

Psalm 92:1-5 Part I

Introduction: This is another Psalm in which we are not given the author. We are given a title: “A Psalm, A Song of the Sabbath”. We are given this principle of a day of rest and worship that runs as a thread throughout the Bible. This Truth is given in the account of Creation as GOD Himself gives us the example. [Genesis 2:3 **Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.** GOD’s Holy Word makes plain that one day in seven has been set apart by the LORD GOD. There are numerous warnings given to the Israelites regarding this day. It is one of the major indictments that led to GOD’s Judgement against Israel - for profaning the Sabbath.

Mark 2:27-28 **Jesus said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. "So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath."** The Sabbath was given for the good of man.

There is a transition from the Old Covenant to the New Covenant from the Sabbath to the Lord’s Day after the Resurrection of Jesus which is referred to as the first day of the week. John 20:1 **Now on the first [day] of the week Mary Magdalene came early to the tomb, while it was still dark, and saw the stone [already] taken away from the tomb.** There are many references to the first day of the week being the appointed time for Christians to meet. John specifically mentions the Lord’s Day as he is given messages to the seven churches. Revelation 1:10 **I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day,....**

Hebrews 4:9 **So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God.** The Sabbath of the OT and the Lord’s Day in the NT foreshadows and points to the believer’s eternal rest. We are to keep one day in seven as holy or “set apart” to celebrate GOD’s work in Creation, His ordering of His Creation or His Providence, and His Redemption. Because GOD has blessed and set apart a day from the other days, we are to set apart a day for rest (explain rest is not doing nothing) and worship in which we celebrate the Person and Work of Christ as our Prophet, Priest, and King. It is a picture of an eternal rest provided which is to be entered by all who rest from their own works and trust in Christ alone.

Read Psalm 92:1-5

VS 1 - It is **good** for GOD’s people to:

- Give thanks (to Him)
- Sing praises (to His Name)
 - It is good meaning there is nothing better.
 - There is nothing more noble or higher than to be given the liberty to worship Him
 - Good is used in our language to signify that which is okay but not exceptional
 - Good does **not** here mean simply satisfactory
 - Conversely, if there is nothing better than to worship GOD, then there is nothing worse than to not worship Him
 - Giving thanks and praising Him as defined by His Word:

Hebrews 13:15 **Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.**

- The Priesthood of Jesus

- Our souls are instructed in what is the only way of worshipping GOD. The Bible teaches and reminds us, particularly in this Hebrews Passage, the only Way GOD may be really invoked and His Name glorified is through Christ, our Great High Priest, Intercessor, and Mediator.
- Sacrifice of praise - Under the Old Covenant worship, priests chosen from the tribe of Levi were set apart for the purpose of leading the people in worship and to sacrifice. Animals were sacrificed to hold off temporarily the wrath of GOD against sin – this is why the sacrifices were offered regularly.
- Principle:

Hebrews 9:22**without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.**

- There is no forgiveness without the shedding of blood

Hebrews 12:4 **You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin;**

- Because of His Work, (not ours) His Sacrifice, His Righteousness imputed, we are set at liberty to offer praise to Him – by His Sacrifice.

Hebrews 9:14 **how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?**

- It is He, Jesus, alone who sanctifies our lips (just as the Prophet Isaiah's as he confessed GOD's Glory), which are otherwise unclean.

Isaiah 6:4-7 **And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke. Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts." Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal in his hand, which he had taken from the altar with tongs. He touched my mouth [with it] and said, "Behold, this has touched your lips; and your iniquity is taken away and your sin is forgiven."**

- Those to whom GOD graciously shows His Glory and Holiness are humbled and exalted by His Grace - being given eyes to see to the two Great Columns of the Gospel

- The Doctrine of GOD
- The doctrine of man

- It is Jesus, alone that opens a way for our prayers. He is our Priest presenting Himself before the Father in our name
- Because He is our Priest and Sacrifice – The priesthood of the believer:

1 Peter 2:5, 9 **you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ...**

But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR [God's] OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

VS 2 – It is good for GOD's people to Declare (His Lovingkindness) & (His Faithfulness)

- Lovingkindness declared in the morning
- Faithfulness declared by night
 - This is the occupation of the believer's time
 - This describes the beginning, end, and time between the start and end of each day
 - Remembering the context of this Psalm which the title bears – A Psalm. A Song for the Sabbath day – Devout praise is always good and never out of season, but is especially suitable to the Sabbath or Lord's Day

VS 3 -With resounding music

- It is a blessing to have music accompany our voices in praise
- Hand and tongue working in unison in the heavenly occupation of praise
 - Music is to be an aid in our praise; not the highlight
 - Remember the warning of GOD judging **His people** in Psalm 50
 - Psalm 50 is a summons of His people for judgement
 - Thanksgiving that is due Him, that is evoked by GOD, His Majesty, His Holiness, etc. was left off
 - They were performing *acts* of worship less thanksgiving

Mark 7:6 And He said to them, "Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: 'THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR AWAY FROM ME.

- Fine music less devotion is but a dazzling, ornate garment upon a corpse
- A Sabbath without thanksgiving is a Sabbath profaned
- The charge:

Psalm 50:21 "These things you have done and I kept silence; You thought that I was just like you; I will reprove you and state [the case] in order before your eyes.

- They were careless in the neglect of loving, adoring, and fearing Him
- Worship is not casual and not left to us to decide
- The Truth:

Psalm 50:23 "He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me; And to him who orders [his] way [aright] I shall show the salvation of God."

- In spirit and truth – by the heart granted the grace and faith filled with fear and adoration

VS 4 - Why do we as His people give thanks, sing praises, and declare?

- Because we are a glad people.
- Why are we glad?
 - **Because He made us glad – (not the music!)**
 - Glad is not stoic and stiff and without emotion
 - Glad is shown by love, adoration, fear, and joyful obedience
- How are we glad?
 - By what He has done
 - By the works of His Hands
- The result of the believer's gladness
 - Sing for joy (at the Works of His Hands)
 - His Works being Creation, Sustaining, and Redeeming

VS 5 – The culmination of praise and adoration

- The psalmist is lost in wonder
- Some of the questions GOD posed to Job that caused this fear, adoration, awe, and love that ended in his repentance

Job 38: 3 **"Now gird up your loins like a man, And I will ask you, and you instruct Me! 4 "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell [Me,] if you have understanding, ... 12 "Have you ever in your life commanded the morning, [And] caused the dawn to know its place, ... 31 "Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades, Or loose the cords of Orion?**

Job 39:19 **"Do you give the horse [his] might? Do you clothe his neck with a mane?**

Job 40:10 **"Adorn yourself with eminence and dignity, And clothe yourself with honor and majesty.**

And the Bible is full from front to back with the unfathomable riches of Christ.

As we will sing in a moment:

Sweet is the work, my God, my King,
 To praise thy name, give thanks and sing,
 To show thy love by morning light,
 And talk of all thy truth at night.

Amen