompanied by the uplifting of the hands to the Lord, just emphasizes who we are praising and how sincere the praise is. When you lift

your hands to God, you are humbling yourself before Him. You are saying, You are higher than I am.

Psalms 141:3 "Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips."

The same mouth is capable of doing evil or good, as we read in the next Scripture. James 3:10 "Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be." David is saying, in the verse above, I do not want this mouth that praises you to say evil things. Lord, you guard what I say. Put a bridle on my speech, Lord. Let only the things which will be pleasing unto your ears come from this mouth.

Psalms 141:4 "Incline not my heart to [any] evil thing, to practise wicked works with men that work iniquity: and let me not eat of their dainties."

This is just a plea from David for God to remove all temptation from him. Keep me from even associating with these evil people, Lord. This is what I teach about the flesh and the spirit. The flesh is tempted sometimes to work with evil people, if the pay is good. We are, also, tempted to eat delicious things prepared by the evil, as well. The flesh is an enemy of the spirit. That is why it is so important to make the spirit ruler in our life. Let the spirit rule and then you will not be tempted by the flesh. The soul is the will of man. Perhaps, it is sometimes spoken of as our innermost being. Make the spirit the control over your will. The only way that we can do this, is make Jesus Lord of our life. Let Him be in charge of our spirit.

Psalms 141:5 "Let the righteous smite me; [it shall be] a kindness: and let him reprove me; [it shall be] an excellent oil, [which] shall not break my head: for yet my prayer also [shall be] in their calamities."

When you are in the company of the righteous, they will help you. If you have a weak moment, they will correct you before you sin. The righteous should fellowship with others who are righteous, as well. We help each other stay on the right path. This reproof, spoken of here, could be from the Righteous One. This would be like a chastisement. When He reproves us, it is in love like a father correcting a child. It is not a harm to our head, but is a blessing like the oil of the Holy Spirit which brings peace.

Psalms 141:6 "When their judges are overthrown in stony places, they shall hear my words; for they are sweet."

These judges, in stony places, is speaking of the evil one being overthrown, and then David will rise and speak. David's words will be pleasing to the ears of the Lord.

Psalms 141:7 "Our bones are scattered at the grave's mouth, as when one cutteth and cleaveth [wood] upon the earth."

This reminds me of the dry bones in Ezekiel. Ezekiel 37:1 "The hand of the LORD was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley which [was] full of bones," Ezekiel 37:2 "And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, [there were] very many in the open valley; and, lo, [they were] very dry." Ezekiel 37:3 "And

he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord GOD, thou knowest." Ezekiel 37:4 "Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD." Ezekiel 37:5 "Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live:" The only way that the bones in Ezekiel or the bones mentioned above here, can live is for God to put back the life into them. Notice, in Ezekiel chapter 37 verse 4 above, what is said to these dead bones: Hear the Word of the LORD. The life in all of our bodies is the Spirit of God. It is His breath {Spirit}. By the foolishness of preaching, those that believe are saved.

Psalms 141:8 "But mine eyes [are] unto thee, O GOD the Lord: in thee is my trust; leave not my soul destitute."

The psalmist, here, is saying, I believe in God the LORD. God will give him new life, because he believes.

Psalms 141:9 "Keep me from the snares [which] they have laid for me, and the gins of the workers of iniquity."

David is fully aware of what temptation can do. He is asking the Lord, here, to keep him from all temptation. Satan knows our weaknesses, and he sets traps along the way that we might be caught in our own temptation. David is saying to the Lord, you know I am weak. You keep me from temptation.

Psalms 141:10 "Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst that I withal escape."

The trap that the evil one has set for us would be a good trap for him to fall into. If they live by the sword, let them die by the sword is what David is saying.

We will continue this lesson by giving the 142nd Psalm in metre.

- Verse 1 "To God my earnest voice I raise: To God my voice imploring
prays: Before his face I pour my tears, And tell my sorrow
in his ears."
- Verse 2 "When griefs my fainting soul o'erflow, thou knowest, Lord,
the way I go; And all the toils that foes do lay To snare
thy servant in his way."
- Verse 3 "All unprotected, Lo, I stand; No friendly guardian at my
hand; No place of fight or refuge near, And none to whom my
soul is dear."
- Verse 4 "O Lord, my Saviour, now to thee, Without a hope besides, I
flee; To thee, my shelter from the strife, My portion in the
land of life."
- Verse 5 "Then hear and heed my fervent cry, For low with burning
griefs I lie; Against my foes thy arm display, For I am
weak, but strong are they."
- Verse 6 "Redeem me from the captive chains, That I may sing in
grateful strains: Then shall the righteous round me press,
For God shall me with favor bless."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 142nd Psalm. Psalms 142:1 "Maschil of David; A Prayer when he was in the cave.) I cried unto the LORD with my voice; with my voice unto the LORD did I make my supplication."

It seems that this was a time in David's life, when the only help he could depend on was the Lord. Notice, the word "voice" is spoken twice. This prayer was not a whisper, nor even a silent prayer. This was a loud cry to the Lord.

Psalms 142:2 "I poured out my complaint before him; I shewed before him my trouble."

David is not speaking this complaint against God, but against the condition of his circumstances. Look, with me, at a Scripture where Jesus was telling the disciples that God already knew what their needs were, even before they asked. Matthew 6:8 "Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him." The Lord was already aware of the problem, before David spoke, but sometimes it is good to pray and relate the problem to Him, so that we can know for sure He is aware.

Psalms 142:3 "When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then thou knewest my path. In the way wherein I walked have they privily laid a snare for me."

Sometimes the problems overwhelm us, and we get down in our spirit. The Lord knew just exactly where he was. Even though the enemy had set a trap, the Lord would keep him from being caught in that trap.

Psalms 142:4 "I looked on [my] right hand, and beheld, but [there was] no man that would know me: refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul."

This is true. When you are down and about out, no man does care for your soul. God is the only one who cares many times, when things are so bad. Even those we call our friends, are sometimes fair-weather friends. In time

of trouble, they are nowhere to be found. The right hand, here, being the favored side, would be speaking of a friend. No one wanted to take the chance of getting in trouble himself by hiding David.

Psalms 142:5 "I cried unto thee, O LORD: I said, Thou [art] my refuge [and] my portion in the land of the living."

When there is no help around, then it is time to call on God. When David cried out to God, he immediately said, Thou art my refuge. He suddenly realized that God would take care of him, even in this terrible situation. To me, in the last part of the statement above, he is saying, if You want me to live, O God, no one can take my life. My life is in You. If God was his refuge, he did not need others to take his part. He was a majority with God on his side.

Psalms 142:6 "Attend unto my cry; for I am brought very low: deliver me from my persecutors; for they are stronger than I."

Send me the Deliverer. We read how God heard the cry of Jacob's children in Egypt, and sent Moses to deliver them. This is the very same type of plea here. He is saying, I am so low, I cannot help myself. I must depend entirely upon You. They were out to kill David. David was aware the only One who could deliver him. was God. When we get to the point that we cannot help ourself, it is time to call upon God. This is when He comes to our rescue.

Psalms 142:7 "Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise thy name: the righteous shall compass me about; for thou shalt deal bountifully with me."

David was in hiding, but it was a prison to him, because he could not openly praise the Lord the way he wanted to. He was down in his soul, because of the circumstances surrounding him. When a person receives deliverance for their soul, they do shout praises to their Deliverer. When someone is delivered from the depths of despair, true believers gather around and rejoice with them. David knows that God had blessed him in the past, and he knows that this will be no different here. The last statement is a vote of confidence in God.

Psalms 143 Questions

1. Quote chapter 141 verse 1 of Psalms.
2. Even though things were bad for David, he never stopped _____.
3. Why does God love this type of prayer?
4. Let my prayer be set before thee as _____.
5. What in the temple services symbolized the prayers of saints?
6. Quote Hebrews chapter 13 verse 15.
7. What does praise with the uplifting of the hands show?
8. What did he ask for God to do to his mouth?
9. Quote James chapter 3 verse 10.
10. What is verse 4 a plea for?
11. Why is it so important to make the spirit ruler in our life?
12. What is the soul?
13. How is the only way to get the spirit to rule over the flesh?
14. Let the _____ smite me.
15. What is this reproof like?
16. Who are the judges in stony places?
17. Our bones are scattered at the _____ mouth.
18. Where do we read in Ezekiel about the dry bones?
19. What makes the dry bones live?
20. By what foolishness are people saved?
21. Why will God give him new life?
22. David said, keep me from the _____.
23. Let the wicked fall into their _____.
24. Chapter 142 verse 1 says, David was where?
25. What did David pour out before the Lord?
26. What had happened to David in verse 3?
27. Who is the one on the right hand in verse 4?
28. What did David call God in verse 5?
29. Who did David say, was stronger than he was?
30. Bring my soul out of _____.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 143rd Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 143

- Verse 1 "Lord, hear my pray'r, and to my cry In faithfulness attend;
To me in righteousness reply, A gracious answer send."
- Verse 2 "Nor at thy just tribunal call Thy servant to be tried; For
in thy sight, of mortals all, Shall none be justified."
- Verse 3 "For foes against my soul unite; My life to dust they tread;
I dwell where darkness veils my sight, And midst those long
since dead."
- Verse 4 "My spirit, overwhelmed with woes, Within me sighs for rest;
And desolate, without repose, My heart is sore oppressed."
- Verse 5 "Yet I recall the days of old, Thy works of wonder trace;
Thy works which ages past unfold; I muse upon thy grace."
- Verse 6 "And now, O Lord, my outstretched hands I lift to thee
again; For thee I long, as thirsty lands For genial showers
of rain."
- Verse 7 "O hear me, Lord, nor more delay, For griefs my life
consume; Nor hide thy face lest I decay, Like those within
the tomb."
- Verse 8 "When morning lights the eastern skies, Thy mercy, Lord,
disclose; And let thy loving-kindness rise: On thee my hopes
repose."
- Verse 9 "Teach me the way where I should go; I lift my soul to thee;
Redeem me from the raging foe; To thee, O Lord, I flee."
- Verse 10 "Because thou art my God, I pray, Teach me to do thy will; O
lead me in the perfect way By thy good Spirit still."
- Verse 11 "Revive me, Lord, for thy great name, And for thy judgment's
sake; From all my woes, O Lord, reclaim, My soul from
trouble take."
- Verse 12 "In mercy bare thy mighty arm, To crush my foes in shame;
Cut off, who work thy servant harm, Devoted to thy name."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 143rd Psalm. Psalms 143:1 "{A Psalm of David.} Hear my prayer, O LORD, give ear to my supplications: in thy faithfulness answer me, [and] in thy righteousness."

I love the fact that David said, in thy faithfulness answer me. He did not say according to my faithfulness. God's faithfulness is perfect. By saying hear and give ear, it shows how earnest he is in wanting God to hear his request. David does not claim any righteousness on his own, he speaks of God's righteousness.

Psalms 143:2 "And enter not into judgment with thy servant: for in thy sight shall no man living be justified."

David is just like all of us. He does not want justice from God, he wants mercy. He knows that we all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Jesus Christ justified each of us with his shed blood for us. Acts 13:39 "And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses." Romans 3:20 "Therefore by

the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law [is] the knowledge of sin." Our justification {just as if we had never sinned} is in the Lord Jesus. Our only hope is that he justified us Himself.

Psalms 143:3 "For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath smitten my life down to the ground; he hath made me to dwell in darkness, as those that have been long dead."

Just like David, our enemies are trying to destroy us any way they can. The greatest adversary that we have is the devil. He does get you down so far that you are in a hole looking up. Satan will keep you down and even dead if he can. The thing that does away with all this darkness and gloom is the Light of Jesus.

Psalms 143:4 "Therefore is my spirit overwhelmed within me; my heart within me is desolate."

David is so down because the enemy has overwhelmed his spirit. To be so low and depressed would nearly break your heart.

Psalms 143:5 "I remember the days of old; I meditate on all thy works; I muse on the work of thy hands."

The comfort that he has, is in remembering the great things that God has done in the past. There is only one thing that can be good about looking back and that is in a learning process. This is what David is doing here. He is building up his most holy faith by remembering the wonderful things of God in the past.

Psalms 143:6 "I stretch forth my hands unto thee: my soul [thirsteth] after thee, as a thirsty land. Selah."

I discussed in a previous lesson how it is very important to have the palms of our hands open when we reach out to God. This is a way of drinking in the things that the Lord has for us. He can not give you anything if your fists are clenched. If you hunger and thirst after righteousness you shall be filled.

Psalms 143:7 "Hear me speedily, O LORD: my spirit faileth: hide not thy face from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit."

David thinks here that his life is slipping away. He must have help soon, or he will die before the help comes. Not only is this speaking of physical death, but spiritual despair as well.

Psalms 143:8 "Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee."

David is asking, here, to know the will of God for his life. The darkest hour is just before the dawn. The lovingkindness of the Lord would cause all this gloom to fade away. David has promised that he will walk in the will of the Lord, if he just knew what the will of the Lord was.

Psalms 143:9 "Deliver me, O LORD, from mine enemies: I flee unto thee to hide me."

The Lord is our hiding place. He is saying, after you have delivered me, keep me hidden in you, so that they will not be able to find me, again.

Psalms 143:10 "Teach me to do thy will; for thou [art] my God: thy spirit [is] good; lead me into the land of uprightness."

I have said so often in these lessons, how important it is to do the will of the Lord. We can not do the will of the Lord, unless we know what that will is. David is asking God to teach him how to do God's will. The very best way to learn to do the will of God is to study His Word {Bible}, and pray that the Holy Spirit will teach you more fully what the Scriptures are saying to you. God has a perfect plan for each of our lives. To be truly happy in our life, we must learn what that will is and then fulfill God's will in our lives.

Psalms 143:11 "Quicken me, O LORD, for thy name's sake: for thy righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble."

Jesus is the Quickening Spirit which brings new life in the spirit. The breath of life is a gift from God. The gift of new life is from the very same place. This is new life that David is asking for. It will not only be good for David to give him new life, but it will show the world the mercy and love that comes through new life in Jesus.

Psalms 143:12 "And of thy mercy cut off mine enemies, and destroy all them that afflict my soul: for I [am] thy servant."

David declares his loyalty to the Lord, when he says he is God's servant. He is just asking God to stop his enemies from destroying him.

We will continue this lesson by giving the 144th Psalm in metre.

- Verse 1 "O Blessed over be the Lord, Who is my strength, and might,
Who doth instruct my hands to war, My fingers teach to
fight."
- Verse 2 "My goodness, fortress, my high tow'r, Deliverance and
shield, In whom I trust; who unto me My people makes to
yield."
- Verse 3 "Lord, what is man, that thou of him Dost so much knowledge
take? Or son of man, that thou of him So great account dost
make?"
- Verse 4 "Man is like vanity; his days, As shadows, pass away. Lord,
bow thy heav'ns, come down, touch thou The hills, and smoke
shall they."
- Verse 5 "Cast forth thy lightning, scatter them; Thine arrows shoot,
them rout. Thine hand send from above, me save; From great
depths draw me out."
- Verse 6 "Me free from hands of children strange, Whose mouth speaks
vanity; And their right hand a right hand is That works
deceitfully."
- Verse 7 "A new song I will sing to thee, O Lord, on psaltery: And on
a ten-stringed instrument Will praise sing to thee."
- Verse 8 "For he it is that unto kings Deliverance doth send; And he
his servant David doth From hurtful sword defend."
- Verse 9 "Me free from hands of children strange Whose mouth speaks
vanity; And their right hand a right hand is That works
deceitfully."
- Verse 10 "That, as the plants, our sons may be In youth grown up that
are; Our daughters, like to corner-stones, Carved like a
palace fair."
- Verse 11 "That to afford all kind of store Our garner may be filled;
That our sheep thousands, in our streets Ten thousands they
may yield."
- Verse 12 "That strong our oxen be for work, That no in-breaking be,
Nor going out; and that our streets May from complaints be
free."
- Verse 13 "O blest the people who are found In such a state as this;
Yea, greatly blest those people are, Whose God JEHOVAH is."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 144th Psalm. Psalms
144:1 "{ [A Psalm] of David.} Blessed [be] the LORD my strength, which
teacheth my hands to war, [and] my fingers to fight:"

My strength, my Rock, my salvation; Bless the Lord who brings this to
me. David knows where his strength came from to fight the good fight of
faith. Hands show ability to work. In this, it appears it is the ability to
fight the enemies of David, who are also the enemies of God. The fingers are
more detailed than just mentioning the hand, so this would possibly have to
do with skill, as well as ability.

Psalms 144:2 "My goodness, and my fortress; my high tower, and my
deliverer; my shield, and [he] in whom I trust; who subdueth my people under
me."

These are showing the character of the Lord. He is goodness to the
extreme. Notice, that David uses the word, my, in connection with each of

these traits. David is fully aware that the victory he has experienced, is through the Lord. He says, I trusted Him and He came through for me. It is the Lord, through David, who subdued the enemy.

Psalms 144:3 "LORD, what [is] man, that thou takest knowledge of him! [or] the son of man, that thou makest account of him!"

Now, we see a strong contrast between what David has just said about God and man. There really is no comparison. Man is God's creation. That is why He is mindful of man. God made man in His image. That is another reason He is mindful of man. God wants a family composed of man, that is even another reason God is mindful of man. Man is made a little lower than the angels. He is the end of God's creation. God made the world, and all that is in it, for man. Then to ask me what is man in comparison with God? There is no comparison possible. God is the ultimate in intelligence, in power, in wisdom, in understanding, in goodness, in mercy, in ability. Man is the least in all of these same things. The only greatness that man has is in association with God. We have been made His sons through the shed blood of His only begotten Son.

Psalms 144:4 "Man is like to vanity: his days [are] as a shadow that passeth away."

He is but an allusion. Man's life on this earth is but a vapour, and gone.

Psalms 144:5 "Bow thy heavens, O LORD, and come down: touch the mountains, and they shall smoke."

At the mere presence of God, even the mountain smokes. The heavens, the earth, the sea, and all of God's creation is at His command. If He says, bow, they must bow.

Psalms 144:6 "Cast forth lightning, and scatter them: shoot out thine arrows, and destroy them."

As terrible as the weapons are that our country has accumulated to fight a war, they would be nothing compared to the weapons at God's disposal. Even the lightning moves at His command. The volcano erupts, when He commands. The earth Quakes at His command. It would be of no consequence at all for the Lord to destroy all on the earth. He created them, He could destroy them, by just speaking the Word.

Psalms 144:7 "Send thine hand from above; rid me, and deliver me out of great waters, from the hand of strange children;"

God, with all this power, can certainly destroy a few enemies of David. The strange children mean people of other nations. The great waters, symbolize large groups of people.

Psalms 144:8 "Whose mouth speaketh vanity, and their right hand [is] a right hand of falsehood."

The right hand has to do with the spiritual blessings and is the hand of preferential treatment. The Hebrews that received the right hand inheritance were granted twice the blessings as ordinary. Those who speak

vanity, here, are liars. Their hand that should be such a blessing was, instead, a curse.

Psalms 144:9 "I will sing a new song unto thee, O God: upon a psaltery [and] an instrument of ten strings will I sing praises unto thee."

He has jumped from these who deal in falsehood to the fact that he stands for truth. These praises that David will sing, will be a happy song of redemption. He is so happy, that he will accompany himself on the 10 stringed instrument. Whatever he is speaking of could be similar to our guitar.

Psalms 144:10 "[It is he] that giveth salvation unto kings: who delivereth David his servant from the hurtful sword."

Salvation for everyone is received in the very same way, whether you are a king, or a peasant. It is a free gift from God by believing in the Lord Jesus Christ. This same Saviour of the king is the very same One who delivered David.

Psalms 144:11 "Rid me, and deliver me from the hand of strange children, whose mouth speaketh vanity, and their right hand [is] a right hand of falsehood:"

The deliverer, will be the One to do this for David, as well. These foreigners who are liars, and who bring curses, instead of blessings are the ones David wants to be rid of.

Psalms 144:12 "That our sons [may be] as plants grown up in their youth; [that] our daughters [may be] as corner stones, polished [after] the similitude of a palace:"

This, to me, is speaking of the training and upbringing of the boys as a tree planted. It must grow straight and strong in its youth, if it is to be the upright strong-rooted plant, or tree that it should be. Jesus is the chief Corner-Stone. This mention of the girls as corner-stones means that they are to secure the walls together. They help to hold the framework of the palace together. The fact that they are polished would mean that they are pretty to look upon, while being useful to holding the home, or palace, together.

Psalms 144:13 "[That] our garners [may be] full, affording all manner of store: [that] our sheep may bring forth thousands and ten thousands in our streets:"

Psalms 144:14 "[That] our oxen [may be] strong to labour; [that there be] no breaking in, nor going out; that [there be] no complaining in our streets."

This is speaking of abundant blessings that come from God alone. This is speaking of families who operate by God's plan and have plenty from the labor of their hands. Even their oxen cooperate with the plan and work, not destroy.

Psalms 144:15 "Happy [is that] people, that is in such a case: [yea], happy [is that] people, whose God [is] the LORD."

This just shows the happiness, peace, and joy that comes from following closely with the LORD.

Psalms 144 Questions

1. Whose faithfulness is David depending on?
2. What does David call himself in verse 2?
3. Instead of justice, what does David want from God?
4. Quote Romans chapter 3 verse 20.
5. What does justification mean?
6. Who is the greatest adversary that all of us have?
7. What does away with all the darkness and gloom?
8. In verse 4, what is really down about David?
9. What comfort does David have?
10. What is the only reason for looking back?
11. When we reach out in praise to God, what position should we have our hands in? Why?
12. If you hunger and thirst after righteousness, you shall be _____>
13. What reason did David give for God hearing him speedily?
14. Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the _____.
15. When is the darkest hour?
16. What must David know to walk in the will of the Lord?
17. Who is our hiding place?
18. What is the best way to learn what the will of God is?
19. What must we do to be truly happy?
20. Who is the Quickening Spirit?
21. What does David call the LORD in verse 1?
22. The LORD teaches his hands to _____.
23. What does he call the LORD in verse 2?
24. Quote Psalms chapter 144 verse 3.
25. Compare God and man.
26. What are man's days likened to in verse 4?
27. What happens to the mountains at the presence of God?
28. Who are the strange children?
29. Their right hand is a hand of _____.
30. What would their 10 stringed instrument be like today?
31. In verse 12, we read that the sons should be like what?
32. In the same verse, what are the daughters to be as?
33. What blessings are mentioned in verse 13?
34. Quote Psalms chapter 144 verse 15.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 145th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 145

- Verse 1 "O Lord, thou art my God and King; I'll thee exalt, thy praise proclaim; I will thee bless, and gladly sing For ever to thy holy name."
- Verse 2 "Each day I rise I will thee bless, And praise thy name time without end. Much to be praised, and great God is; His greatness none can comprehend."
- Verse 3 "Race shall thy works praise unto race, The mighty acts show done by thee. And I will speak the glorious grace, And honor of thy majesty."
- Verse 4 "Thy wondrous works I will declare; By men the might shall be extolled Of all thy acts which dreadful are, And I thy greatness will unfold."
- Verse 5 "They utter shall abundantly The mem'ry of thy goodness great; They shall sing praises cheerfully, Whilst they thy righteousness relate."
- Verse 6 "The Lord our God most gracious is, In him compassions also flow; In mercy he is rich to bless, But unto anger he is slow."
- Verse 7 "To all the Lord is very good, O'er all his works his mercy is. Thy works all praise to thee afford: Thy saints, O Lord, thy name shall bless."
- Verse 8 "Thy kingdom's glory they shall show; They also shall thy power tell: That so men's sons his deeds may know, His kingdom's grace that doth excel."
- Verse 9 "Thy kingdom hath no end at all, It shall to ages all remain. The Lord upholdeth all that fall, The cast-down raiseth up again."
- Verse 10 "The eyes of all upon thee wait; In season thou their food dost give; Thy opened hand, with bounty great, Supplies the wants of all that live."
- Verse 11 "The Lord will keep continually All who him love with upright heart; But all who work iniquity Destroy will be, and quite subvert."
- Verse 12 "God will the just desire fulfil Of such as do him fear indeed. Their cry regard, and hear he will, And save them in the time of need."
- Verse 13 "The Lord will keep continually All who him love with upright heart; But all who work iniquity Destroy will he, and quite subvert."
- Verse 14 "My mouth and lips I'll therefor frame, To speak the praises of the Lord: To magnify his holy name Forever let all flesh accord."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 145th psalm. Psalms 145:1 "{David's [Psalm] of praise.} I will extol thee, my God, O king; and I will bless thy name for ever and ever."

This is not just a casual statement here, but is a statement of determination on the part of David. We see a new name added to the ones that David has been speaking of God in the last few chapters. Now David is calling Him King. The praising of the Lord sometimes just does not seem to be enough. David is determining in his heart to not only praise the Lord, but bless Him, as well. In naming Him King, David has recognized His power and authority.

Psalms 145:2 "Every day will I bless thee; and I will praise thy name for ever and ever."

This lets us know that it is very important to commune with the Lord, every day. Notice, here, that David does not put any conditions on his praying. He does not say, if things are going good. He is saying, regardless of the circumstances I find myself in, I will praise and bless thy name. The smoke from the lamp rose to heaven at least two times a day. This smoke symbolized the prayers of the saints. To me, this said that we should commune in prayer with God at least twice a day.

Psalms 145:3 "Great [is] the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness [is] unsearchable."

When we think of how great God is, who created the earth, and everything in it and the heavens, and all the galaxies, it is almost beyond our comprehension. A new telescope in Hawaii has snapped a picture of a galaxy 65,000,000 light years from the earth. Light travels at 186,284 miles per second. I will let you multiply this one out. God who can make all of this surely deserves our worship and praise. This galaxy is probably not even all of this. How unsearchable can you get? Even greater than all of this creation, is in the face of this, He cared enough to save our souls.

Psalms 145:4 "One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts."

In the very beginning, this was the only way they had of passing the glorious information on from generation to generation. Now, we are known as the age of facts. I would rather be known as a person of faith. The scientist can figure all they want to, they will never figure out God. You must accept God on simple faith. I can relate to my children, and grandchildren, and perhaps, my great grandchildren the wonderful things I know to be true about God. He has done great things in my life, and I will praise Him for it as long as I have breath in my body. I read of the mighty acts that Jesus did on this earth, and I am overwhelmed with praise for Him. The Bible is full of this.

Psalms 145:5 "I will speak of the glorious honour of thy majesty, and of thy wondrous works."

Have you ever looked at a beautiful sunset and thought what a wonderful painter the Lord is? Even though it is to be for a fleeting second in time, it is so much more beautiful than any seasoned painter on earth could do. God's majesty is all around us. His beautiful mountains from his creation, and no two are alike. This little king David knows there is a King of all the universe, who will outshine all the earthly kings of all time. Not only in God's creation do we see His majesty, His majesty is seen best by us in the perfectness of His Word. It spans all of time and never is out-dated.

His perfect plan for the redemption of mankind shows His majesty. His 6 days of work in creation, just boggles my mind. The beautiful 6 hours of work that Jesus did for all of us on the cross, somehow beautifully completes the salvation plan. I can not go on. Just think on these things and see the majesty for yourself.

Psalms 145:6 "And [men] shall speak of the might of thy terrible acts: and I will declare thy greatness."

The Pharaoh of Egypt would have spoken of the terrible act of might that was shown against Egypt. On the other hand, the Israelites who were redeemed, would speak of those same acts as the greatness of God. Men, in the verse above, is speaking of earthly people. This is the same thing seen from two different aspects.

Psalms 145:7 "They shall abundantly utter the memory of thy great goodness, and shall sing of thy righteousness."

Singing broke out on the other side of the Red Sea, when the Israelites had successfully crossed, and their enemies had been drowned. When just mere words are not enough, then the abundant heart must sing. It even excites me to read about such things.

Psalms 145:8 "The LORD [is] gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy."

The following Scripture shows better than anything I might say, just how patient, and kind, and merciful this great God that we serve is. He does not want even one person to be lost. 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 145:9 "The LORD [is] good to all: and his tender mercies [are] over all his works."

God provided salvation for everyone through the precious shed blood of the Lamb {Jesus Christ}. Not all accept it, but it is for all. 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 145:10 "All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; and thy saints shall bless thee."

Even a tree in the forest shows the great works of the Lord. Their uplifted limbs are as if they have raised their hands in praise to God. The reason to praise God is in all of nature. If I were a scientist, all of these unexplainable discoveries would make me fall on my knees before the supreme intelligence of the universe. These discoveries should make them realize the frailty of man compared to the Mighty God. The saints {believers in Christ} do not understand all of this. They just accept God through simple faith. They praise Him continually, because they realize to do anything else would be folly.

Psalms 145:11 "They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power;"

The "they", here, is speaking of the saints. We say it in the prayer Jesus taught the disciples. Thy kingdom come. This Mighty God will set up His kingdom on this earth and, also, in the believers, as well. In a mystical way, the believers are His kingdom. This kingdom is both spiritual and physical. The physical kingdom would be of no earthly use to us, unless we had experienced His Kingdom in our innermost being.

Psalms 145:12 "To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom."

The majesty of His kingdom is that this is a kingdom of the purest love known to man. Greater love hath no man, than He lay down His life for His friends. The glorious gospel message should be taught in all the world for a witness, and this kingdom would become a reality. Mark 16:15 "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." By the foolishness of preaching, those who believe are saved.

Psalms 145:13 "Thy kingdom [is] an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion [endureth] throughout all generations."

The throne of God is from everlasting to everlasting. God was God of Adam and He is still God of us today. He will always be God. His throne is the same. It is for all generations past and all generations to come. He was God, He is God, and He will be God.

Psalms 145:14 "The LORD upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all [those that be] bowed down."

Those that be bowed down are the humble. This great God who reigns forever is so concerned about each of us, that He reaches down and saves us one at a time. The only ones He will save are those who know they need a Saviour.

Psalms 145:15 "The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season."

To look to the world, or its people, is a very bad thing to do. They will let you down. The place to look for all things, is to the Lord. Look upward to the Lord of all the universe for all the answers and the blessings of life.

Psalms 145:16 "Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing."

Remember, I said when you are lifting your hands up to God, hold your palm upward with an open hand. To receive from God the desires of our heart, we must receive them. We cannot earn them, we must receive them. God will give you the desires of your heart. You must be ready to receive them.

Psalms 145:17 "The LORD [is] righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works."

Righteousness and holiness are two things that most people do not want to talk about. If we are to be like our Saviour, then these must be characteristic of us, as well. We do not have any righteousness of our own, but we have taken on the robe of righteousness washed in His blood, if we are true Christians. The righteousness and holiness that we have are given to us by the Lord. He is Righteousness. He is Holiness. He said, Be ye holy for I am holy.

Psalms 145:18 "The LORD [is] nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth."

Notice the addition, in the last part of the verse, of call upon Him in truth. He will not be fooled by a mouth worship. We must worship Him in our heart. We call in truth, when our mouth speaks the words that are in our heart.

Psalms 145:19 "He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and will save them."

This fear is like what a son has for a father. This type of fear would cause you to want to do His will. Salvation is available to all. We must repent and cry out to God for salvation, and then He will hear our cry and save us.

Psalms 145:20 "The LORD preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy."

Preserveth means continues to preserve. We have spoken of the great love of God for all of mankind. When we reach out in love to Him, He accepts us and keeps us in that perfect love. The destruction of the wicked speaks of those who have totally refused His love.

Psalms 145:21 "My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD: and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever."

We said it before, salvation was provided for all flesh. How could we do anything short of praise Him? Let everything that hath breath, praise the Lord. David has determined that as long as there is breath in his body, he will praise the Lord. He, also, makes one last plea for all others to bless His holy name, as well.

Psalms 145 Questions

1. How long does David promise to praise the name of the Lord in verse 1?
2. What name did David call the Lord in verse 1?
3. In this new name, what has David recognized Him as?
4. What condition did David put on praising God every day?
5. How often did the smoke of the lamp rise from the temple?
6. What did this smoke symbolize?
7. Quote Psalms chapter 145 verse 3.
8. What unusual thing, in recent weeks, has happened that shows us even more clearly how unsearchable the Lord is?
9. How fast does light travel?
10. What is even greater than all of this?
11. In the very beginning, how was the goodness and greatness of God related from generation to generation?
12. You can not figure out God. Salvation is accepting by simple _____.
13. Verse 5 says, he will speak of what?
14. What is the greatest majesty we see of God?
15. Speak of two of the works of God that are almost impossible to comprehend?
16. What does verse 6 show us about happenings?
17. When did the Israelites break out in spontaneous singing?
18. Quote 2 Peter chapter 3 verse 9.
19. Quote 1 Timothy chapter 4 verse 10.
20. How do trees praise God?
21. What should the scientist realize, when they see all these new discoveries?
22. In a mystical way, the believers are His _____.
23. What is the majesty of His kingdom?
24. Quote Mark chapter 16 verse 15.
25. He was _____, He is _____, and He will be _____.
26. Who are those that be bowed down?
27. Where is the place to look for all things?
28. How should you lift your hands to God?
29. He said, "Be ye _____ for I am _____."
30. The Lord is nigh unto them who call upon Him in _____.
31. What will the Lord do to the wicked?
32. Who did David tell to bless His holy name in verse 21?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 146th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 146

- Verse 1 "Praise God, my soul! while I have breath, Until my voice is lost in death, His praise shall all my powers employ. My days of praise shall ne'er be past; While life and breath and being last, My God I'll praise with songs of joy."
- Verse 2 "In princes great put not your trust, Nor son of man, who turns to dust; Vain is the hope which there shall bloom; Their breath departs, their pomp and power And thoughts will vanish in an hour, And all shall perish in the tomb."
- Verse 3 "Happy the man whose hopes rely on Jacob's God: he made the sky, And earth, and seas, and fulness all: His truth forever stands secure; He saves th' oppressed; he feeds the poor; And frees the captive from his thrall."
- Verse 4 "The Lord gives eye-sight to the blind; The Lord supports the sinking mind; God loves the just; the poor sustains; The widow and the orphan's stay; God overturns the wicked's way: Thy God, O Zion, ever reigns."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 146th Psalm. Psalms 146:1 "Praise ye the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul."

We have spoken before about the soul of man being the will of man. God has given us a free will, that we can choose to do good or evil with. David, in the verse above, is just stating that he has decided that he will praise the Lord with everything within him, even his soul.

Psalms 146:2 "While I live will I praise the LORD: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being."

David is speaking of the frailty of the body of man in this. There will be a time when there will be no physical body. He is saying, while I have a mouth to speak with and the breath of life to utter it with, I will praise the Lord. David was a singer. His voice lifted in songs of praise was his ultimate way of praising his Lord.

Psalms 146:3 "Put not your trust in princes, [nor] in the son of man, in whom [there is] no help."

It really does not make any difference how important a title they have on this earth, people can not, and will not, help you. They will ultimately let you down. Your trust should be in God, who will never let you down. All people on this earth are sons of man, until they receive Jesus as their Saviour and become sons of God.

Psalms 146:4 "His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish."

The breath of man is the life that God placed in each of us when He breathed the breath of life in us. When the breath of life {spirit} leaves

the body, the body is just a clay doll. That clay doll will return to the dust from whence it came. Whatever had been the plans of this clay man, they all go up as a puff of smoke when his spirit leaves his body.

Psalms 146:5 "Happy [is he] that [hath] the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope [is] in the LORD his God:"

The spirit of man is not going to die. The decision about where this spirit body will live all of eternity, is entirely up to the individual. Those who have placed their faith in God {the God of Jacob}, will be happy indeed for their eternal life will be spent in heaven with Him. The hope, spoken of here, is the hope of the resurrection. He is our Resurrection and our Life. He is our God. Because He arose, we shall rise. Heaven, to me, will be in the Presence of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 146:6 "Which made heaven, and earth, the sea, and all that therein [is]: which keepeth truth for ever:"

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." The Word of God is Truth. The Word of God is Jesus Christ. I will put my hope in Him.

Psalms 146:7 "Which executeth judgment for the oppressed: which giveth food to the hungry. The LORD looseth the prisoners:"

Jesus Christ is the Judge of all the earth. He will separate all people into two categories. His sheep will be on His right hand and will inherit eternal life in heaven with Him. The goats will be on His left. They will inherit eternal damnation. This is the same Jesus that fed the hungry, and set the captives free.

Psalms 146:8 "The LORD openeth [the eyes of] the blind: the LORD raiseth them that are bowed down: the LORD loveth the righteous:"

LORD, in the verse above, is Jehovah. Jesus proved by the many miracles that He did, that He was God. Whether the bowed down, in the verse above, means in death or not, He certainly did raise the dead. Not only did He raise the dead that we read about, but He raised all of us who were bowed down in the death that sin brings. The righteous are those who have received Jesus as their Saviour and Lord. They are righteous, because they have been clothed in His righteousness.

Psalms 146:9 "The LORD preserveth the strangers; he relieveth the fatherless and widow: but the way of the wicked he turneth upside down."

I was a stranger, and ye took me in. The LORD had a real compassion for the stranger, and even promised to bless us, if we would take the stranger in. The story of the good Samaritan is a story of someone helping a total stranger. The Mosaic law made provision for the fatherless and the widows. We are cautioned to take care of the fatherless and widows. The wicked are those who will not help those less fortunate than themselves. God has no tolerance at all for this type of person.

Psalms 146:10 "The LORD shall reign for ever, [even] thy God, O Zion, unto all generations. Praise ye the LORD."

Zion is symbolic of the church. We are the church who are believers in the Lord Jesus Christ. Look, with me, at heaven and the eternal reign of our Lord there. 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."

PRAISE YE THE LORD.

Psalms 146 Questions

1. Quote verse 1 of the 146th Psalm.
2. What is the soul of man?
3. What is David saying, in verse 1?
4. How long will he praise the Lord?
5. How will David praise the Lord?
6. What is David speaking of in verse 2?
7. Who did David warn them not to put their trust in?
8. How do the sons of men become the sons of God?
9. When do his thoughts perish?
10. What is the breath of man?
11. What is the body, when the breath leaves?
12. When the breath leaves, what becomes of the plans the man had?
13. Verse 5 says, that who is the happy man?
14. Why are they happy?
15. What is the hope spoken of here?
16. Quote John chapter 1 verses 1, 2, and 3.
17. Who is the Word of God?
18. Who is the Judge of the world?
19. How will He separate the people?
20. What is the reward of the wicked?
21. What did Jesus prove by the many miracles He did?
22. Who are the righteous?
23. What is the story of the good Samaritan about?
24. What law made provision for the widows?
25. Quote Revelation chapter 2 verse 25.

We will begin this lesson by giving the 147th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 147

- Verse 1 "Praise God! 'tis good and pleasant, And comely to adore:
Jehovah builds up Salem; Her outcasts doth restore."
- Verse 2 "He heals the broken-hearted, He makes the wounded live: The
starry host he numbers, And names to all doth give."
- Verse 3 "Our Lord is great and mighty, All things his Spirit knows;
The Lord lifts up the lowly, But sinners overthrows."
- Verse 4 "O thank and praise Jehovah, With harp, O praise his name,
Who clouds the hev'n with vapors, And sends on earth the
rain."
- Verse 5 "He clothes with grass the mountains, And gives the beasts
their food; He hears the crying ravens, And feeds their
tender brood."
- Verse 6 "In horses' strength delights not, Nor speed of man loves
he, The Lord loves all who fear him, And to his mercy flee."
- Verse 7 "O Salem, praise Jehovah, Thy God, O Zion, praise; For he
thy gates hath strengthened, And blest thy sons with grace."
- Verse 8 "With peace he'll bless thy borders, The finest wheat
afford; He sends forth his commandment, And swiftly speeds
his word."
- Verse 9 "Like wool the snow he giveth, Spreads hail o'er all the
land, Hoar frost like ashes scatters; Who can his cold
withstand?"
- Verse 10 "Then forth his word he sendeth; He makes the wind to blow,
The snow and ice are melted, Again the waters flow."
- Verse 11 "He shows his word to Jacob, To Isr'el's seed alone; His
statutes and his judgments, The heathen have not known:
Praise ye the Lord! "

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 147th Psalm. Psalms 147:1 "Praise ye the LORD: for [it is] good to sing praises unto our God; for [it is] pleasant; [and] praise is comely."

Comely, in the verse above, means suitable. Praise ye the LORD could be said in one word Hallelujah. This word is universal. It has the same meaning in all languages. There is nothing more beautiful than a praise service unto the Lord. There is such a beautiful spirit that sweeps over the church and the people. It is as if you could reach out and touch God with your hand. God inhabits the praises of His people. This is a quick way to experience His presence.

Psalms 147:2 "The LORD doth build up Jerusalem: he gathereth together the outcasts of Israel."

This could be a prophetic pronouncement by David of the return of the Israelites to their homeland. Jerusalem has always been thought of as their holy city. They feel as if they are not home, until they can worship in Jerusalem.

Psalms 147:3 "He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds."

God is not going to discard the people of earth and start all over with a new group. He is going to change the group he already has and make them new. Revelation 21:5 "And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful." God will mend the broken-hearted and heal their spirits, as well as their bodies.

Psalms 147:4 "He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by [their] names."

With man it would be impossible to count the stars, for they are as numerous as the sand of the sea. Notice, that He calls them each by name. We are not a number with God. He has a special name for each of us, that only God and we know. This name reveals our true character. Whether the stars here or people are physical stars does not matter.

Psalms 147:5 "Great [is] our Lord, and of great power: his understanding [is] infinite."

Infinite, in the verse above means impossible to number. There is no way to measure His greatness. There is nothing so great that you could compare it to. Great, in this instance, just does not seem to be descriptive enough of Him. All things are possible to Him. Have you ever noticed that a miracle comes from Him, when it is impossible to man? Our intelligence is not great enough to even describe the greatness of the Lord. Lord is Adonia in this particular instance.

Psalms 147:6 "The LORD lifteth up the meek: he casteth the wicked down to the ground."

Matthew 5:5 "Blessed [are] the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." The meek may seem to be down trodden now, but God has plans for them to inherit the earth. Those who seem to be in control now, will be cast down and ruled over by the meek.

Psalms 147:7 "Sing unto the LORD with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto our God:"

In the last few verses, we have been seeing the greatness of God and what He does for His own. Now, we see what our response to all of His goodness should be. We have said before in these lessons, that praising Him in prayer is not always enough to do. Our heart is so full of praise at times that it burst forth in singing. David is saying, in this verse, to not only sing, but play the harp, as well. This is the highest form of praise and thanksgiving. We must show our thanks to God who has done all of this for us.

Psalms 147:8 "Who covereth the heaven with clouds, who prepareth rain for the earth, who maketh grass to grow upon the mountains."

There are some modern ministers who would have you believe that the devil is in control of the elements of this earth. Over and over in these studies, we have seen that it is God who causes it to rain, or not to rain.

It is God who set the heavens in place, it is God who causes the mountain to grow grass. God is in control of everything.

Psalms 147:9 "He giveth to the beast his food, [and] to the young ravens which cry."

God built this earth, and the heavens, and the animals, and the grass to furnish the needs of the animals, who in turn take care of the needs of man. Everything was made for the habitation of man upon this earth. God is concerned about all the animals and birds and fish. He even told Noah to take the animals and birds on the ark with him to preserve them.

Psalms 147:10 "He delighteth not in the strength of the horse: he taketh not pleasure in the legs of a man."

A horse, to God, was a work animal. His strength was for the purpose of helping man. God is not interested in how far the horse can run, neither is He interested in the athletic ability of the man. God is interested in man's soul, not his body.

Psalms 147:11 "The LORD taketh pleasure in them that fear him, in those that hope in his mercy."

As we said in the verse above, God is interested in our spirit and soul. This is speaking of those who have put their faith and hope in the mercies of God. The wise hearted who fear Him are the Christians.

Psalms 147:12 "Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise thy God, O Zion."

Jerusalem is the city of our Great God. Zion is speaking of the church. This is really speaking of physical and spiritual Israel. The church of believers should be praising God continually.

Psalms 147:13 "For he hath strengthened the bars of thy gates; he hath blessed thy children within thee."

There is a wall that surrounds the physical Jerusalem. He has built a hedge around those spoken of in the verse above. He is the fortress for the Christians. His blood covers us, and surrounds us and keeps us safe. The children within are the children of God. We are the ones who have been transformed from sons of men into sons of God. 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."

Psalms 147:14 "He maketh peace [in] thy borders, [and] filleth thee with the finest of the wheat."

The only real peace is the peace that the Lord Jesus Christ brings, for He is the King of peace. The choice wheat is speaking of the believers in Christ. Matthew 13:30 "Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn."

Psalms 147:15 "He sendeth forth his commandment [upon] earth: his word runneth very swiftly."

It was by the Word of God that the world, and in fact, the universe was created. The Word of God is the great power in the earth. The spoken and the written Word are the two greatest powers, and they are one. His Word is law. His Word will make a quick work of this earth.

Psalms 147:16 "He giveth snow like wool: he scattereth the hoarfrost like ashes."

This is just saying that it snows at His command. The snow is white and fluffy like wool. One very amazing thing to me is that no two snowflakes are alike. You wake up in the morning and frost is everywhere. Just as soon as the sun arises, it is gone.

Psalms 147:17 "He casteth forth his ice like morsels: who can stand before his cold?"

The answer is no one. The body cannot live, if the temperature of the blood changes more than ten degrees. Notice, in all of this, God's control over nature.

Psalms 147:18 "He sendeth out his word, and melteth them: he causeth his wind to blow, [and] the waters flow."

We know that this is true because of the overwhelming rain that came in Noah's day. Not only did it rain on His command, but the water came up from the deep, as well. It had never rained on the earth, until God commanded it to rain then. All of nature is subject to the commands of God.

Psalms 147:19 "He sheweth his word unto Jacob, his statutes and his judgments unto Israel."

The family of Jacob, who became the nation of Israel, were blessed to have God judgments spoken to them from the mountain and carved into stone by the finger of God for them. All of the rest of the world looked on with awe.

Psalms 147:20 "He hath not dealt so with any nation: and [as for his] judgments, they have not known them. Praise ye the LORD."

Why He chose this little nation of Israel, no one except God knows. The knowledge of God was given to them in written word. They had the writings of Moses. God set up His tabernacle with them and guided them with His presence for 40 years across the wilderness. He spoke the Word to Moses, and Moses in turn spoke to them the way of God. The spiritual house of Israel is even more blessed. The Word of God took on the form of flesh, and walked upon the earth, and taught all who would listen. This very Word of God gave His body on the cross, so that all who would believe might be saved. Jesus is the spoken Word and He is the written Word. The Bible is the Word of God in written form. Let it speak to you today.

This lesson has been about praise of God, who is so far above human understanding that this is our only way to show Him our love for Him. Do not neglect to praise Him.

Psalms 147 Questions

1. What does comely in verse 1 mean?
2. What is one word that says, praise ye the Lord?
3. God _____ the praises of His people.
4. What does the author think that verse 2 could be?
5. Quote Revelation chapter 21 verse 5.
6. Besides numbering the stars , what does He do?
7. The secret name that God gives each of us, tells what about us?
8. What does the word {infinite} in verse 5 mean?
9. When does God do a miracle?
10. The Lord lifteth up the _____.
11. He casteth down the _____.
12. What kind of singing is to be done in verse 7?
13. Is the devil in control of the elements of the earth?
14. The earth, and everything in it, was made for the _____ - of man.
15. He is not interested in the athletic ability of man, He is interested in his _____.
16. The Lord taketh pleasure in them that _____ Him.
17. Who are they?
18. Jerusalem is the _____ of our great God.
19. Who is Zion symbolic of?
20. What covers the Christian and protects him?
21. Quote Romans chapter 8 verse 15.
22. Who are the wheat in verse 14?
23. What are the 2 great powers in the universe?
24. He giveth snow like _____.
25. Who can stand before His cold?
26. All of nature is subject to whose command?
27. Who did God give His law to?
28. In what did the children of Israel receive the written Word?
29. What has been the subject of this lesson?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 148th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 148

- Verse 1 "The Lord of heav'n confess, On high his glory raise. Him all ye angels bless, Him all his armies praise. Him glorify, Sun, moon, and stars; Ye higher spheres, And cloudy sky."
- Verse 2 "From God your beings are, Him therefore famous make; You all created were, When he the word but spake. And from that place, Where fixed you be By his decree, You cannot pass."
- Verse 3 "Praise God from earth below, Ye dragons, and ye deeps: Fire, hail, clouds, wind, and snow, Which in command he keeps. Praise ye his name, Hills great and small, Trees low and tall; Beats wild and tame;"
- Verse 4 "All things that creep or fly. Yo kings, yo humble throng, All princes, mean or high; Both men and virgins young, Ev'n young and old, Exalt his name; For much his fame Should be extolled."
- Verse 5 "O let God's name be praised Above both earth and sky; For he his saints hath raised, And set their horn on high: Even those that be Of Isr'el's race, Near to his grace. The Lord praise ye."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 148th Psalm. Psalms 148:1 "Praise ye the LORD. Praise ye the LORD from the heavens: praise him in the heights."

There is nothing so high above that it should not praise the Lord. He is the Creator of even the heavens and all they contain, as well as the earth and all it contains. This praise is not just to be limited to the heavens but, also, should extend to the angels, and the cherubim, and seraphim. The archangels, as well, should praise. We know that one of the things that the angels do always in heaven, is cry Holy, Holy, Holy.

Psalms 148:2 "Praise ye him, all his angels: praise ye him, all his hosts."

The few glimpses that we have had into heaven has, also, told of the praise and worship that goes on continually. Even the 24 elders bow down before Him and cry out in praise. Revelation 19:4 "And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia."

Psalms 148:3 "Praise ye him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars of light."

The sun and moon have been the object of pagan worship. They should not be worshipped, because they are God's creation. We spoke of the fact that they are fixtures that we see the Light in. They are not the source of Light. Jesus is the source of Light. He is the Light.

Psalms 148:4 "Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that [be] above the heavens."

This is speaking of the vastness above the heavens. Even this vastness is in God's control. We know that there are at least three heavens, because Paul was carried to the third heaven.

Psalms 148:5 "Let them praise the name of the LORD: for he commanded, and they were created."

This is reason enough for all of these things to praise God. He is Creator. They owe their existence to their Creator.

Psalms 148:6 "He hath also stablished them for ever and ever: he hath made a decree which shall not pass."

Not only did God create all of the heavenly things, but he established an order where they would stay in orbit and not fly off into space and burn up. They are like people here on the earth in that the life of the sun, moon, or stars is determined by the usefulness it has to God. When He tells the sun to stop shining, it will.

Psalms 148:7 "Praise the LORD from the earth, ye dragons, and all deeps:"

Even the devil, himself, is a creation of God. When the praise is commanded to go forth, it does not even exclude the evil things of the earth. The devil will operate his little lying, cheating, deceiving ministry here on the earth, until the Lord says it is enough. We read that Satan will be locked up in chains for one thousand years and will not be able to deceive during that time. The praises from up in the heaven can join with the praises floating up from the earth. This just means that all of God's creation will praise Him.

Psalms 148:8 "Fire, and hail; snow, and vapours; stormy wind fulfilling his word:"

A strange phenomenon happened in the days of Pharaoh, because God commanded it to. Fire mixed with hail fell on the Egyptians. These two elements generally are not together. This just shows more clearly that all elements must obey God. In the snow and vapours, we see opposite elements cooperating again. Vapor comes from heat and snow from cold. The winds must obey His voice, as well. They blow, when He gives them permission to blow.

Psalms 148:9 "Mountains, and all hills; fruitful trees, and all cedars:"

We seldom think of something as big as a mountain stopping to praise God. We do know, that when the presence of God was on the mountain the mountain quaked. Fruit trees bear fruit, because they are commanded of God to do so. Even the cedar, which is thought to be the strongest tree in the forest, must praise its Creator.

Psalms 148:10 "Beasts, and all cattle; creeping things, and flying fowl:"

This is just saying that even the animals that were thought to be ferocious on the earth, are part of God's creation and must praise Him, as well. It may soar above the earth like a bird, but it cannot soar above God.

Psalms 148:11 Kings of the earth, and all people; princes, and all judges of the earth:"

The kings and judges of this earth, who have much authority, will someday stand before the Judge of all the earth and be judged themselves. They, too, are part of God's creation and must praise Him. They have been placed in a place of authority on the earth, because God ordained it. They will be dealt with the same as the rest of God's creation.

Psalms 148:12 "Both young men, and maidens; old men, and children:"

There is no male or female with God, because He deals in the spirit and not in the flesh. It is only in the flesh that we are male and female. There is neither young or old with God either. The time element in heaven is just one eternal day. All of God's creation must praise Him. Mankind, who is made in God's image, should be even more apt to praise Him. Christians, even more than sons of men, should praise Him. He is our Father, and we have been adopted into His family.

Psalms 148:13 "Let them praise the name of the LORD: for his name alone is excellent; his glory [is] above the earth and heaven."

Now, we see another very good reason to praise Him. LORD, in this, is Jehovah. There is none greater. There is none even close to as good. His glory exceeds all others in heaven, in earth, and under the earth. If there is any other place that exists, He is above that, too. He is God. He is Highest Supreme God.

Psalms 148:14 "He also exalteth the horn of his people, the praise of all his saints; [even] of the children of Israel, a people near unto him. Praise ye the LORD."

Notice, that we should not lift ourself up. He lifts us up. He lifted us up so high that we are His family. The horn symbolizes strength. He is our strength. The praise that we lift to Him should be continuous. It should never end. We, of all of God's creation, are the most blessed. He sent us a Deliverer, our Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ. Praise Ye the Lord. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Spiritual Israel and Physical Israel Praise with all that is within you.

Psalms 148 Questions

1. Quote verse 1 of Psalms 149.
2. Name some of the heavenly beings that should praise, as well.
3. What is one of the things the angels do in heaven?
4. Quote Revelation chapter 19 verse 4.
5. In verse 3, what are to praise Him?
6. What are the sun and moon?
7. Who is the Light?
8. What is verse 4 speaking of?
9. Why should they praise Him?
10. Why do they stay in orbit?
11. When will the sun stop shining?
12. What kind of ministry does the devil have?
13. When did fire and hail fall to the earth together?
14. Vapour comes from _____, and snow comes from _____.
15. When did the mountain quake?
16. What causes a fruit tree to bear fruit?
17. What is thought to be the strongest tree in the forest?
18. Who will judge the kings and judges?
19. Why were they placed in high authority on earth?
20. There is no _____ or _____ with God.
21. Why is this so?
22. Why should mankind be more eager to praise Him?
23. Quote Psalms chapter 148 verse 13.
24. He exalteth the _____ of His people.
25. How high has God lifted up the Christians?

We will begin this lesson by giving the 149th Psalm in metre.

THE PSALMS OF DAVID IN METRE

Chapter 149

- Verse 1 "O Praise ye the Lord! Prepare your glad voice, New songs with his saints, Assembled to sing Before his Creator Let Israel rejoice, And children of Zion Be glad in their King."
- Verse 2 "And let them his name Extol in the dance, With timbrel and harp His praises express; Who always takes pleasure His saints to advance, And with his salvation The humble to bless."
- Verse 3 "His saints shall sing loud With glory and joy, And rest undismayed, With songs in the night; The praise of Jehovah Their lips shall employ; A sword in their right hand, Two-edged for the fight."
- Verse 4 "The heathen to judge, Their pride to consume; To fetter their kings, Their princes to bind; To execute on them The long-decreed doom; Such honor forever The holy shall find. Hallelujah."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 149th Psalm. Psalms 149:1 "Praise ye the LORD. Sing unto the LORD a new song, [and] his praise in the congregation of saints."

This new song that is sung here undoubtedly is speaking of those who have experienced the new birth. The congregation of the saints is the church. In the last lesson, we talked of all of creation worshipping the Lord. In this, it seems as if this is the redeemed of the Lord {Christians}. This is the song that only the redeemed can sing. This is that glorious song of redemption.

Psalms 149:2 "Let Israel rejoice in him that made him: let the children of Zion be joyful in their King."

The first of this verse above is speaking of physical Israel. They rejoice in their Creator. In the One who made them a nation. The children of Zion are the Christians. Our King, Redeemer, Saviour, and Lord is Jesus Christ the Righteous. Our joy is in the fact that He saved us.

Psalms 149:3 "Let them praise his name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp."

This dance and music, here mentioned, are the victory celebration, because we are saved. This occurs after the redemption of the people. Miriam led the dance after the crossing of the Red Sea. This is similar to that. This, also, is very similar to the fact of David dancing before the ark of the covenant when it was brought home. The overwhelming joy of the Spirit comes and then the dance. Dancing for any other reason would be out of order, especially planning to dance before the Spirit moved. This is a great time of overwhelming joy, when the entire church would be full of the presence of God. Great swelling song would go forth in praise at the very same time the music was being played to the glory and praise of God.

Psalms 149:4 "For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation."

The joy of the Lord should be overflowing. We have so much to praise Him for. The greatest thing being the salvation of our soul. God enjoys sweet praise going up to His throne. We should want to be a sweet sweet sound in His ear. Humble yourself before Almighty God and He will save you.

Psalms 149:5 "Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds."

The glory of the Lord should excite us into loud songs of praise and worship. God is not nervous, He would not be offended, if we shouted the praise. Sometimes the praise and song can not be shut off and continues even at time for bed. These are the times you might as well get up and continue to praise.

Psalms 149:6 "[Let] the high [praises] of God [be] in their mouth, and a twoedged sword in their hand;"

The two-edged sword, of course, is the Bible. We should always have it with us ready to share the Scriptures with all we see. The praises on the tongue and in the mouth originate from a heart overflowing with praise.

Psalms 149:7 "To execute vengeance upon the heathen, [and] punishments upon the people;"

Vengeance is mine saith the Lord. God had Israel to fulfill punishment on the heathen nations, as they came to the promised land. This, perhaps, though is speaking of the time when the saints will reign with Jesus and shall execute judgment.

Psalms 149:8 "To bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron;"

We know that this rule of the Lord will be with a rod of iron. The subordinate jobs will be given to the saints to carry out. I believe this to be speaking of that time. A king, or a nobleman, will not hold these offices then unless they were counted among the saints.

Psalms 149:9 "To execute upon them the judgment written: this honour have all his saints. Praise ye the LORD."

These next two Scriptures leave no doubt when this reign is. II Timothy 2:12 "If we suffer, we shall also reign with [him]: if we deny [him], he also will deny us:" Revelation 20:6 "Blessed and holy [is] he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years." We will judge as his subordinates in that day, and carry out whatever orders He gives us.

We will continue this lesson by giving the 150th Psalm in metre.

- Verse 1 "O praise our Lord, where rich I grace His presence fills
his holy place; Praise him in yon celestial arch, Where hold
his power its glorious march."
- Verse 2 "O praise him for his deeds of fame, O praise the greatness
of his name, O praise him with the trumpet's sound, With harp
and psaltery answering round,"
- Verse 3 "The praises of the Lord advance With organ, timbrel, and
the dance; O praise him with the notes of joy, And every
harp in praise employ."
- Verse 4 "On cymbals loud, Jehovah praise; On cymbals high, his glory
raise; Let all that breathe, with glad accord, Lift up their
voice, and praise the Lord."

We will now begin the verse by verse study of the 150th Psalm. Psalms 150:1 "Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power."

The psalmist here, is filled to overflowing with praise. This praise the Lord, here, is to everything that hath breath, as we will see as we go on. God, in the praise God above, is EL, or Elohim. Praise Father, Word, and Holy Ghost. His sanctuary is His church. This praise is similar to the sweet smelling savour that rose in the tabernacle. This is very pleasing to God. This power is mixed with the greatest love known. God's love is so much greater than what man is capable of giving.

Psalms 150:2 "Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness."

His mighty acts have all been to benefit mankind. We could start listing them, and days later still be listing them. His greatest act of Love was taking our sin on His body and giving us His righteousness. The greatness of God is not even something that we can understand. He is Holy, He is righteous, He is Love, He is all things combined that make up perfect goodness. You could think of anything good, or positive, and it would be part of His character.

In the next few verses, we see many ways to praise Him. We, also, see that it is right and in order to praise God with instruments of music.

Psalms 150:3 "Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp."

Psalms 150:4 "Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs."

Psalms 150:5 "Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals."

These are all fine to praise Him with, but the one instrument that He most wants to praise Him, is the voice of man.

Psalms 150:6 "Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD."

We discussed earlier that this breath, is life. This breath is the spirit that God breathed into mankind on the 6th day of creation, and man

became a living soul. If you have life, if you have the spirit, if you have breath, praise God with everything within you.

Psalms 149 Questions

1. Sing unto the LORD a new _____.
2. What is the new song?
3. What is the congregation of the saints?
4. Let Israel rejoice in Him who _____.
5. Who are the children of Zion?
6. Who is the King in verse 2?
7. What is the dance and music in verse 3?
8. When did Miriam lead the dance of praise?
9. When did David dance?
10. What comes first, and then the dance?
11. The Lord taketh pleasure in whom?
12. He will beautify the _____ with salvation.
13. Humble yourself before Almighty God, and He will _____.
14. What unusual place are they singing in verse 5?
15. What are they to have in their hand?
16. Where does the praise on the tongue originate?
17. To execute judgment upon the _____.
18. Who are they to bind with chains?
19. Quote 2 Timothy chapter 2 verse 12.
20. Where are we told to praise God in verse 1 of chapter 150 of Psalms?
21. God, in verse 1, is whom?
22. What is this praise in the church similar to in the tabernacle?
23. Praise Him for His mighty _____.
24. What are we to use to praise Him?
25. Let everything that hath _____, praise the Lord.

*Thank you for taking the time for me to share my
thoughts on these Scriptures in Psalms C.
May God richly bless you, as you continue to read His Word.*

Your friend in Jesus,

Louise

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