

Psalm 92

- This is a Psalm that is filled with praises for God and it was sung on the Sabbath day, also on the 2nd day of the Feast of Tabernacles.
 - The theme / key verse: “*⁸But Thou, Lord, art most high for evermore.*”
 - This is a Psalm that just extols the Lord and is filled with praises to Him.
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V: 1-2 It doesn't seem like there is much to argue with there. It is good to give praises to the Lord and to thank Him for the great things He has done, in fact we just finished doing exactly that.

1 Chronicles 16:8-10 “*⁸Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples! ⁹Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; talk of all His wondrous works! ¹⁰Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the Lord!*”

- He is so faithful!

Psalm 89:1 “*I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever; with my mouth will I make known Your faithfulness to all generations.*”

- We have to guard against taking God's blessings for granted, I catch myself at times doing that.
- One of the charges leveled at the un-Godly in the beginning of the book of Romans is just that, thanklessness.

Romans 1:21 “*Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.*”

- There is so much that God has done for us that we should be in a continual state of thanksgiving and praise!

“It is good to give thanks to the Lord!”

- Offering our sacrifice of praise to Him! Thanking Him in the morning and in the evening like with the morning and evening oblations of old.

Numbers 28:4 “*The one lamb you shall offer in the morning, the other lamb you shall offer in the evening.*” The morning and the evening sacrifices.

V: 3 The Psalmist is describing the various instruments used for worship in the Temple, the “lute” and the harp.



Psalm 100:1 “Make a joyful shout / noise to the Lord, all you lands!”

- Harmony: (skill) the combination of simultaneously sounded musical notes to produce chords and chord progressions having a pleasing effect:
- Harmonious / solemn: (H-1902). higgāyôn: A masculine noun referring to meditation, resounding music; It refers to thoughts or musing (internal).

Response / intelligent worship - because...

V: 4-5 The emphasis here is on His work, the work of His hands - very much like our salvation being accomplished via the completed work of Jesus on the cross of Calvary, not our efforts or religious works.

Ephesians 2:8-9 “⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

- I will “triumph”, “sing joyfully”, “rejoicing” in the works of God.
- For many it’s been a tough season lately, but it’s also been glorious to see the great things that God is doing in the lives of so many here at Calvary.
- Because of that we rejoice in the victory that He’s given to us, the deep work He’s working out in us!

Psalm 40:5 “Many, O Lord my God, are Your wonderful works which You have done; and Your thoughts toward us cannot be recounted to You in order; if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered.”

- This is a Sabbath Psalm which reminds of part of the purpose behind the Sabbath. It’s not just about going to church, or synagogue but it’s also the day where we stop what we’d normally be doing, and remember that everything we have truly comes from the Lord, comes from His hands. It’s a day that is set aside to commune with Him and appreciate the great things He has and is doing.

V: 6 A “senseless man”, a “brutish man” (KJV), a rude, un-cultured man, a “foolish man” - I’m just going to cut to the chase and say a non-believing man.

When speaking of fools, almost always a reference to:

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

- The non-believer, the senseless man doesn't perceive these things, doesn't acknowledge them.

1 Corinthians 2:14 "But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

- At one point when Peter began to contradict Jesus and the word that He had spoken; Jesus rebuked him saying:

Matthew 16:23 "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."

V: 7 This has been kind of an ageless question that many have pondered about God - why do the wicked seem to prosper, and the righteous suffer?

- Job asked that question, Asaph the Psalmist asked it, and so do we at times.
- Knowing the fate of the wicked, that they will be destroyed, eternally separated from God we come to the conclusion that I'd rather be the poorest guy on the planet suffering starvation or whatever and be secure in my relationship with him, than to have all the riches and pleasures of this world and be separated from our loving father.

Matthew 16:26 "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

V: 8 "*But Thou, Lord, art most high for evermore.*" KJV

"*But*" - contrasting those who are destroyed, separated from God - God is everlasting and eternal.

Psalm 90:2 "... even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God."

V: 9-12 God's enemies will perish, those that yield to Him will be exalted.

- His servants will be anointed with fresh oil, the oil of the Holy Spirit! They will see their desire upon their enemies, meaning they will be victorious.
- ¹⁰The wicked are likened to grass (V: 7) and the righteous like a wild ox. What do Oxen eat...?
- ¹²The righteous will flourish, like a palm tree. The illustration of a palm tree isn't random. Palm trees flourish in dry, arid places and they are one of the only trees that produce more and more fruit as they get older.

- This means that, even through dry times, the righteous produce more fruit the older they get.
- The cedars of Lebanon grow in the mountains, they are strong and powerful, they're big like the redwoods of California. Like the redwoods they have an interconnecting root system where they grow together and support each other as they grow.
- This is very much like the body of Christ, we grow together, support each other, and love each other in the process.
- This is another subtle comparison: The wicked are like grass (V: 7), again no deep roots, easily removed or easily consumed. The righteous are likened to fruit bearing palm trees and the mighty cedars of Lebanon.

V: 13-15 Correlation: those who are planted in the house of the Lord - abiding in the fellowship not just of the saints, but in Him, abiding in His presence shall flourish.

- They shall still bear fruit in old age - Yee ha!

John 15:1-5 “¹I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in Me, and I in you As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, the same bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”

- They shall be fresh and flourishing for a purpose, not just for their own personal comfort or relaxation, the purpose being to declare that the Lord is good! That He is my Rock and that there is no unrighteousness in Him, no darkness in Him - He is Holy!

Psalm 93

V: 1 “*The Lord reigns...*”

Revelation 19:6 “And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, “Alleluia! For the Lord God omnipotent reigns!”

- God reigns in all things, even in the rebellion of Satan, and of men. God being in control allowed him to rebel, it couldn't have happened if God hadn't allowed it.

- In all the vastness of the universe, there is only one portion or segment that is out of sink with the will of God - you guessed it, it's us. But God has allowed it for His purposes, that in the end He might be glorified.
- God created you that you might have a meaningful loving relationship with Him. That is what He desires for with each of us. In order for that relationship to be meaningful and truly loving you have to have a free choice, so He gives us the capacity to choose. For that choice to be valid there needs to be some other thing to choose between, and He needs to respect the choice we make.
- This is where Satan comes in, in a certain sense he offers the alternative, something attractive and enticing - if it was ugly or repulsive then it wouldn't really be a valid choice.
- Satan kind of dangles the world before our eyes and says - "hey check this out... isn't that cool?" He's trying to get our flesh to respond, and so often it does:

1 John 2:16 "... the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life..."

- The Spirit says that the way of the flesh leads to destruction, the mind of the flesh is death.

Jesus tells us:

Mark 8:34 "... deny yourself, take up the cross, and follow Me."

- It's not easy to deny ourselves, the world around us is saying go for it, enjoy yourself, indulge yourself. Eat, drink, and be merry.
- But again the Spirit says that the way of life is walking after the things of the Spirit.
- So we have this choice, this daily, these moment by moment choices: Do I give in to the desires of the flesh; or do I yield to the leading of the Spirit.
- Two diametrically opposed choices:

Deuteronomy 30:19-20 ¹⁹I call heaven and earth as witness today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; ²⁰that you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days;..."

- God knows that we love Him because we've made that choice, not just with our lips in a superficial way; but in deed and in truth because we are willing to forego the pleasures and the things of this world in order to walk in fellowship with Him.

I'm willing to go against the current of the world; willing to suffer the mockery of the world to be numbered as one of the sheep of His pasture.

John 10:27 "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me."

- Like Paul, we're not ashamed of the Gospel, we're willing to identify with our Lord - in a certain sense we prove our love by the choices we make. We engage in a meaningful, loving relationship with God and His purposes are worked out in our lives.
- So God reigns over all, and yet there are those who live their lives in rebellion to God, to His authority, and He allows them to do so. He also allows them to bear the repercussions of their choices.

2 Peter 3:9 "The Lord - is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance."

- God very much stacks things in His own favor, He puts lots of information out there, circumstances, people, all of creation, witnesses; all in an attempt to persuade us - He will do anything necessary short of violating our will to draw us to Himself including some very painful experiences. Again all in an attempt to woo us to Himself and draw us away from destruction.
- It's not easy to get to hell, we have to overcome a lot to get there, but in the end, each of us makes our own choice.

V: 1b "... *He is clothed with majesty; the Lord is clothed, He has girded Himself with strength. Surely the world is established, so that it cannot be moved.*"

- He is clothed or covered with majesty, and strength.

V: 2 This speaks to the eternal character of God: He is "**El-Olam**", the everlasting God, the eternal God.

Psalm 90:2 "... even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God."

Genesis 21:33 "And Abraham planted a grove in Beer-sheba, and called there on the name of the Lord, the everlasting God."

- God has always existed, He has always ruled.
- In the beginning there was only one government in the whole universe, God Himself. That period of time between the creation of all things and the fall of Satan, and the fall of man, that period of time when everything was subject to and yielded to God.

Then Satan said:

Isaiah 14:13-14 “¹³... I will ascend into heaven: I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the North; ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.”

- This describes Lucifer’s transformation into Satan, it describes his rebellion against the authority of God; and it describes the creation of a second government in the universe in direct competition or opposition with the government of God.
- This would be the government of death and darkness.

V: 3-4 The power of nature cannot be minimized; whether it was the flood of Noah’s day which wrought cataclysmic changes to our planet, or more ordinary floods or the power of the sea and it’s mighty waves.

- Thinking of hurricanes like Katrina which have devastated regions of the world, volcano’s, earthquakes all these things are incredibly powerful, yet God is more powerful, beyond powerful in comparison.
- Another way to put this is that God is greater than our circumstances and the storms in our life.

V: 5 His testimonies are sure, very sure because He is the truth.

Psalm 19:7 “The law of the Lord is perfect converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord us sure making wise the simple;”

- Holiness adorns His dwelling place - because He is Holy!

Psalm 29:2 “Give unto the Lord the glory due to His name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.”