

Psalms – Man in a State of Blessedness, Fall and Recovery
Lesson 3 – Psalm 1-41 (Book 1)
May 11 & May 18, 2014

A. Favorite Psalm Of The Week

Keith Hackett; Psalm 22

B. *Man in a State of Blessedness, Fall and Recovery (Man is Focus) – Lesson 3*

Genesis Section - *Man seen in a state of blessedness, fall and recovery (Man in Focus)*

A. Blessed Man, Psalm 1

- Blessed man is contrasted to the ungodly
- Practice of the blessed man outlined
 - Picture of regression and deterioration is exactly what the man of God does not do
 - Finds joy and happiness in God's word
 - God's word shapes our lives
 - No plan of growth without the Word of God
- Power of the blessed man
 - Will have abundance
 - God's word provides drink and sustenance
 - Fruit brought forth only in "season" at God's time
 - Our "leaf" is our outward testimony
- Permanency of the blessed man
 - Right path verses wrong path is clear
 - Righteous living is required

B. Man's Rebellion Against God, Prophetic Rejection of God's Anointed, Messianic Psalm 2

- Man runs from God, no longer seeks Him or has any capacity for Him
 - All leaders, both political and religious were against God and His anointed; meaning messiah
 - People were polytheistic and not Atheists at this point
 - Not one of the ten commandments was against Atheism; Psalm 14:1 is the first time that an Atheist is mentioned, "The fool says in his heart, there is no God", By David's time, there were a great number of atheists
- God put "bands and cords" on man to protect and guide him through life
 - For worship, keep out of trouble, fulfillment, happiness, God's directive for a full life
 - Marriage is one "band"
 - Ten Commandments are cords
- Laughter is not from humor, but from man's ridiculous pride
 - God is moving forward to the accomplishment of His purpose, both heavenly and earthly purpose
 - Lord Jesus Christ executes all decrees of God
 - References Christ resurrection, not His birth
 - Christ's second coming, when He comes to judge the earth

C. Perfect Man Rejected, Psalm 3

- Historical record is in 2 Samuel 15-18

- Personal experience of David when he fled Jerusalem from his son Absalom; punishment for David's past sins
- God did not forsake him
- Salvation is a gift of God to His people

D. Conflict between Seed of Woman and Serpent, Psalm 4

- Great cry from the refuge of the people of God in the time of trouble
- Refuge for God's people is always prayer with Him as their shield
- Distress indicates the pressures of life are great
- Tremble and do not sin
- God is good to us in time of need and trouble
- God brings peace, safety and true rest
- Psalm 4 was on "neginoth", a stringed instrument

E. Perfect Man in Midst of Enemies, Psalm 5

- Cry of the godly in time of great trouble
- Psalm 4-7 are a picture of David's personal experiences
- Reveals prophetically of the nation of Israel during the great tribulation
- Great principles for God's people of all ages
- Psalm 5 was on "nehiloth", a wind instrument usually thought to be a flute
- Prayer of faith and discernment
 - Sent up from the heart
 - God is re-warder of them that seek
 - Deep sense of prevailing evil and ungodliness
 - Evil is constant and present itself continually to Christians
 - Patience is wrought in tribulation
 - Joy abounds in the hope of deliverance
- Vs 10 is the first time recorded in Psalm for the destruction of the enemy
 - Others for Justice
 - Intervention
 - Judgment
 - Vengeance
- While this may seem harsh, scriptures make it very clear, one day God will take vengeance
 - But we as Christians should not be praying this type of prayer, Matthew 5:44

F. Perfect Man in Midst of Chastisement, Psalm 6

- Man sees the wickedness all around and the sin in his own heart
 - He is not right with God with sin in his life
- A cry for repentance, plea for mercy in the depths of despair
- Then we have confession
- Prophetic picture of:
 - David
 - Lord Jesus Christ
 - Israel in her last days
- Our confidence comes from God hearing and answering our prayers in deep trouble

G. Perfect Man in Midst of False Witness, Psalm 7

- A cry for revenge
- David cry's aloud in song

- Satan, the lion, will tear you apart without protection from God
- Avenge and vindicate him
- God is eternal and always the same, no new morality of changing laws

H. Repair of Man Comes through Jesus, Ultimate Victory as Man, Messianic Psalm 8

- Messianic Psalm emphasizing the humanity of Christ and ultimate victory as man
- David wrote this psalm
- Quoted three times in New Testament
- Psalm 8 was on “gittith”, a type of lyre
- Creator of all, His work speaks of His glory and power
- God is above all creation

I. Enemy and Antichrist Conflict, Final Deliverance, Psalm 9-15

- Next 7 Psalms show a descent from the “pinnacle” in Psalm 8
 - Psalms 9, 10 Satan and man
 - Psalm 11 Testing of the Righteous
 - Psalm 12 Godly in the midst of the godlessness of the great tribulation
 - Psalm 13 David’s desperate plight
 - Psalm 14 Depravity of Man in the last days, atheistic, filthy, rebellious
 - Psalm 15 Those who will be in the presence of God

J. Christ in Midst of His People Sanctifying Them to God, Psalm 16-41

- Notable Psalms
 - Psalm 19 “Creation Psalm”; revelation of God through Nature
 - Psalm 22 “Crucifixion of Christ”
 - Psalm 27 “Prayer”
 - Psalm 30 “Healing”
 - Psalm 38 “Promise of future blessing”
 - Psalm 41 “Prophecy of Judas betrayal”

C. Personal Testimony Section

Dealing with Serious Illness and Healing

Barbara Lile

Psalm 104

1 Praise the Lord, my soul. Lord my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendor and majesty. 2 The Lord wraps himself in light as with a garment; he stretches out the heavens like a tent 3 and lays the beams of his upper chambers on their waters. He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind. 4 He makes winds his messengers, flames of fire his servants.

D. Group Reading of Psalm

Psalm 51:1-4, 10-12

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. 4 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge....10 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

E. Questions for Small Group Discussion

1. How does Psalm 1 say about man and finding true joy and happiness?
 - a. How does a Christian obtain spiritual “sustenance”?
 - b. How do you find “abundance”?
 - c. What does it say about our outward testimony?
2. What does the 10 Commandments say about Atheism?
3. In Psalm 2, why did God give us “sideboards” to guide our spiritual and normal lives?
 - a. Do they earn anything for us by performing?
 - b. With marriage listed as a “chord”, what does that directly say about current life?
4. In Psalm 2, what does it say about God’s plan and accomplishing His purpose?
 - a. What is our part? What if we refuse due to pride?
5. In Psalm 3, why should we have faith and hope that God will not forsake us in our time of need?
 - a. What was God’s dealing and treatment of David?
6. In Psalm 4, when the pressure of life are too strong for us, what does it say we should do?
 - a. How can we achieve the only true peace, safety and rest?
7. In Psalms 5, what does this reveal and set as principle for us today about our faith and discernment?
 - a. What should we expect as Christians from evil and ungodliness?
 - b. Does Vs 10 apply to us today? Explain why or why not?
8. In Psalm 7, discuss David’s cry for revenge and what Satan, the lion will do to your life?
 - a. What can we do to “protect” ourselves?
9. In Psalm 14, what are we to expect on earth from man? As Christians, what does this mean to us personally?
10. In Psalm 22, read and relate to the Crucifixion of Christ.