

Bible Study 10-7-26

What exactly is a Psalm? Not just a book in the Bible... What is a Psalm?

- A piece of Hebrew Poetry put to music/meter specifically for use in settings of worship
 - In ancient Jewish tradition, it was not just time spent in the tabernacle or synagogue or temple! It could've been used in the home, or in a journey to Jerusalem (ie, psalms of ascent!)

PSALM 33

A psalm of praise – it then recounts what the Lord has done, what He currently does, and what He's going to do!

Vv. 1-3 – the official “call” to praise

- SHOUT in the sense that you are RIGHTEOUS
 - “Shout to the Lord O you righteous!”
- Praise BEFITS the upright
 - It is specifically suitable for those who are upright – those who are righteous!
- Give thanks to the Lord
 - How? With the lyre!! With instruments, with song!
- Sing a NEW song
 - We are told of how His mercies are new every morning (Lamentations 2:22-23) why should our song not be new? The Lord gave us creativity and minds/hearts to bring creative ways to display our praise to Him!
 - After all, there are many different categories of Psalms alone!
 - Different types of Psalms –
 - Psalms of Lament
 - Psalms of Thanksgiving
 - Psalms of Adoration
 - Psalms of Wisdom
 - Psalms of Kingship
 - Psalms of Entrance
 - Ceremonies of entrance to help teach the expectations of worshipers from God!
 - Psalms of Enthronement
 - Psalms (songs) of Zion
 - Psalms of Confidence
 - Psalms of Prophecy
 - Psalms of Liturgy
- Colossians 3:16 –
 - Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs!

Reasons to Praise! – we are given multiple reasons to praise, and the Psalmist gives us a list after giving a call to praise!

1 – (vv. 4-9) – God’s Word is upright!

- Great is His faithfulness!
 - Everything He does is always in 100% pure and perfect faithfulness. It is a description of God’s perfection in all things. Not just some, but ALL!
- God loves righteousness, yes, but in complete conjunction with that, God loves JUSTICE too!
 - God is a just God... We do not often like to focus on that aspect of Him... God’s judgement and wrath is very real, and His justice is completely perfect...
 - What directly follows righteousness and justice, is the LOVE that the Lord FILLS the earth with – a STEADFAST love!
- The word of the Lord is powerful!
 - Even in the creation story, we see the power of God’s word – in just a word, He creates everything in the world. In just a word, there was light!
 - In John 1, we also see a detailed description of “The Word” and see how that specifically points to Jesus being omnipresent from the very beginning!
- The breath of God is what drives everything and keeps everything going.
 - That is why it is such a blessing to wake up and breathe in every day – it is God’s breath that sustains us!
- Let all FEAR the Lord
 - A holy awe – A holy reverence.
 - Not just a certain number of people, not just a region, this is a GLOBAL awe. The entire WORLD is commanded to fear the Lord!
 - His sheer power that all He did was SPEAK, and it came to be! All that He commands stands firm!

2 – (vv. 10-12) – God’s Will prevails!

- Again, the Lord is over ALL the earth, not just regional – not limited!
- He frustrates the plans of the people...
 - In other words, His will triumphs over all – His will frustrates the will of the people
 - After all, when we take into consideration everything that Bill has been preaching on the past few weeks, the counsel of the nations could very well add up to be non-human invasive creatures... It makes sense that God’s will would consistently prevail over the plans and wills of Nephilim and fallen angels!
 - But of course, that’s a discussion for another day...

- God's plan and His will stands above all other things and specifically stands forever and ever.
 - It is everlasting – nothing will overcome it or bring it not to pass. It is perfect forever and always!
- Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord...
 - When a nation at its root follows the Lord, it is blessed...
 - Can we say that our nation falls under this? Unfortunately, I wouldn't say so in the state it is currently in! But we have seen even poor leadership over Israel – God's chosen land – throughout history. It is not impossible to turn from these ways!

3 – (vv. 13-19) – God's Gaze discerns all!

- From where the Lord sits enthroned in heaven, He sees ALL man – ALL inhabitants of the earth!
 - More than just seeing – He OBSERVES all that they do... Especially those who he FASHIONS their hearts (spoilers, that's all mankind!)
- What does God see? Things that we can also see through discernment if we look through the lens of scripture –
 - Kings are not saved by armies nor warriors by their own strength. Deliverance does NOT come by our own will might or strength, but instead by the careful eye and hand of the Lord. His hand delivers our soul from death! His breath sustains us!

Finally, the Psalm concludes with a plea to worship and for God to pour His steadfast love out, but even more than just worship and everything individually – COMMUNALLY!

- Our soul WAITS for the Lord
 - We LONG for the Lord because He is our strength and our shield – our soul knows this deep down.
 - How often do we hear the cliché that our souls deep down know that this is not how it is supposed to be? Its true! We are not created with the fall and sin in mind; we are created with perfection in mind which is why we hope in the Lord!
- Where does our heart find gladness? In the Lord and ONLY in the Lord!
 - And why does our heart find gladness? Because we trust in His holy name. And why/what does our trust in His holy name lead to? Praising Him for the good He has done, the good He is doing, and the good He is going to do!
- Our final plea amongst all the praise is for the steadfast love of the Lord to be upon us at all times. We have established that He sees at all times, that His will supercedes all at all times, and it is important for us to communally gather and intercede for His steadfast love to come upon us at all times. That is why we gather on Sunday mornings and Wednesday

nights to do this communally. That is why I have established this Daily Devo text – to establish rhythms of asking for God’s steadfast love in our everyday lives and to praise Him all throughout the week!

Let everything has breath praise the Lord for His steadfast love!