

A Survey of the Psalms - 1

Psalm 5

The Serious Saint

Focus Verse: Psalm 150:6

Lesson Verse: Ps 5:3

I. Introduction to the Book of Psalms

- A. The Book of Psalms is God's answer to the headaches and heartaches of life. Without it, the Bible would not be complete - as a matter of fact, next to the Gospels, Psalms is probably the most read part of the Bible because of the reality and the promises found there!
- B. Psalms is not a *fairy-land* Book though - always talking about airy-fairy feelings, but instead, down-to-earth experiences, and the way through them. David is the greatest window in the mind of Christ, and how to rely on it!
- C. This is commonly referred to as a "Morning Prayer" – or at least a reminder to pray every morning!
- D. There are four things should we be serious about as Christians. That is, if we want to win in the Christian life instead of constantly be defeated! Let's see if you can notice all four

II. Message - The Serious Saint**A. Serious In Prayer (1-3)**

1. Possessive Prayer
 - a) Notice all the "my's"
 - b) My words, my meditation, my voice, my King, my God
 - c) Prayer is YOUR effort to get a hold of YOUR God – Yes, He is the THE God, but you had better make Him YOURS (Ruth 1:16; Cg 1Thes 1:9) – just like Jesus is the Lamb of God, but you had better make Him YOUR Lamb!
2. Begging Prayer
 - a) Prayer is not a ritual, or a formality
 - b) It is asking, seeking, knocking, until answered! Until God says, Okay, or No!
 - c) David begs God:
 - 1) To HEAR him
 - 2) To CONSIDER what he has been thinking about
 - 3) To LISTEN to his voice, as he cries unto God (Ps 18:6)
 - d) Jesus teaches this kind of prayer with the widow woman of Luke 18
3. Honouring Prayer
 - a) Refers to the God of heaven as "My KING", "My GOD"
 - b) To David, God is the boss, He is the Lord – the One we look to for everything (Ps 65:2). God is not a Genie, or a Man, or just a higher Being (like an alien). He is Lord!
 - c) His prayer is directed only at God (Ps 73:25) "unto THEE will I pray" – very important truth
 - 1) Necromancy is forbidden (Dt 18:10-12)
 - (a) Never to angels
 - (b) Or to Mary
 - (c) Or to Abraham, Isaac, etc
 - 2) Our prayer is in this fashion (John 16:23; Rom 8:26)
 - (a) To God the Father
 - (b) With the authority of Jesus Christ – you have Jesus' permission and authority in prayer
 - (c) By the power of the Holy Spirit – He carries your petitions before the throne!
4. Believing Prayer
 - a) God was first in the morning. Prayer time was the first-fruit of David's strength (Ps 55:17)
 - b) God was first in David's list of things to do when troubled
 - c) Knows that when he is finished praying, he will look up, not down – not despondent (see 1Tim 2:8)

B. Serious In Understanding (4-6, 9,10)

1. When you and I pray, we need to KNOW and understand how God thinks – hence this section. Especially how God thinks about your enemies, and the world (1John 2:15)
2. God has no joy in wickedness - AT ALL!
 - a) No pleasure in sin or sinner
 - b) There is no sin in God "*neither shall evil dwell with thee*"
 - c) He never laughs at what we might unguardingly laugh at

- d) The Christian ought not feel they have to laugh at the filthy jokes and innuendoes of the world.
 - e) You and I might get a rush from sin, but God doesn't!!!
3. God has no time for fools - mockers, and sinners (5:5)
 - a) Fools make a mock at sin – don't believe in God (Pr 14:9)
 - b) God hates some things – He has perfect hatred
 - c) God hates not just the sin, but also the sinner - sin is a part of THEM. That's why their body must die!
 - d) Pr 6:16-19
 - e) David has the same heart as God (Ps 139:22)
 4. God destroys all liars
 - a) God will find-out all lies (Rev 21:8) – expose all "leasing"
 - b) This used to be preached and known and believed, and feared!
 - c) Lying today is way too easy!
 - d) God has a problem with four things in man (5:9)
 - 1) Our Mouth
 - 2) Our Inward Part - heart - hidden man
 - 3) Our Throat (Rom 3:13)
 - 4) Our Tongue - full of lies and deceit (Titus 1:12)
 - e) God especially hates religious lying (Luke 11:39,40)
 5. Liars, Fools, Wicked men are all grouped together along with MURDERERS (5:6, "bloody men")
 6. God will destroy them (Ps 5:10; Mt 21:44) - their own devices will come back on them (Pr 11:5; 26:27; 1:31)
 - a) What is one thing you can count on if someone is against God, and planning how to hurt Christians? The plans they have will be what happens to them in the end!
 - b) As did Haman's - hang the Jews
 - c) As did Pharaoh's – ended up drowning those soldiers
 - d) As did king Adonibezek - cut off toes and thumbs (Judges 1:5-7)

C. Serious In Worship (7,8)

1. David has made a choice to take a different path than his "friends"
 - a) He will worship God
 - b) He will be in church, while they are still in bed
 - c) He will be home, when his friends are out getting into trouble
2. His worship is directed towards God's "holy Temple" (Solomon's Temple did not exist at the time). Directed at God's Temple in heaven! No need for a Jewish, or a Muslim, or a Christian Mecca to always pray towards - just towards heaven!
3. We can only worship because of God's great mercy (Lam 3:22; Ps 130:3) – that He even allows us to worship Him
4. David worships in fear and trembling - not just reverence
 - a) Not frivolous
 - b) Not flippant
 - c) Not with only our mouths (Mt 5:18) and our bodies (Rock Concerts)
 - d) Fearful of worshipping wrong (2Sam 6:1-9)
5. Worships in surrender - lead me O LORD!
 - a) Most people never get to the place of full, trusting surrender!
 - b) He needs God to lead him because of all the enemies are like land mines – one wrong move and he is goosed!

D. Serious In Confidence (11,12)

1. If you have "confidence," you will have joy
2. If you have joy, you will end up SHOUTING about it, not just "expressing it!"
3. There is nothing wrong with a SHOUT!!!
 - a) People will shout for the things of the world (Ex 32)
 - b) Why not for GOD?!!! (Ps 32:11; 47:1; Ezra 3:11-13)
4. Start enjoying your resurrected life!
 - a) We all can rejoice!
 - b) Quit leaving your joy to the making of money and popularity...
 - c) Not because of our own self-worth, but because of full confidence in the Lord - that is why God has taken so much time to tell us about how faithful HE is
5. We shout because we love His name!

- a) JW's want to get excited about Jehovah – God's name for sure, but why stop at that?
- b) How about "I Am"
- c) And "God Almighty"
- d) And "Abba"
- e) And then there is "Jesus!"

6. Because we know the Lord will bless those who live right! And He will shield them! We need this confidence!

III. Conclusion and Study Questions

- A. **What four things should we be serious about as Christians?** Our prayer life, Our worship, Our Confidence, and Our Understanding
- B. **When is the first time a Christian should pray during the day?** In the morning!
- C. **We should worship Almighty God with what important attitude (besides love)?** Fear!
- D. **If a person has confidence in the Lord, what will they end up doing?** Shouting for joy! Not just "expressing it!"
- E. **What is one thing you can count on if someone is against God, and planning how to hurt Christians?** The plans they have will be what happens to them in the end!