

PSALM 144 – A Song to the LORD Who Preserves and Prospers His People!

1/14/22 – Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com www.ptwente.com

ALAS! AND DID MY SAVIOR BLEED? (AT THE CROSS) Isaac Watt 1707 Grace Comm. (3:51)

1 *Alas! and did my Savior bleed, and did my Sovereign die!*

*Would He devote that sacred head for **such a worm** such as I?*

*Refrain: At the cross, at the cross Where I first saw the light, And the burden of my heart
rolled away, It was there by faith I received my sight, And now I am happy all the day!*

2 *Was it for crimes that I have done, He groaned upon the tree?*

Amazing pity! Grace unknown! And love beyond degree! (refrain)

3 *Well might the sun in darkness hide, and shut His glories in,
when Christ, the Mighty Maker, died for man the creature's sin. (refrain)*

4 *But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe.*

Here, Lord, I give myself away; 'tis all that I can do. (refrain)

PSALM 144 - A Psalm of David. It is basically a song to the LORD who preserves and prospers His people!

Psa 144:1 Blessed (*barak* – Kneel down, praise, salute) **be the LORD my Rock** (*tsur* – Rock, strength), **Who trains my hands for war, And my fingers for battle—**

- **“Blessed be the LORD my Rock.”** He cannot wait to utter his gratitude! He bursts at once into a loud note of praise. His best word is given to his best friend - “Blessed be the LORD!” When our heart are in the right state, we must praise God! It cannot be restrained. It must leap forth as waters forcing their way from a living spring. With all his strength David blesses the God of his strength
- **“Who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle!”** The word “Rock” is the Hebrew way of expressing strength. The Psalmist indicates the Lord as teacher in the arts of war. Strength without skill is not much good. Untrained force is often an injury to the man who possesses it, and it even becomes a danger to those who are round about him. The Psalmist blesses the Lord as much for teaching as for strength

Psa 144:2 My lovingkindness (*chesed* – Mercy, kindness, favor) **and my fortress, My high tower and my deliverer, My shield and the One in whom I take refuge, Who subdues my people under me.**

- **How could David have come to know** these things about God? Only through the trials, afflictions, battles, situations of such desperation, that we come to know that only God can help us! Only God can deliver us!

Psa 144:3 LORD, what is man, that You take knowledge of him? Or the son of man, that You are mindful of him?

Psa 144:4 Man is like a breath; His days are like a passing shadow

- **Lord, why are You interested in me?** Why do You care about me the way You do? Why do You leave Your fingerprints all over my life? Why are You so faithful to me? Why do You make me feel, when I'm in deep, deep, trouble, as if I'm the only person in whole world that has Your attention, even though I know that everybody is feeling that same thing? It is a wonderful thing to be in awe of that. It just makes us love Him and worship Him all the more!
- **We see David is a believer in “worm” theology of man!** Such believers were: Jesus, Isaac Watt and William Carey:
- (**Psa 22:6**) *But I am a worm, and no man; A reproach of men, and despised by the people.*
- **“Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed”, or “At the Cross”** (Words by Isaac Watts, 1674 – 1748)
"Alas! and did my Savior bleed, And did my Sovereign die? Would He devote that sacred Head For such a worm as I?"
- **William Carey** Born, August 17, 1761 Died, June 9, 1834 *“A wretched, poor, and helpless worm, On Thy kind arms I fall.”*

Psa 144:5 Bow down Your heavens, O LORD, and come down; Touch the mountains, and they shall smoke. (Isa 64:1,2) Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you! [2] As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you!

- **David prays, Lord, bring me close to You.** Let me see Your power!

Psa 144:6 Flash forth lightning and scatter them; Shoot out Your arrows and destroy them.

- **He's singing about his enemies!** Scatter them! Shoot out Your arrows and destroy them! He sees the lightning as God's arrows. It's a beautiful picture of speech! God, You know, set Your arrows, Your lightning—the arrows, oh man, who can dodge it you know? God's arrows—I love that! Lord, you know, *scatter them! Flash forth Your lightning.* God has resources that no one else has! We need to remember that God is infinitely greater than the Devil!

Psa 144:7 Stretch out Your hand from above; Rescue me and deliver me out of great waters, From the hand of foreigners,

- **This was probably written at a time when David was fighting** against the Philistines, the Edomites, the Ammonites or those enemies that surrounded them. He is asking for God's help. Lord, You've taught me to war! You've taught my hands to fight! You are my strength! You are my defense! You are my high tower! Lord, I'm really nothing, but yet, You think about me! You have knowledge of me. Yet, I'm just like nothing. My days are like a shadow that passes, but Lord, bring me close to You! Send Your hand from above.

Psa 144:8 Whose mouth speaks lying words, And whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood.

- **These enemies even though they may raise** their right hand and swear, they would be lying through their teeth! Their right hand is the right hand of falsehood.

Psa 144:9 I will sing a new song to You, O God; On a harp of ten strings I will sing praises to You,

- **David played skillfully** upon the harp of ten strings. *I will* use it to accompany the psalms. The minstrels would sing, accompanying themselves on these harps, the ten stringed harps. *I will sing praises to You.*

Psa 144:10 The One who gives salvation to kings, Who delivers David His servant From the deadly sword.

- **The LORD is the One who gives salvation** and also is a deliverer! With Your deliverance, I'm going to sing a new song to You on a harp of ten strings, something that is worthy of the beauty of giving You thanksgiving!

Psa 144:11 Rescue me and deliver me from the hand of foreigners, Whose mouth speaks lying words, And whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood—

- **David cries out to protect me from the corruption** of the people and the nations of this world. That this corruption doesn't intrude into our nation, the nation of Israel!

Psa 144:12 That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; That our daughters may be as pillars, Sculptured in palace style;

- **He calls upon the LORD, not only to protect himself,** but the nation from the corruption all around. The very first thing that comes into his mind, in his prayer, when he thinks about the blessings of God's people, is that he thinks about the next generation! LORD, do this for the sake of the next generation! That is just clear thinking on a man of God! Every nation ought to know that the greatest resource that it possesses is its next generation! The next generation is always the future of any nation.

Psa 144:13 That our barns may be full, Supplying all kinds of produce; That our sheep may bring forth thousands And ten thousands in our fields;

Psa 144:14 That our oxen may be well laden; That there be no breaking in or going out; That there be no outcry in our streets.

- **Notice the reason for this request for deliverance** from corruption is that of having a prosperous and safe society, free from lawbreaking. No nation, whose culture is filled with corruption is prosperous and free from crime and criminal activity, which grows and grows until the people have to throw it off with a bloody revolution and start all over again. David knew that prosperity is tied to righteousness and to a lack of corruption.

Psa 144:15 Happy are the people who are in such a state; Happy are the people whose God is the LORD!

- **A state or cause where your children can grow up in peace.** Your children can go grow up in safety. You don't worry when they are playing out in the neighborhood, that our sons may be able to grow up as plants, that our daughters will be like cornerstones, polished. Beautiful, in the manner of a palace. That there be sufficiency for everybody. That the garners are full, that there are plenty of supplies, so that no one is stealing or has to steal from anybody. No complaining in our streets!
- **Yes, Happy are the people whose God is the LORD!** The people who make Jehovah their God, are people that will be blessed of God. They have God's promises of blessings. No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly. Our God shall supply all of your needs according to His riches in glory, by Christ Jesus our Lord. Happy are the people, whose God is Jehovah!

SUMMARY

- Bless, Lord, Your people, that they might be happy because Jehovah is their God!
- That leaves, really, one conclusion, make Jehovah your God!

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*

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; 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; Kim Boo-kyum – South Korea.

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