PSALM 49 – The Confidence of the Foolish!

6/18/22 - Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com www.ptwente.com

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS — Billy Graham Crusade Choir (3:00)

When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of glory died,

My richest gain I count but loss, And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ my God! All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all. Demands my soul, my life, my all.

PSALM 49 – This Psalm is a **meditation on the folly of trusting in riches!** It is always a good reminder. The limitations of money. How to gauge what are true riches from the vantage point of heaven. Psalm 49 brings that out.

Why Should I Fear in Times of Trouble?

Vs.1-4 - A preface.

Psa 49:1 To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. Hear this, all peoples; Give ear, all inhabitants of the world,

Psa 49:2 Both low and high, Rich and poor together.

- So, he calls for the people to hear.
- This message is for you, a message of wisdom.

Psa 49:3 My mouth shall speak wisdom, And the meditation of my heart shall give understanding.

- My mouth shall speak wisdom. It is a message that is designed to give you understanding.
- And the meditation of my heart shall give understanding. The understanding that I have come to receive sitting before the Lord.

Psa 49:4 I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will disclose my dark saying on the harp.

• With a proverb and accompanied by the harp he is going to sing this wisdom that will bring understanding.

<u>Vs. 5-12</u> – All fear of great oppressors is removed by the remembrance of their end and their folly.

Psa 49:5 Why should I fear in the days of evil, When the iniquity at my heels surrounds me?

- Why should I fear in the days of evil? That is the days when I am about to die.
- When the iniquity at my heels surrounds me? The word "heels" here is Yakov, the name of Jacob the supplanter, when I am tripped at my heels.

Psa 49:6 Those who trust in their wealth And boast in the multitude of their riches,

Psa 49:7 None of them can by any means redeem his brother, Nor give to God a ransom for him—

• That is, with all of the money you may possess, you cannot buy salvation. It cannot be purchased. Those that trust in riches, which boast of the multitude of the riches, they cannot buy salvation. Money can buy a lot of things, but it cannot buy salvation.

Psa 49:8 For the redemption of their souls is costly, And it shall cease forever—

Psa 49:9 That he should continue to live eternally, And not see the Pit.

- For the redemption of their soul is costly. Peter said, "We are redeemed not with corruptible things such as silver and gold from our empty lives but with the precious blood of Jesus Christ." The price of the redemption is precious. It took the blood of Jesus Christ to redeem you from your sin. You cannot, with all of your wealth, redeem your own soul.
- One of the many tragic days of the history of the church is when the church began to sell the absolutions from sins. Making a person believe that he could buy his salvation. I do not know if it is any better when the TV telethons indicate that you can buy the salvation of your loved ones, fifty dollars buy a soul. That is bordering on blasphemy. You cannot purchase salvation. You cannot give and expect God to redeem your brother or your son because you have given now. They seem to

indicate that a gift of a hundred dollars or so, this blessed lady called in and pledged a hundred dollars and her son accepted Jesus. They seem to indicate that by your gift you can buy souls.

• The redemption, bringing us eternal life, we will not see corruption.

Psa 49:10 For he sees wise men die; Likewise the fool and the senseless person perish, And leave their wealth to others.

• When you die you are not going to take it with you. When you die you leave your wealth to others; death is the great equalizer. The fool, the brutish person, the wealthy, when they die all of them leave everything. "Naked I came into the world, naked I go out" take nothing with me. But that is not their inward thought.

Psa 49:11 Their inner thought is that their houses will last forever, Their dwelling places to all generations; They call their lands after their own names.

- Their inner thought is that their houses will last forever. There is within all of us, I think, sort of that sense of immortality in that somehow we do not think much about dying. Death is always an appointment that is way off in the future someplace. I do not think of it as being imminent. You read about others doing that, but you do not think about that for yourself. We just have that feeling. Especially it is more in young people than I think older people. As you get older you begin to realize that the days are limited and there is not much time left. When you are a young person life seems to be stretching out forever.
- I am leaving my mark, going to go on forever.
- They call their lands after their own names. Rockefeller Plaza, Graceland, Irvine Ranch?.

Psa 49:12 Nevertheless man, though in honor, does not remain; He is like the beasts that perish.

- Nevertheless man, though in honor, does not remain. We all die.
- *He is like the beast that perish.* The animals die. Man, even those that are in honour die. Those that are wealthy do not abide like the beast that perish.

V. 13 – contains an expression of wonder at the perpetuity of folly

Psa 49:13 This is the way of those who are foolish, And of their posterity who approve their sayings. Selah

- The foolish make no provisions for life after death. All of their energies and all of their provisions are for this life. They spend their lives gaining material things hoping through them to find security. Building up their estates, looking toward those retirement years. They do not take any thought of the eternal. They have not laid up any treasure in heaven.
- What about eternity? What have you set aside for that? How much have you invested in eternity?
- This is the way of those who are foolish, And of their posterity who approve their sayings. They have taken and made no provision for the eternal. My sojourn here on earth is so short, less than a hundred years. I am going to enter into the eternal no end. The thing is, now is my opportunity to lay up for eternity. Yet people are taking no advantage of this opportunity. They do not think in the realms of the eternal and that is his foolishness. Spending so much effort and time on the temporal, neglecting completely the eternal.
- And of their posterity who approve their sayings. We have all these great quotes from grandpa who left this fortune to the family about working hard, "a penny saved is a penny earned" and "I made it the old-fashioned way, I earned it".

Vs. 14 & 15 – Contrast the ungodly and the righteous in their future

Psa 49:14 Like sheep they are laid in the grave; Death shall feed on them; The upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; And their beauty shall be consumed in the grave, far from their dwelling.

• A year after they are dead they are not very beautiful anymore. They cannot redeem their soul; they cannot buy their salvation.

Psa 49:15 But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave, For He shall receive me. Selah

- But God will redeem my soul. I am not trusting money for redemption, I am trusting in God.
- But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for He shall receive me. Paul, as he writes to the Ephesians in chapter one, lists the tremendous spiritual blessings that we have in Christ and heavenly places. "Thanks be unto God the father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places. He has chosen us before the foundations of the earth. As he lists those blessings he says, "For we are accepted in the

- beloved." God accepts me in Christ. That is, He will receive me into glory. God will redeem me. He will receive me into glory. What I could not buy for myself God has given to me the glorious redemption through Jesus Christ. Being redeemed by Jesus Christ, I have come into a full life because I have come into the life of the spirit. Those who are outside of Christ live in only a two-dimensional plane of existence, body soul, body conscience.
- The conscience mind of man are absorbed and filled with the body needs. That is what absorbed his conscience and so he has what the Bible classifies as the mind of the flesh. They do mind, fleshly things. I think about what I am going to eat, what I am going to drink, where I am gonna go for fun and all I think about is the area of the flesh. The Bible says, "The mind of the flesh is death".
- When you are born again of the spirit you then begin to live in the spiritual dimension. Your mind is now controlled by the spirit and the mind of the spirit is life and peace and joy. You come into this full orbed life. Notice life, peace and joy, you cannot with money buy life. You cannot redeem your own soul. With money, as much as you have, you cannot buy peace, as much as you have you cannot buy joy. God will redeem me and receive me.

<u>Vs. 16-20</u> - The lesson from the whole is given in a reprimanding form

Psa 49:16 Do not be afraid when one becomes rich, When the glory of his house is increased;

• When you see a person win the lottery.

Psa 49:17 For when he dies he shall carry nothing away; His glory shall not descend after him.

• He said, "how great I am"

Psa 49:18 Though while he lives he blesses himself (For men will praise you when you do well for yourself),

• They say, "My, he started out as a janitor and now he is the president. Hard work, he has a salary of a million dollars a year." Men will praise you when you become successful. What does God think about it? What does God think about you?

Psa 49:19 He shall go to the generation of his fathers; They shall never see light.

• Jesus said, "You will be cast into outer darkness where there is weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth".

Psa 49:20 A man who is in honor, yet does not understand, Is like the beasts that perish.

- He does not understand the eternal, living only for the present, using his wealth for material things.
- *Is like the beasts that perish.* He lived like an animal and shall perish like an animal. Interesting thought, much too complicated.

SUMMARY:

- (Mat 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?
- Help us Lord to live in the dimension of the spirit rather than the flesh. May we have that full orbed life living and walking after the spirit. Thank You Lord for redeeming our soul for the precious blood of Jesus. May we not diminish that work that You have done by trying to buy or earn our salvation by our works and efforts. May we receive Your free gift.

REDEEMED! - Fanny Crosby, William Kirkpatrick, Terry Blackwell (3:12)

Psa 49:14 Like sheep they are laid in the grave; Death shall feed on them; The upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; And their beauty shall be consumed in the grave, far from their dwelling.

Psa 49:15 But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave, For He shall receive me. Selah

Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it! Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb; Redeemed through His infinite mercy, His child and forever I am.

Refrain:

Redeemed, redeemed, Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb; Redeemed, redeemed, His child and forever I am.

Redeemed, and so happy in Jesus, No language my rapture can tell; I know that the light of His presence With me doth continually dwell. Refrain

I think of my blessed Redeemer, I think of Him all the day long: I sing, for I cannot be silent; His love is the theme of my song. Refrain

I know I shall see in His beauty The King in whose law I delight; Who lovingly guardeth my footsteps, And giveth me songs in the night. Refrain

FOR OUR NATION'S LEADERS: PRAY FOR CALIFORNIA: PRAY FOR WORLD LEADERS: -

<u>Pray for World Leaders, especially their salvation</u>, including: Xi Jinping – China; Narendra Modi- India; Joe Biden – USA; Joko Widodo - Indonesia; Jair Bolsonaro - Brazil; Arif Alvi - Pakistan; Muhammadu Buhari - Nigeria; Hasina Wazed - Bangladesh; Vladimir Putin- Russia; Lopez Obrador – Mexico; Naftali Bennett – Israel; Olaf Scholtz – Germany; Boris Johnson – U.K.; Kim Jong-un – North Korea; Yoon Suk Yeol– South Korea.

<u>PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH/PERSECUTED CHURCH; SCHOOLS; POLICE OFFICERS/MILITARY; ISRAEL:</u>