

ThanksLiving Part 2

There comes a time.....(a personal testimony)

Gratefulness: a feeling or attitude of gratitude and appreciation that wells up inside when you begin to think about, ponder and recognize the many, many ways you have been blessed by the Lord

Thanksgiving: the outward expression of your inner gratefulness.

Step #1: PRAY

“Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law” Psalm 119:18

Step #2 Review the Basics of Psalms & Psalm 118

Psalms (see PowerPoint)

Psalm 118: Give Thanks for God’s Victory

Theme: a celebration of God’s protection and deliverance---Author: unknown---

Section: The Egyptian Hallel Collection (113-118)---Emphasis: Thanking the Lord---

Genre: Thanksgiving Psalm

Unique features

- Psalms 113-114 sung before the Passover meal—Psalms 115-118 sung after the Passover meal (could be the last song sung by Jesus & disciples before entering the Garden of Gethsemane---Matthew 26:30)
- Messianic Significance: v.26 quoted in all 4 gospels; vs.22-23 quoted by Jesus and Peter
- Martin Luther’s favorite Psalm

OUTLINE

1. A Call to Thank the Lord (1-4)
2. A personal & public testimony of Thanksgiving for God’s protection, deliverance & victory by a king (5-18)
3. Request & permission given to enter the temple (19-21)
4. Response by the people as they enter the temple (22-25)
5. The priest pronounced a blessing (26-27)
6. The king thanked the Lord (28-29)

Step #3: Read the Text & Context: Open your bibles to Psalm 118

Steps #4 & #5: Observations & Research

vs.15-16— God's Victory in Battle

The soldiers are shouting out with joy!

RIGHT HAND: personifying God-directed towards God's strength, might and power

Paraphrase: "Our victory came from the Lord's powerful help!"

vs. 17-18 The king's personal testimony

"The LORD saved me from death in battle but I realized the attack of the enemy was allowed by God as chastisement" (taught me a hard lesson)

"Chastisement is sent by God to keep saints humble, to make them tender towards others and to enable them to bear the high honors which their Heavenly Friend puts upon them." Charles Spurgeon (see Hebrews 12:7-11)

vs. 19-21

v.19: The king requests admission into the sanctuary

Gates of Righteousness: name of the gates

v.20: a priest (Levite) stated the condition to enter the sanctuary

The Gate of the Lord: the Gate that leads to the Lord

v. 21: The king addressed the LORD directly—giving thanks as he acknowledged that GOD gave the victory!

v. 22-23 v.22 a proverb or known saying

New Testament: (Matthew. 21:42, Mark 12:10-11, Luke 20:17, Acts 4:11, 1 Peter 2:7)

STONE: God's People (OT)---Jesus Christ (NT)

BUILDERS: Nations of the world (OT)---JRL (NT)

CORNERSTONE: God's people are of GREAT importance (OT),---Jesus Christ is Messiah, Savior & Lord (NT)

"We have witnessed God's great victory!"(v.23)

vs. 24-25 response of the people as they enter

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

(this is the day we celebrate God's victory)

OT: God's victory in battle over enemies

NT: God's victory over sin & death through Jesus Christ

"Keep it up Lord! Continue to fight for us and give us victory over our enemies" (v.25)

v. 26 The priest pronounced a blessing on the king

Repeated in all 4 Gospels

v. 27 The priest thanked God and gave instructions

LIGHT: symbolic of God's victory

Instructions: "Begin this festival of thanksgiving by bringing the branches as far as the horns of the altar."

BRANCHES (boughs): myrtle, willow and palm branches

v. 28 The king directed thanks once again to the Lord

v. 29 the king called God's people to thank the Lord

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

New Covenant SIGNIFICANCE--Bridge to JESUS

Just as God's people gave thanks together for God's victory, Christians today are to give thanks together for God's Victory (see 1 Cor. 15:56-57)

ACTION STEP: My challenge for you is to put together a list of the Top 10 Things You are Most Thankful for and use the list daily to thank the Lord throughout November—Let's Use this list today

It's Time to Thank The LORD