

Church Life: Our Nation and Our God

Psalm 33:1-19

Introduction:

By way of introduction, let's consider this call to praise the Lord.

In verse 1, **the saints of God are commanded to “rejoice”**. This word means “to be overcome; to cry out, to give a ringing cry, to shout for joy.” This is a command for loud, vocal praise to be lifted up to the Lord.

- **Verse 2 calls on us to use our musical skills to praise Him.** When instruments are played for His glory, it honors Him because music is another form of praise to the Lord.
- **Verse 3 calls on us to “sing unto Him a new song”.** The idea of a “new song” means that we are to be thoughtful and we are exercise our minds to find new ways to praise Him.
- **Verse 3 also calls on us to praise Him in such a way that they are heard by others.** That does not mean that we are to praise Him so that others will see us, but we are to praise Him so that others will be aware of Who He is and what He has done for His people.

I. WE SHOULD REJOICE IN HIS _____ (33:4-9)

A. His Word Is _____ (4a)

The word “right” has the idea of “upright, straight, correct”.

B. His Word Is _____ (4b-5)

In His Word we learn about the Lord Himself. His Word is His revelation of Himself to the world. We learn that He does everything He does in “truth”, v. 4. That word carries the idea of “steadfastness”. We learn in verse 5 that He “loveth righteousness” and judgment”.

C. His Word Is _____ (6-9)

- “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart,” Heb. 4:12.
- “For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven,” Psa 119:89.
- “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works,” 2 Tim. 3:16-17.

We should praise Him for His Word because it is infused with divine power! It will stand though the entire world stands against it, Isa. 55:11.

II. WE SHOULD REJOICE IN HIS _____ (33:10-12)

A. His Will Is _____ (10)

Men can make their plans and devise their schemes, but in the end, God’s will is going to be accomplished. We need not fear, because our God is in control of all things. He will have the final word, because His will is dominant. As the Psalmist said, “But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased,” Psa. 115:3.

B. His Will Is _____(11)

- “Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it,” Isa. 46:9-11.
- “Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places,” Psa. 135:6.
- “And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?” Dan. 4:35.

C. His Will Is _____ (12)

The Psalmist mentions the nations that honor God. He says they will be blessed. This is clearly seen in the histories of America and Great Britain. Both of our nations were ruled by a series of men who, while not perfect, at least acknowledged God and declared their dependence upon Him. Now that both nations have declared their independence from God, we can see the results all around us. We have abandoned God and He has abandoned us to our choice.

There is a lesson in this for the individual as well. Those who respond to God's will by submitting to Him will be blessed.

For man to make his plans without consulting the will of God is to reject Him as Creator. Isa. 29:15-16 says, "Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the LORD, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? and who knoweth us? Surely your turning of things upside down shall be esteemed as the potter's clay: for shall the work say of him that made it, He made me not? or shall the thing framed say of him that framed it, He had no understanding?"

Listen also to what Paul had to say about this in Rom. 9:19-21, "Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will? Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus? Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honor, and another unto dishonor?"

III. WE SHOULD REJOICE IN HIS _____ (33:13-19)

A. His Watching Is _____ (13-15)

Our God is in Heaven, but His eyes are on the affairs of man. From where He sits, He sees everything that takes place. He sees it all. There is no deed, no thought, no sin, or good work that can occur without His intimate knowledge.

- He knows every deed, "The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good," Pro. 15:3.
- He knows every thought, "Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off," Psa. 139:2.
- He knows every motive behind every action, "I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings," Jer. 17:10.

· He hears every idle word, “But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment,” Matt. 12:36

B. His Watching Is _____ (16-17)

God watches the heathen as they make their plans and set their armies in array. He sees their vain efforts to alter His plans and seek to obtain their own salvation through dominating their enemies. He sees them as they live for this world and give no thought to the world to come. These two verses are just a reminder that God knows what the wicked are up to. Sometimes I think we think He forgets, but He never does! He sees it all and one day He will judge them according to their works.

C. His Watching Is _____ (18-19)

While a lost world lives in fear, the people of God can rest in the arms of divine sovereignty knowing that their God will take care of them. His eye is on your life and He knows more about your needs than you do! He will not fail you. He will not desert you. He loves you and He will take care of you until you join Him in glory, Psa. 37:25, 28; Heb. 13:5. He is worthy to be praised for the fact that He watches over all things, especially the needs of His people!

Conclusion:

The Psalmist closes this Psalm by expressing his resolve to continue trusting in the Lord. We can rest in His Word. We can rest in His Will. We can rest in His Watching. As our trust in Him deepens, our ability to rest in Him grows. And, when we are resting in Him, we can rejoice in spite of everything that is going on around us.

We serve a God Who is worthy to be praised! He deserves the uninhibited praises of His people. He deserves our best songs, our loudest shouts, and our devoted service. He is worthy to be praised and we are way behind in the business of praising Him. We allow other things to cloud our thinking and hide His face. The Psalmist wants us to take a fresh look at Him today so that we might be filled with praise for Him.