

Psalm 112

- Psalm 112 is a companion Psalm to Psalm 111.
- It is also an acrostic Psalm with each verse or sentence beginning with a consecutive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- This is one of the “hallel” psalms or Psalms of praise that either begins with or ends with “hallelujah!”
- Psalm 111 ends with: (V: 10)

Psalm 111:10 “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.”

- Psalm 111 ends with the reverence or fear of the Lord and the doing of His commandments.
 - Psalm 112 talks about the man who has learned what it is to stand in the awe and reverence of God, it’s about that man who has committed himself to obeying God and doing His commandments.
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V: 1 Praise the Lord! Hallelujah! Once again this could be both a proclamation and or an exhortation.

- Blessed, or “Oh how happy” is the man who fears the Lord - why? Because if you learn to fear the Lord truly, you will ultimately end up getting saved!

Proverbs 14:27 “The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, to turn one away from the snares of death.”

Proverbs 19:23 “The fear of the Lord leads to life,…”

- If we fear God, then we don’t need to fear anything, or anyone else!

Ecclesiastes 12:13 “Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.”

- The antidote to depression, to un-happiness, anxiety, and fear - is to praise the Lord, to fear Him, and to joyfully be obedient to what He’s instructed us to do.

Adding to that:

“*Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, (and) who delights greatly in His commandments.*”

This is a lot like Psalm 1.

Psalm 1:1-3 “¹Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; ²But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night. ³He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth his fruit in his season, his leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.”

- Describing that blessed man, that happy man who delights greatly in His commandments. Eager to receive them, just as eager to do them.

Psalm 37:4 “Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.”

Psalm 119:47-48 “⁴⁷And I will delight myself in Your commandments, which I love. ⁴⁸My hands also I will lift up to Your commandments, which I love, and I will meditate on Your statutes.”

- Because we love the Lord, because we love His commandments, they are not burdensome.

1 John 5:3 “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.”

V: 2-3 The result of that dedication and passion, the blessing of the Lord is that his descendants will be mighty on the earth; they will be blessed with wealth and riches, and his righteousness will endure forever.

- The generation of the upright describing the people of God who frequent the sanctuary:

Psalm 33:1 “Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright.”

Psalm 37:37 “Mark the perfect man / blameless man, and observe the upright; for the future of that man is peace.”

- This is the kind of man who builds a spiritual legacy for his kids and grandkids.

Psalm 102:28 “The children of Your servants will continue, and their descendants will be established before You.”

- I can only imagine the wealth and prosperity teachers having a hey day with these scriptures.

- There may well be practical application of these promises but I would tend to think that the power spoken of would be in the millennial reign mentioned in the previous psalm.
- The wealth and riches spoken of are in the eternal weight of glory - because that is how our righteousness would endure forever - eternally in His presence.
- That righteousness being that which is accounted to us through our faith in Jesus Christ.

V: 4 The “upright” being the same man spoken of in verse 1-3, and the light that arises unto that upright man is in fact Jesus.

Jesus declared of Himself:

John 8:12 “... I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”

- There are many many scriptures that relate to Jesus as the light, and the contrast between light and darkness; the kingdom of God verses the kingdom of Satan.

Isaiah 60:1 “Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.”

- Unto the “upright”, those who fear the Lord and “delight” in His commandments there arises a light in the darkness, describing Jesus; and He - Jesus, is gracious and full of compassion, and righteousness.

Matthew 12:20 “A bruised reed He will not break, and smoking flax He will not quench.”

- Jesus is so tender towards those in need. He is so gracious towards sinners, and full of compassion.

Matthew 9:36 “But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.”

V: 5 Three attributes of a good man: he is gracious, willing to lend, and is discreet.

V: 6 “*Surely he shall not be moved for ever...*” KJV

- A believing heart is a steadfast heart, one that is not easily shaken or moved by bad news or difficult circumstances.

James 1:8 “... a double minded man is unstable in all of His ways.”

- The implication of that verse is that a “single minded man” is stable in all his ways.” Single mindedly focused on Jesus, not letting go!
- The righteous may be moved for a time, our faith challenged or tested through various trials, but not moved forever, not shaken from our faith.
- We’re still talking about that man who greatly delights in His commandments:

Psalm 119:165 “Great peace have those who love Your law, and nothing causes them to stumble.”

Isaiah 26:3 “You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.”

V: 7 Through our lives there are bound to be those times when we receive “evil tidings;” news of a loved one who has died, tidings of financial setbacks, laid off or fired from a job, diagnosed with cancer. As Christians we are not immune to these things, but we’ve been equipped to deal with them in a Biblical way.

Jesus said:

John 16:33 “These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

- We trust the Lord, that He knows best and is using it somehow both for His glory and for our benefit.

Romans 8:28 “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”

V: 8-9 His heart is established, it’s set upon the Lord, he has no reason to be afraid.

2 Timothy 1:7 “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”

- His desire upon his enemy - describing ultimate victory!
- He has dispersed abroad, he’s been generous, he’s given to the poor - this is pleasing to God on different levels. Surely it pleases God when we are generous this way, but secondly it is an expression of faith, knowing that we can give and that God will still take care of us, that we trust Him to do exactly that, so we can be generous and kind to others.

Philippians 4:19 “And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

“^{9b}His horn will be exalted with honor.” - “His power will be increased honorably.” KJV

V: 10 The wicked never like it when they see God glorified, or the righteous being blessed. But ultimately the desire of the wicked will perish.

Psalm 113

- Another Psalm of praise and worship.

V: 1 *“Hallelujah”* - Praise the Lord.

- The servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord - that's what we do!

V: 2-3 We should all be praising the Lord all the time, from now and for evermore.

- From the rising of the sun to its going down - all day long.

Hebrews 13:15 *“Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.”*

- Trying not to look for a formula, but one of the paths to blessing is simply to worship God in sincerity, to praise Him from your heart, and to be ever thankful for His blessings in your life.
- The blessing may very well not be in material things as much as in that joy in your heart, the contentment of being right with your God, and the sense that you're in His will. These things are real treasure indeed!

V: 4 Earthly kings are concerned about the splendor and prominence of their thrones, but the Lord's throne is exalted above the all the nations, and the heavens themselves.

Psalm 57:5 *“Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let Your glory be above all the earth.”*

- The Lord is high and lifted up far beyond our ability to comprehend:

Psalm 97:9 *“For You, LORD, are most high (El-Elyon) above all the earth: You are exalted far above all gods.”*

V: 5 Our **God is Incomparable**: He cannot be compared to anything.

Isaiah 40:18 “To whom then will ye liken God? Or what likeness will ye compare unto Him?”

Isaiah 46:5 “To whom will ye liken me, and make me equal, and compare me, that we may be like?”

V: 6 Our God humbles Himself, He condescends or lowers Himself just to see the things that are happening in our world, or more accurately to relate to us or help us to relate to Him. Why would God do this? It is an amazing thing!

- God does this primarily as He seeks to reason with His creatures, with men.
- God lowered Himself, He condescended to explain to Noah the reasons for the flood.
- God condescended to enter into a covenant with Abraham, and in indulging Abraham's intercession for Sodom.
- He came down to Moses' level the many times He spoke with and reasoned with Moses, and in those times when He has spoken to our hearts and or revealed Himself to us

1 Timothy 3:16 “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness. God was manifested in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up in glory.”

V: 7-8 God lowers Himself to reason with us, but at the same time so he can lift the poor and the desolate, the hopeless up.

Psalms 72:12 “For He will deliver the needy when he cries, the poor also, and him who has no helper.”

- I wonder if the Psalmist was perhaps thinking of David who started out in the sheep coats, a lowly position in life later to be made king of Israel, sitting among princes.

James 4:10 “Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.”

V: 9 He makes a barren woman to keep house, to be a joyful mother of children. We've seen that in our fellowship several times now. Families that couldn't have children, the saints gather and pray, and continue to pray - then suddenly someone who couldn't have children is pregnant - God blesses the barren women.

James 1:17 “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.”

- God is faithful!
- Those who praise the Lord will be both prolific and productive!
- If you feel barren and useless, perhaps now is the time to praise Him.

Isaiah 54:1 “Sing, O barren, You who have not borne! Break forth into singing, and cry aloud, You who have not labored with child! “For more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married woman,” says the Lord.”

- Those who praise the Lord will be both prolific and productive!

“Praise the Lord!”