

PSALM 68– The Glory of God in His Goodness to Israel!

10/29/22 – Sat Morn Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com www.ptwente.com

Psa 68:3 But let the righteous be glad; Let them rejoice before God; Yes, let them rejoice exceedingly.

JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE Henry Van Dyke, Beethoven – London Festival Orchestra (2:02)

*Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee God of glory, Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee
Opening to the sun above Melt the clouds of sin and sadness
Drive the dark of doubt away
Giver of immortal gladness Fill us with the light of day*

*All Thy works with joy surround Thee Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays
Stars and angels sing around Thee Center of unbroken praise
Field and forest, vale and mountain Flowery meadow, flashing sea
Chanting bird and flowing fountain Call us to **rejoice** in Thee*

*Ever singing, march we onward Victors in the midst of strife
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life*

Psalm 68 Let's turn to the sixty-eighth psalm. This sixty-eighth psalm is known as one of the most beautiful and victorious of all the psalms. From a literary standpoint it is unexcelled! It has been a psalm that has brought inspiration to many people of God throughout the ages. It is said that as the Savonarola and the monks were being led to the fires in the piazza of Florence that they were chanting this psalm together of the ultimate triumph of our Lord. So, it begins with a call for God's triumph.

PSALM 68 – God Shall Scatter His Enemies. To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. A Song.

Psa 68:1 Let God arise, Let His enemies be scattered; Let those also who hate Him flee before Him.

- It seems many times in history that God in His patience and in His longsuffering allows evil to triumph. As we look around and we see the conditions of a sin dominated world there is so often this cry from our heart, “O God arise, let Your enemies be scattered Lord, let those that hate You flee. Lord do something, do not just sit there. Get things going.” O how we long for that ultimate triumph of God.
- He goes on in a very figurative way talking about those who hate God, the enemies of God.

Psa 68:2 As smoke is driven away, So drive them away; As wax melts before the fire, So let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

- Smoke that is carried away by the wind and sort of dissolves in the air, Lord let them be carried away.
- *As wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God* When God does move, these powerful forces of evil will just dissolve. We look at the powerful forces of evil and see how they are entrenched. It seems like evil triumphs and has the upper hand and yet, what are they before God?

Psa 68:3 But let the righteous be glad; Let them rejoice before God; Yes, let them rejoice exceedingly.

Psa 68:4 Sing to God, sing praises to His name; Extol Him who rides on the clouds, By His name YAH, And rejoice before Him.

- They are rejoicing because of God's ultimate triumph in that day! Sing unto God, sing praises, rejoice and extol Him by His name JAH! We have here one of the names of God. We know the YAWEH, this JAH is the contraction of the YAWEH. It is a name that signifies the “becoming one” the “I am” and the JAH is used in conjunction with other Hebrew words to describe what He is. The name of Jesus is the Hebrew is Joshua; this first JAH and Shewa is salvation, so it is “I am salvation.” The JAH is used in many of the Old Testament names and of course we have it in the “Hallelujah” the praise to JAH, the name of God, he rides through the heavens by his name JAH.

Psa 68:5 A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, Is God in His holy habitation.

- The God of the underdog, the God of the oppressed, the God of the poor and the needy, the God of the orphans, the God of the bereaved widow.

Psa 68:6 God sets the solitary in families; He brings out those who are bound into prosperity; But the rebellious dwell in a dry land.

- Those who are alone God brings together into the family, the family of God.

- God delivers His people. Now we will move into God's deliverance of Israel out of the bondage of Egypt. He will speak now in the next portion of the psalm of God bringing the people through the wilderness to the Promised Land.

Psa 68:7 O God, when You went out before Your people, When You marched through the wilderness, Selah

Psa 68:8 The earth shook; The heavens also dropped rain at the presence of God; Sinai itself was moved at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

- The cloud came down and covered Mount Sinai as Moses went up into the cloud. The mountain was moved at the presence of God.

Psa 68:9 You, O God, sent a plentiful rain, Whereby You confirmed Your inheritance, When it was weary.

- The interesting thing as God was leading the children of Israel through the wilderness there was the cloud by day and the fiery pillar by night. The cloud by day is a glorious provision of God through that hot wilderness. The cloud provided a cover, as shelter, for the people as well as for the reminding consciousness for them of the presence of God with them. God refreshed the people when they were weary.

Psa 68:10 Your congregation dwelt in it; You, O God, provided from Your goodness for the poor.

Psa 68:11 The Lord gave the word; Great was the company of those who proclaimed it:

- God gave His word there on Mount Sinai and the word spread among the people. Actually, the word and the name of God were really prized by the people.
- The love of God filled their hearts. Later on God said to Israel, "Where is the love of your espousal when I brought you out into the wilderness and you were so in love with Me that you wrote on the walls the holiness unto the Lord." There is that beauty and excitement of love. God said, "I remember when it was that way. When you were so excited about my love," for God had delivered them from the bondage of Egypt and brought them into the wilderness. At first their experience in the wilderness with God was just a beautiful, marvelous thing as they wrote all over the place, holiness unto the Lord and praises unto the Lord. A good kind of a graffiti filled the camp of Israel.

Psa 68:12 "Kings of armies flee, they flee, And she who remains at home divides the spoil.

- God gave victory to the Israelites over their enemies and women who stayed at home divided the spoil. God gave to them the spoil of their enemies.

Psa 68:13 Though you lie down among the sheepfolds, You will be like the wings of a dove covered with silver, And her feathers with yellow gold."

Psa 68:14 When the Almighty scattered kings in it, It was white as snow in Zalmon.

- Salmon is a mountain near Shechem. Occasionally it gets snow but the snow melts very quickly of Mount Salmon. So, the Almighty scattered the kings in it, and it was as the snow in Salmon. That is, the kings sort of melted away.

Psa 68:15 A mountain of God is the mountain of Bashan; A mountain of many peaks is the mountain of Bashan. .

Psa 68:16 Why do you fume with envy, you mountains of many peaks? This is the mountain which God desires to dwell in; Yes, the LORD will dwell in it forever.

- It is talking about the fact that God has chosen Mount Zion for His dwelling place. It is in a sense saying you mountains of Bashan which are the higher mountains in the area of Naphtali that bordered Lebanon. They are much higher and more lofty than Mount Zion. Mount Zion is not really much of a mountain its sort of a little hill. Yet God has chosen Mount Zion, so it is sort of chiding. He did not choose the mountains of Bashan. "Why did you leap?" is said in frustration. Why didn't you choose us Lord as your dwelling place? He has chosen Zion!
- The Hebrew there is thousands times thousands or millions of angels. We read in Revelation of ten thousand times ten thousand, a hundred million angels. So, the chariots of God are twenty thousand.
- Now the psalmist, as so often in the case of David because he was a prophet, began to lapse into prophecy. These next scriptures are prophetic of Jesus Christ. Paul quotes them in Ephesians four as referring to Jesus Christ.

Psa 68:17 The chariots of God are twenty thousand, Even thousands of thousands; The Lord is among them as in Sinai, in the Holy Place.

Psa 68:18 You have ascended on high, You have led captivity captive; You have received gifts among men, Even from the rebellious, That the LORD God might dwell there.

- In Isaiah sixty-one the prophecy concerning Jesus Christ declares: "The spirit of the Lord God is upon Me because the Lord has anointed Me to preach the good tidings to the meek. He has sent Me to bind up the broken hearted to proclaim liberty to the captives and the opening of the prison to them that are bound."

- When Jesus began His public ministry He came into the synagogue of Nazareth, they handed Him the scroll of Isaiah. He opened this scroll, reading this passage of scripture to them. Then He sat down and said, “This day has the scripture been fulfilled in your eyes.” What was He to do? Preach the good tidings to the meek, bind up the broken hearted and to proclaim liberty to the captive. Notice, verse eighteen again, “You hast ascended on high! You have led captivity captive [the captives from captivity] and You have received gifts for men.”
- Before the death of Jesus Christ, it was impossible for the Old Testament saints to enter into that perfected state because it was impossible that the blood of goats could put away their sins. The sacrifices of the goats and the lambs were all anticipatory, looking forward to the sacrifice that God would provide in Jesus Christ. They served to cover the sins. They could not put away the sins. We are redeemed from our vain manner of living not with the blood of goats, silver or gold but with the precious blood of Jesus Christ who was slain as a lamb without spot or blemish. Thus, all of those who died up until the time of Christ went into the grave which in the Hebrew was Sheol and in the Greek it was Hades.
- In a sense, they were in a prison. They were being held captive by death. Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life. He that believeth in Me” those in the past, “though they were dead, yet shall they live. He who lives and believes in Me shall never die.” These are going to be delivered from their captivity so that when Jesus died his spirit went into Hades, to the place of Abraham’s bosom. There He proclaimed to them the finished work of the cross. When He rose from the dead He led the captives from their captivity. This psalm was fulfilled.
- “He who has ascended” that is Jesus who has ascended into heaven. Paul tells us in Ephesians four, is the same one who first of all descended into the lower parts of the earth. But when He ascended He led the captives from their captivity, and He gave gifts unto men. “To some apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastor, teachers for the perfecting of the saints for the work of the ministry.” One further scripture in Peter where he declares that Jesus, when He died, went and preached to those souls that were in prison, but He came to set them free from the prison, to loose the captives and He led them from their captivity.

Psa 68:19 Blessed be the Lord, Who daily loads us with benefits, The God of our salvation! Selah

- I love it. I have that one underlined. I think of how the Lord loads on His benefits daily. “Blessed be the Lord, who daily loads us with benefits” O my how God has just loaded His blessings on our lives. How we praise Him for all of these blessings and these benefits!

Psa 68:20 Our God is the God of salvation; And to GOD the Lord belong escapes from death.

Psa 68:21 But God will wound the head of His enemies, The hairy scalp of the one who still goes on in his trespasses.

- It is thought that this perhaps was a reference to Absalom and his beautiful curly hair, and he was going on in rebellion against his father and became an enemy of God going on in his trespasses.

Psa 68:22 The Lord said, "I will bring back from Bashan, I will bring them back from the depths of the sea,

Psa 68:23 That your foot may crush them in blood, And the tongues of your dogs may have their portion from your enemies."

- David perhaps when he had fled from Absalom the promise of “I will bring you back your foot will dip in the enemies, the dogs will lick the same.”

Psa 68:24 They have seen Your procession, O God, The procession of my God, my King, into the sanctuary.

- Now he is describing the worship of the people. It must be wonderful, and it must have been a wonderful thing to have national worship where the whole nation gathers to worship God. It must have been glorious. It is interesting even at the present time to go over in Jerusalem at the beginning of the Sabbath. They welcome the Sabbath day at the Western Wall. Hundreds of people gather there at the Western Wall on Friday evening as the sun is going down to welcome the Sabbath and to worship God.

Psa 68:25 The singers went before, the players on instruments followed after; Among them were the maidens playing timbrels.

- Think of what it would be when the whole nation would gather to worship. The singers were going in the front and then the players with their instruments following. After them where the young girls playing their tambourines. Do you get the picture now? Here they come to worship the Lord. In the front are those that are coming singing the praises to God, those that with the instruments following behind them and then the girls with their tambourines.

Psa 68:26 Bless God in the congregations, The Lord, from the fountain of Israel.

Psa 68:27 There is little Benjamin, their leader, The princes of Judah and their company, The princes of Zebulun and the princes of Naphtali.

- Benjamin was one of the smallest tribes of Israel, but they are the representatives from Benjamin.
- Zebulun and Naphtali were two of the northern most tribes. They were powerful tribes and were in the fertile part of the land and thus they were prosperous tribes. Judah and Benjamin represented the southernmost tribes as did Naphtali and Zebulun represent the northern most tribes.

Psa 68:28 Your God has commanded your strength; Strengthen, O God, what You have done for us.

Psa 68:29 Because of Your temple at Jerusalem, Kings will bring presents to You.

- This again is going into prophecy. We know that in the Kingdom Age when Jesus is reigning on Mount Zion “then shall the kings of the earth gather together annually bringing their presents and laying them before Him.” This is sort of what is going to be happening in Jerusalem when Jesus reigns over the earth and the kings of the earth will gather yearly in Jerusalem bringing to Him the presents. What a sight that will be gathering there at the table.

Psa 68:30 Rebuke the beasts of the reeds, The herd of bulls with the calves of the peoples, Till everyone submits himself with pieces of silver. Scatter the peoples who delight in war.

Psa 68:31 Envoys will come out of Egypt; Ethiopia will quickly stretch out her hands to God.

Psa 68:32 Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth; Oh, sing praises to the Lord, Selah

- He is talking about this glorious reign of God through Jesus Christ over the earth when the various nations would come and stretch out their hands to God.

Psa 68:33 To Him who rides on the heaven of heavens, which were of old! Indeed, He sends out His voice, a mighty voice.

Psa 68:34 Ascribe strength to God; His excellence is over Israel, And His strength is in the clouds.

Psa 68:35 O God, You are more awesome than Your holy places. The God of Israel is He who gives strength and power to His people. Blessed be God!

- David really was brought at this point to the peak. He begins with that glorious God who will triumph over all of His enemies. He goes back into their history, how that God was with the people, brought them out of the bondage, triumphed over their enemies, brought their enemies before them and even though they were driven out would bring them back. He ends with this glorious reign of God when the whole earth acknowledges Jesus really as the King and as Lord and the praises unto Him, “Blessed be God” strength and power.

10,000 REASONS – BLESS THE LORD! – Redman (5:42)

Bless the Lord oh my soul, Oh my soul, Worship His Holy name. Sing like never before, Oh my soul. I'll worship Your Holy name

The sun comes up. It's a new day dawning. It's time to sing Your song again.

Whatever may pass And whatever lies before me, Let me be singing When the evening comes

Refrain: Bless the Lord oh my soul Oh my soul, Worship His Holy name. Sing like never before, Oh my soul. I'll worship Your Holy name

You're rich in love And You're slow to anger. Your name is great, And Your heart is kind.

For all Your goodness I will keep on singing, Ten thousand reasons For my heart to find (Refrain)

And on that day, When my strength is failing, The end draws near, And my time has come.

Still my soul will Sing Your praise unending, Ten thousand years And then forevermore. Forevermore -

Refrain (2X) I'll worship Your Holy name Jesus I will worship Your Holy name, Sing like never before Oh my soul I'll worship your holy name

FOR OUR NATION'S LEADERS: PRAY FOR CALIFORNIA: PRAY FOR WORLD LEADERS: - Pray for World Leaders, especially their salvation, including: Xi Jinping – China; Narendra Modi- India; Joe Biden – USA; Joko Widodo - Indonesia; Jair Bolsonaro - Brazil; Arif Alvi - Pakistan; Shehbaz Sharif - Nigeria; Hasina Wazed - Bangladesh; Vladimir Putin- Russia; Lopez Obrador – Mexico; Yair Lapid – Israel; Olaf Scholtz – Germany; Liz Truss – U.K.; Kim Jong-un – North Korea; Yoon Suk Yeol– South Korea.

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

October 29th — Morning Reading

"After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, etc." — [Matthew 6:9](#)

This prayer begins where all true prayer must commence, with the spirit of [adoption](#), "Our Father." There is no acceptable prayer until we can say, "I will arise, and go unto my Father." This child-like spirit soon perceives the grandeur of the Father "in heaven," and ascends to [devout adoration](#), "Hallowed be Thy name." The child lisping, "Abba, Father," grows into the cherub crying, "Holy, Holy, Holy." There is but a step from rapturous worship to the [glowing missionary spirit](#), which is a sure outgrowth of filial love and reverent adoration—"Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Next follows the heartfelt [expression of dependence](#) upon God—"Give us this day our daily bread." Being further illuminated by the Spirit, he discovers that he is not only dependent, but sinful, hence he [entreats for mercy](#), "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors:" and being pardoned, having the righteousness of Christ imputed, and knowing his acceptance with God, he humbly [supplicates for holy perseverance](#), "Lead us not into temptation." The man who is really forgiven, is anxious not to offend again; the possession of justification leads to an anxious desire for sanctification. "Forgive us our debts," that is justification; "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil," that is sanctification in its negative and positive forms. As the result of all this, there follows a [triumphant ascription of praise](#), "Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever, Amen." We rejoice that [our](#) King reigns in providence and shall reign in grace, from the river even to the ends of the earth, and of His dominion there shall be no end. Thus from a sense of adoption, up to fellowship with our reigning Lord, this short model of prayer conducts the soul. Lord, teach us thus to pray.

October 29th — Evening Reading

"But their eyes were holden that they should not know Him." — [Luke 24:16](#)

The disciples ought to have known Jesus, they had heard His voice so often, and gazed upon that marred face so frequently, that it is wonderful they did not discover Him. Yet is it not so with you also? You have not seen Jesus lately. You have been to His table, and you have not met Him there. You are in a dark trouble this evening, and though He plainly says, "It is I, be not afraid," yet you cannot discern Him. Alas! our eyes are holden. We know His voice; we have looked into His face; we have leaned our head upon His bosom, and yet, though Christ is very near us, we are saying "O that I knew where I might find Him!" We should know Jesus, for we have the Scriptures to reflect His image, and yet how possible it is for us to open that precious book and have no glimpse of the Wellbeloved! Dear child of God, are you in that state? Jesus feedeth among the lilies of the word, and you walk among those lilies, and yet you behold Him not. He is accustomed to walk through the glades of Scripture, and to commune with His people, as the Father did with Adam in the cool of the day, and yet you are in the garden of Scripture, but cannot see Him, though He is always there. And why do we not see Him? It must be ascribed in our case, as in the disciples', to unbelief. They evidently did not expect to see Jesus, and therefore they did not know Him. To a great extent in spiritual things we get what we expect of the Lord. Faith alone can bring us to see Jesus. Make it your prayer, "Lord, open Thou mine eyes, that I may see my Saviour present with me." It is a blessed thing to want to see Him; but oh! it is better far to gaze upon Him. To those who seek Him He is kind; but to those who find Him, beyond expression is He dear!