

Psalm 9

Theme: (Emphasis) is on joyful, sincere praise. Worshipping in Spirit and in Truth.

- Muth-lab-ben means “death of a son.” In this case the death of an enemy, which eliminates David’s first son with Bathsheba. A Psalm of conquest.
- This may refer to the death of Goliath at the hands of David; Goliath the son of his mother, the favorite son of the Philistines. David is rejoicing over what God has done.

V: 1-2 Determination to praise, to worship - half hearted praise will not do, is not acceptable

Mark 7:6-9 “⁶... well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, this people honoureth Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. ⁷Howbeit in vain do they worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. ⁸For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. ⁹And he said unto them, full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.”

Psalm 145:6 “And men shall speak of the might of thy terrible acts: and I will declare thy greatness.”

- Starting off with praising God with his whole heart, speaking of his marvelous works - not just an outward show or proclamation but something resulting from an inward truth - a true gladness of heart; a sincere and loving response to what God has done, praising Him for who He is - the God “most high” - (“El) Elyon” there’s none higher.

V: 3 “When” this happens, not “if”, meaning it hasn’t actually happened yet but it is going to. This is a statement of faith.

Hebrews 11:1 “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

Galatians 3:6 “Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.”

V: 4-5 You’ve kept me, you always do and judge what is right (and obviously I’m right...)

- David is extolling the great things that God has done, focussing on the Lord, not on David.

- “Thou” is used 5 times in these two verses - focussing on what the Lord has done.
- David’s joy and rejoicing was in the Lord as much as the good works, or the blessing.

Philippians 4:4 “Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, rejoice.”

Matthew 5:16 “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

- Because I’m right, they are obviously wrong and you have judged them for it.
- They have been rebuked, destroyed, their name put out forever - no more remembrance of them.

Proverbs 10:7 “The memory of the just is blessed: but the name of the wicked shall rot.”

- ^{5b}Destroyed their name, their memory - blotted out. This is describing the ultimate judgment of God: when non-believers are cast into outer darkness - being put away for ever and ever.

V: 6-8 David moves from addressing the Lord with his praise and adoration to addressing the enemy:

- “You’ve destroyed cities and their memory; but the Lord who judges these things endures forever - He has no beginning and no end - He knows all things.

Romans 12:19 “Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.”

- This is a warning, you will be held accountable, He judges in righteousness.

Acts 17:31 “Because He has appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man (Jesus) whom He hath ordained;”

- Describing the eternal nature of God, that God is eternal

Psalms 90:2 “Before the mountains were brought forth, or even thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.”

- He has prepared His throne for that final judgment spoken of in **Revelation 20:11-15** (The great White Throne judgment of non-believers.)

- God's righteous judgment is in direct contrast to the un-righteous judgment of man.

V: 9 A refuge is a "safe place" - God will provide a safe place, He is a safe place to those who are oppressed in those times of trouble.

Psalm 91:1-2 "1He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. 2I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust."

- God is our ever present help in time of need, He is always there!

Psalm 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

- David begins to refer to the people of the land whom he calls the "9oppressed", "12humble" / "afflicted", "18needy" and the "18poor" - the faithful that have been persecuted and afflicted, abused by the un-just.
- These are the ones to whom the Lord will be a refuge.

V: 10 Knowing God's name is tantamount to knowing Him:

Psalm 91:14 "Because he hath set his love upon Me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known My name."

- The Lord has not, and will not forsake those that seek after Him.

Matthew 7:7 "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."

Jeremiah 29:13 "And ye shall seek Me, and find Me, when ye shall search for Me with all your heart."

V: 11 Exhortation, call to action - "*Sing praises unto the Lord*" for the great things He has done!

Psalms 145-150 "Praise ye the Lord" - "I will extol thee,..."

Philippians 4:6 "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

- Because we trust in these things we can and should praise Him. Even though it might not have happened yet, we should praise and thank Him as though it has.

V: 12 God makes inquisition - He'll be asking, someone will be held accountable for the blood of man.

- ISIS - murderers, terrorists, criminals - will all answer to God.

Psalm 116:15 “Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.”

Genesis 9:5-6 “⁵And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man’s brother will I require the life of man. ⁶Whoso sheddeth man’s blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made He man.”

V: 13 As David is talking about judgment for those that have taken innocent life, shed innocent blood - He is prompted to ask God for mercy - possibly thinking about his murdering of Uriah the Hittite in the episode with Bathsheba.

Psalm 51:1-2 “¹Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. ²Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.”

V: 14 David knows that he was saved for a reason; not just for his sake, but to declare the goodness and the glory of God!

Psalm 103:1-2 “¹Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name. ²Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits:”

- There are innumerable things to be thankful for, but chief among them is our salvation; He saved us from going to hell, now we can be with Him forever - gratefully rejoicing in our salvation.

V: 15-17 The wicked are caught up in their own snares and devices ultimately receiving their just rewards. This will be a recurring theme in the Psalms.

Psalm 10:2 “The wicked in his pride doth persecute the poor: let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined.”

Revelation 22:12 “And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be.”

“¹⁶*Higgaion. Selah*” We’re not absolutely sure what either of these terms means. We talked about “selah” before, that perhaps it means to pause and consider, to ponder or think about, “higgaion” is thought to mean “meditate” - so these two put together could mean “think or meditate on this, then think about it some more...”

V: 18 God has not forgotten the poor or down trodden, He will be their help, and He will deal with those who didn’t help them.

Isaiah 65:11-14 “¹¹But ye are they that forsake the Lord, that forget my holy mountain, that prepare a table for that troop, and that furnish the drink offering

unto that number. ¹²Therefore will I number you to the sword, and ye shall all bow down to the slaughter: because when I called, ye did not answer; when I spake, ye did not hear; but did evil before mine eyes, and did choose that wherein I delighted not. ¹³Therefore thus saith the Lord God, behold, My servants shall eat, but ye shall be hungry: behold, My servants shall drink, but ye shall be thirsty: behold, My servants shall rejoice, but ye shall be ashamed: ¹⁴Behold, my servants shall sing for joy of the heart, but ye shall cry for sorrow of heart, and shall howl for vexation of spirit.”

V: 19-20 Arise O Lord don't let these evil men win, help them to know that they are just men.

Psalm 10

Theme: This Psalm is about the wicked who are mentioned and described 5 times, and the judgment that is waiting for them. This is about those who don't praise the Lord or think about Him.

V: 1 “Lord why aren't you doing something?” How many of us have asked that question at times.

- God is patient and longsuffering, even with the wicked. Often times as the wicked are going about their wicked ways we wonder how long are you going to put up with this Lord.

V: 2 The wicked in their pride persecute and take advantage of the poor. The only reason they can persecute and abuse the poor is because they think that they are better than the poor, more deserving of the poor, they think less of them - all of that adds up to pride.

Ezekiel 16:49 “Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.”

- Then again that theme of let them be taken in their own devices, caught up in their own snares.

V: 3-5 The wicked boast of their iniquities, they bless those that God would curse, they take pleasure in the things that God dislikes.

- God is not in their hearts or in their thoughts, they have no consciousness of God.

They have gone so far as to say:

Psalm 14:1 “The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God...”

- This is all the opposite of what God would want and of what David later declares.

Psalm 19:14 “Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.”

- God should be at the forefront of the minds and hearts of those who truly love Him.

V: 6-11 “It doesn’t matter, I won’t get caught.” “I’m not accountable to anyone or anything!”

- They lie and don’t tell the truth, always speaking evil, always looking for a way to take the poor, to take advantage of them and kill them.

1 Peter 5:8 “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”

- It’s interesting, and crime statistics will bear this out, there is a lot more crime in the poorer areas where poor people live. I’m not just talking about violent crime even though it’s true for that as well. There are far and away more thefts and burglaries in the poor areas than in the rich - because people prey upon the poor.

V: 10 He crouches and humbles himself, obviously with a false humility intended to draw the victim in, then they pounce.

V: 11 Discounting God; God doesn’t care, doesn’t know, won’t see.

- So, so wrong! God’s eyes are constantly upon the poor and needy, He cares for them greatly!

V: 12-15 David’s petition, his request, his plea: Arise O Lord and take action - deal with these wicked people!

- Don’t forget the humble, don’t forget the poor and helpless.
- You’ve seen the wickedness of the wicked, break their arms, remove their strength!
- Wipe them out: “... till thou find none.” Until they are completely gone!

V: 16-18 David breaks into this doxology of praise: Yahweh, Jehovah is King for ever and ever!

- The heathen are perished, they are toast! "... *perished out of his land.*" Victory is assured.
- Looking forward to the reign of Jesus upon all the earth!
- That was the theme of Psalm 2 that Jesus, the Messiah would one day rule the nations of the earth with a rod of iron.
- You've heard the desire, the petition, the prayer of the humble.

Psalm 34:15 "The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry."

- God is the protector of the fatherless and the oppressed.
- Looking forward to that day as Habakkuk describes:

Habakkuk 2:14 "For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."

- David began this Psalm with a question; now he ends it with a declaration - a declaration of faith. Lord you've heard, Lord you're in control!