

Psalm 30

- It is thought that this Psalm was written just after the judgment of God resulting from David's numbering the men of war in **2 Samuel Ch. 24**.
- David had three choices at that time. 7 years of famine, 3 months of fleeing before his enemies (defeat), or 3 days of pestilence in the land. David threw himself upon the mercy of the Lord, who sent pestilence into the land and smote 70,000 men in Israel.

V: 1-3 I will extol Thee, I will exalt Thee, praise Thee. Worship and praise are acts of the will, David will, David is determined to exalt and praise the Lord. - Because You have lifted me up and you haven't allowed my enemies to rejoice at my demise.

- David faced a crisis for the nation and for himself personally, which he created - which if he had died would have caused his enemies to rejoice, David thought he was on the brink of death - but he cried out to God who healed him.

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

- David did not despise the chastening of the Lord.

Proverbs 3:11 "My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of His corrections."

V: 4-5 The exhortation to give the Lord thanks, to sing His praises. Describing His chastening and correction which are not pleasant at any time, but we are comforted knowing first that we are His children, and secondly that this is part of a good work that He would do in us.

Hebrews 12:11 "Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised / trained thereby."

V: 6-7 In those times of favor and prosperity it's easy to say that we won't be moved, but then those times of testing come and we see the reality of what and who we are in the Lord.

V: 8-10 David cried to the Lord making supplication, making his request known.

- David sought to reason with God; there is no real gain in his dying, he won't be able to praise God from there, will the dust praise God and declare his truth?

- David is making a point; but Jesus also made a point when he told the religious leaders:

Luke 19:40 "... I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out."

V: 11-12 David is praising God, declaring that God has completely turned things around for him, and for the nation.

Isaiah 61:3 "To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified."

Psalm 31

- It is thought that this Psalm was also written during that time of Absalom's rebellion, we'll see hints of that as we go through it together.
- So many of these Psalms were written during those times of personal trial before the Lord, which is exactly when we should be crying out to Him.

V: 1-3 Once again David has committed his life to serving the Lord, to His ways - because of that let me not be ashamed, deliver me.

A recurring theme:

Psalm 25:2 "O my God, I trust in Thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me."

- David's appeal is based on God's righteousness not David's, he says "For Thy name's sake" lead me, and guide me:

Jeremiah 10:23 "O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps."

V: 4-5 Lord save me from the traps of the enemy.

Messianic prophecy fulfilled:

Luke 23:46 "And when Jesus cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit: and having said thus, He gave up the ghost."

John 8:31-32 David's in a trap, but the Truth will set him free.

V: 6 Lying vanities: foolish, empty lies - this runs the gambit from false religion, and evolutionary theories, to politics. I have hated them that regard lying vanities - contrast, but I trust in the Lord.

- Why? Because He is Truth!

V: 7-14 I rejoice in your mercy - you've known my troubles, and my adversities.

- You've not shut me up or forsaken me. Please have mercy upon me still.
- ¹⁰David admits that he's brought much of these troubles upon himself, the result of his own sin.
- As David will further declare in the next Psalm - sin brings death to be sure, but prior to that it brings weakness and misery.

Psalm 32:3 "When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long."

- This speaks of a degradation of life, and strength, and vitality.
- He's a reproach, he is forgotten like a dead man, he's heard the slander of those that have taken counsel together against him.
- "¹⁴but" - trump card "I have trusted in Thee, O Lord: I said, Thou art my God."

Psalm 118:6 "The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?"

V: 15-16 My times are in thy hands - the day of our death / graduation is not a random occurrence - God knows that pre-determined time.

Hebrews 9:27 "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."

- The Lord knows our appointed time, it's all in His hands.
- Smile upon me Lord, grant me favor, save me for your mercy's sake.

V: 17-18 Let me not be ashamed because I trust in you Lord - but on the contrary, let the wicked be ashamed, silence their lips in the grave.

V: 19-22 David is extolling the greatness of God; God rewards those that trust in the Lord before the sons of men - a living witness and testimony.

- Those that love the Lord that way will be protected and hidden in the pavilions of the Lord.

- David had at some point become impatient and had started to think that he was cut off from the Lord, that the Lord had turned away from him - how often do we feel the same way in our own impatience.

“²²... *nevertheless*...” (key word) God did hear his prayers and supplications - because He is the God who hears.

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

V: 23-24 This Psalm ends with an exhortation, a strong encouragement simply to love the Lord because he preserves the faithful and makes things right with the wicked / proud.

- Be courageous and trust in the Lord.

Psalm 32

- A Psalm of David, a favorite Psalm of David, a “Maschil” - this word is only used **14** times in the Psalms, primarily in the titles of what are considered the “wisdom” Psalms.
- Maschil is a term used to denote wisdom or insight.

Psalm 47:7 “For God is King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding.”
(Mas-chil)

Theme: Psalm 32 is the 2nd of 7 “penitential psalms” in which the writers are being disciplined by God and experiencing suffering. (Psalms 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, and 143)

Background: The back ground on this Psalm would most likely be just after David was attempting to cover his sin with Bathsheba, including the murder of Uriah, and his eventual forgiveness.

Outline:

V: 1-2 The blessing of acceptance.
V: 3-4 The folly and result of impenitence.
V: 5-7 The way of deliverance.
V: 8-11 The joy of obedience.

V: 1 “*Blessed is he*...” - “oh how happy” is that man who’s transgression is covered, who’s sin is covered.

- There are **14** Psalms that start of with a “beatitude” - “**Blessed is**...”

The first is:

Psalm 1:1 “Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.” (Blessed are the obedient.)

- This 2nd beatitude pronounces blessing on the disobedient who have been forgiven.

Quoted by Paul:

Romans 4:7-8 “⁷Saying, blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. ⁸Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.”

- David’s experience with Bathsheba was more than just sin, it was a transgression.
- Transgression: willful, defiant rebellion, knowingly doing the opposite of what we know that God desires.
- Sin: Missing the mark, falling short - intended or not.

Romans 3:23 “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.”

- Jesus sets the standard, which none of us can meet on our own:

Matthew 5:48 “Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.”

- Whether it’s a sin, or whether it’s a transgression, it has to be atoned for:

Ezekiel 18:20 “The soul that sinneth, it shall die...”

- David is expressing his joy, what a blessed man he is because God has forgiven him.

V: 2 “*Blessed*” again: that man to whom the Lord does not impute or credit with iniquity.

- Iniquity: “twisted,” to do wrong, to deviate from the way; used as a synonym for sin. Describing what happens to the inner character of a sinner.
- Guile: deceit, deception. (Not hiding anything / transparent)
- Impute: book keeping term that means to put on the account, or to add to the record.

Romans 8:1 “There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”

- No condemnation? That is because their iniquity is not imputed to them, Jesus took it upon himself.
- Because Jesus has taken my sin upon Himself I stand in the position of righteousness before the Father, through faith. (Practically?)

V: 3-4 When I kept silence, when in my disobedience I refused to confess.

- The result was pain and suffering in soul and spirit, dying on the inside.

Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death...”

- David is describing something that is difficult to describe:

Psalms 106:15 “And He gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.”

- David describes it as a dryness, a drought of soul, the life giving flow of the Holy Spirit being shut off. Stepping out from under the spout where the blessing pour out.
- For almost a year David had sought to conceal his sin; un-willing to face the Lord on the matter. So God sent Nathan with a parable that David could easily identify with. David’s emotions were aroused at the injustice that Nathan described.
- David pronounced judgment upon the offender, only to discover that he was that man.
- As David confessed that he was guilty before God, God then speaking through Nathan pronounced him forgiven.
- There would be repercussions, but oh the joy of knowing that you’re forgiven and restored back into a right relationship with the Lord.

V: 5-7 Confession: “I acknowledged my sin unto thee,...”

- There is such a release when we confess our sins, we un-burden ourselves. The burden of transgression is carried away, the debt is canceled, and the twisted is made straight.

Hebrews 12:1 “Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us...”

- His hand was heavy upon him in part because that is who he sinned against.

Psalm 51:4 “Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight...”

- David is describing a cause and effect relationship: I acknowledged my sin, I confessed my sin - that's the cause. The effect: "... and you forgave the iniquity of my sin."

1 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.”

- Like David, the moment a repentant sinner confessed his sin, our heavenly Father is right there declaring His forgiveness.
- The only time in the Bible where God is depicted as being in a hurry is in Luke Ch. 17 when the Father runs to embrace the repentant prodigal son who is returning home.
- ⁶This is the conduct or the behavior of the Godly, constant confession, keeping a short account with the Lord. This is just what the Godly do.
- Call upon Him in a timely manner, while there's still time:

Isaiah 55:6 “Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near.”

- This is where I'll hide, where I'll abide - in fellowship with my Lord.

V: 8-9 God's response to David's prayer / declaration:

- I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go.

Proverbs 3:5-7 ⁵Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. ⁶In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths. ⁷Be not wise in thine own eyes, fear the Lord, and depart from evil.”

- If God is going to guide us with His eye then we have to be attentive and focused or we'll miss it.
- Or we can do the bit and bridle thing and have our head jerked around to get us to go in the right direction.

Describing the still small voice of God:

Isaiah 30:21 “And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, this is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.”

V: 10-11 Many sorrows lie ahead for the wicked (understatement) but (contrast) he that trusts in the Lord will be surrounded by mercy.

- Be glad and rejoice in the Lord, shout for joy all that are upright in heart, those that are reconciled to God through the blood of Jesus Christ.
- When you truly understand and appreciate what the Lord has done in forgiving us, in paying our price - shouting and rejoicing is a pretty easy business!

Psalm 100:4 “Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name.”