

Psalms 24-30 – Thursday, July 26th, 2018

Psalm 24 -- A Psalm of David. 1 The earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein. 2 For He has founded it upon the seas, And established it upon the waters. 3 Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place? 4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully. 5 He shall receive blessing from the LORD, And righteousness from the God of his salvation. 6 This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him, Who seek Your face. Selah 7 Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. 8 Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle. 9 Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. 10 Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory. Selah

- Psalm 24 is a very interesting Psalm when it's understood in the context of the two Psalms before it, Psalm 22 and Psalm 23.
- Psalm 22 is about Jesus redeeming us, Psalm 23 is Jesus shepherding us, and Psalm 24 is about Jesus coming back for us.
- The reason I point this out is because it speaks to how the entirety of scripture paints a picture of Jesus Christ and the cross.

G. Campbell Morgan - "By our calendars, yesterday He passed through Psalm 22. Today He is exercising the office of Psalm 23. Tomorrow, He will exercise finally the authority of Psalm 24."

Psalm 25 -- A Psalm of David. 1 To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. 2 O my God, I trust in You; Let me not be ashamed; Let not my enemies triumph over me. 3 Indeed, let no one who waits on You be ashamed; Let those be ashamed who deal treacherously without cause. 4 Show me Your ways, O LORD; Teach me Your paths. 5 Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day. 6 Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your lovingkindnesses, For they are from of old. 7 Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions; According to Your mercy remember me, For Your goodness' sake, O LORD. 8 Good and upright is the LORD; Therefore He teaches sinners in the way. 9 The humble He guides in justice, And the humble He teaches His way. 10 All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth, To such as keep His covenant and His testimonies. 11 For Your name's sake, O LORD, Pardon my iniquity, for it is great. 12 Who is the man that fears the LORD? Him shall He teach in the way He chooses. 13 He himself shall dwell in prosperity, And his descendants shall inherit the earth. 14 The secret of the LORD is with those who fear Him, And He will show them His covenant. 15 My eyes are ever toward the LORD, For He shall pluck my feet out of the net. 16 Turn Yourself to me, and have mercy on me, For I am desolate and afflicted. 17 The troubles of my heart have enlarged; Bring me out of my distresses! 18 Look on my affliction and my pain, And forgive all my sins. 19 Consider my enemies, for they are many; And they hate me with cruel hatred. 20 Keep my soul, and deliver me; Let me not be ashamed, for I put my trust in You. 21 Let integrity and uprightness preserve me, For I wait for You. 22 Redeem Israel, O God, Out of all their troubles!

- Psalm 25 is known as one of the acrostic Psalms in the sense that it's a literary and poetic way of adding beauty to the writing.
- Among the acrostic Psalms are 9, 10, 11, 25, 34, 37, 112, 119, and 145 and as such they're all easier to memorize in Hebrew.
- Be that as it may, this Psalm is a plea to God from David for help in the midst of the treacherous enemies that are against him.

Psalm 26 -- A Psalm of David. 1 Vindicate me, O LORD, For I have walked in my integrity. I have also trusted in the LORD; I shall not slip. 2 Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; Try my mind and my heart. 3 For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes, And I have walked in Your truth. 4 I have not sat with idolatrous mortals, Nor will I go in with hypocrites. 5 I have hated the assembly of evildoers, And will not sit with the wicked. 6 I will wash my hands in innocence; So I will go about Your altar, O LORD, 7 That I may proclaim with the voice of thanksgiving, And tell of all Your wondrous works. 8 LORD, I have loved the habitation of Your house, And the place where Your glory dwells. 9 Do not gather my soul with sinners, Nor my life with bloodthirsty men, 10 In whose hands is a sinister scheme, And whose right hand is full of bribes. 11 But as for me, I will walk in my integrity; Redeem me and be merciful to me. 12 My foot stands in an even place; In the congregations I will bless the LORD.

- Psalm 26 is a Psalm of David concerning his being unjustly slandered and falsely accused by the many enemies against him.
- It's important to understand that David has a sanctified confidence in his integrity and purity before the Lord in the face of this.
- The reason I mention this is because, when not if, one comes under attack in this way, there has to be this rightness with God.

Psalm 27 -- A Psalm of David. 1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid? 2 When the wicked came against me To eat up my flesh, My enemies and foes, They stumbled and fell. 3 Though an army may encamp against me, My heart shall not fear; Though war may rise against me, In this I will be confident. 4 One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple. 5 For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; In the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me high upon a rock. 6 And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me; Therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the LORD. 7 Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice! Have mercy also upon me, and answer me. 8 When You said, "Seek My face," My heart said to You, "Your face, LORD, I will seek."

- Psalm 27 is one of my favorite Psalms because God used it in a powerful way during very painful and fearful times in my life.
- It's not only a very calming and encouraging Psalm; it's also a very instructive Psalm in that it provides practical things to do.
- Specifically when you find yourself becoming full of fear and are under intense pressure or attack and don't know what to do.

- In the first eight verses of this Psalm, we see David doing three things in the face of all that he's experiencing during this time.
- The first thing David does is in verse 4, which is that he seeks the Lord, draws near to the Lord, and spends time with the Lord.
- If you were to ask me what I thought was one of the most powerful and even practical things to do when afraid, this would be it.

- The second thing David does is in verse five; he says he went into and hid himself in the tabernacle and pavilion of the Lord.
- The idea here is not forsaking assembling together as Hebrews says is the manner of some, but exhorting one another instead.
- The third thing David does is in verses 6-7, which is that he spent more time in praise and worship and especially in prayer.

9 Do not hide Your face from me; Do not turn Your servant away in anger; You have been my help; Do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of my salvation. 10 When my father and my mother forsake me, Then the LORD will take care of me. 11 Teach me Your way, O LORD, And lead me in a smooth path, because of my enemies. 12 Do not deliver me to the will of my adversaries; For false witnesses have risen against me, And such as breathe out violence. 13 I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living. 14 Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!

- Verses 13-14 are actually life verses for me in that this is the Word and promise God gave me when our daughter Noelle died.
- While I couldn't see it at the time the promise was that if I would wait on the Lord, and be encouraged, He would strengthen me.
- Not only would He strengthen me, but He would also allow me to see the good He would bring about so I wouldn't lose heart.

Psalm 28 -- A Psalm of David. 1 To You I will cry, O LORD my Rock: Do not be silent to me, Lest, if You are silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit. 2 Hear the voice of my supplications When I cry to You, When I lift up my hands toward Your holy sanctuary. 3 Do not take me away with the wicked And with the workers of iniquity, Who speak peace to their neighbors, But evil is in their hearts. 4 Give them according to their deeds, And according to the wickedness of their endeavors; Give them according to the work of their hands; Render to them what they deserve. 5 Because they do not regard the works of the LORD, Nor the operation of His hands, He shall destroy them And not build them up. 6 Blessed be the LORD, Because He has heard the voice of my supplications! 7 The LORD is my strength and my shield; My heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart greatly rejoices, And with my song I will praise Him. 8 The LORD is their strength, And He is the saving refuge of His anointed. 9 Save Your people, And bless Your inheritance; Shepherd them also, And bear them up forever.

- Like many of David's Psalm's, Psalm 28 speaks ever so beautifully and eloquently to the power of prayer to move God's hand.
- While we don't know exactly what David was going through at the time he penned this Psalm, we do know that he was in a trial.
- I suppose it goes without saying but this is yet another place in the Word of God that reminds us that God answers our prayers.

Psalm 29 -- A Psalm of David. 1 Give unto the LORD, O you mighty ones, Give unto the LORD glory and strength. 2 Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name; Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. 3 The voice of the LORD is over the waters; The God of glory thunders; The LORD is over many waters. 4 The voice of the LORD is powerful; The voice of the LORD is full of majesty. 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars, Yes, the LORD splinters the cedars of Lebanon. 6 He makes them also skip like a calf, Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox. 7 The voice of the LORD divides the flames of fire. 8 The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; The LORD shakes the Wilderness of Kadesh. 9 The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth, And strips the forests bare; And in His temple everyone says, "Glory!" 10 The LORD sat enthroned at the Flood, And the LORD sits as King forever. 11 The LORD will give strength to His people; The LORD will bless His people with peace.

- It's believed that David wrote this Psalm while witnessing a very powerful storm, which pointed him to his very powerful God.
- This because, David is worshipping the Lord in and through this storm by likening God's attributes to the nature of the storm.
- This is yet another much-needed reminder of how the voice of the Lord, and the power of the Lord is mightier than any storm.

Psalm 30 -- A Psalm. A Song At the Dedication of the House of David. 1 I will extol You, O LORD, for You have lifted me up, And have not let my foes rejoice over me. 2 O LORD my God, I cried out to You, And You healed me. 3 O LORD, You brought my soul up from the grave; You have kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit. 4 Sing praise to the LORD, you saints of His, And give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name. 5 For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for life; Weeping may endure for a night, But joy comes in the morning. 6 Now in my prosperity I said, "I shall never be moved." 7 LORD, by Your favor You have made my mountain stand strong; You hid Your face, and I was troubled. 8 I cried out to You, O LORD; And to the LORD I made supplication: 9 "What profit is there in my blood, When I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise You? Will it declare Your truth? 10 Hear, O LORD, and have mercy on me; LORD, be my helper!" 11 You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; You have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness, 12 To the end that my glory may sing praise to You and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever.

- Psalm 30 is another Psalm God has used in my life in a powerful way, specifically as it relates to what David says in verse 5.
- I can't think of a better way to bring the Bible study to an end; "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning."