

Concept: Hear God!

Psalms are “inspired songs and poems that depict the heart of the Lord & His saints in each season of life.”

Last Sunday – Psalm 110 – The Coronation of Jesus – King, Priest, & Ultimate Healer

Intro: This is a poetic account of watching a storm from a mountainside or advantageous spot in a valley in person -

Written by David, this probably came during 2 Sam 10 from one or both of his military campaigns as a King into Syria.

On his way to or from victory or maybe even in the middle of the battle, he must have witnessed one awesome storm.

And yes, that area does have tornadoes...

When storms of life hit in the midst of battles...

Message: Will you trust Jesus to get you through so you will glorify Him?

What does it say?

READ IT

We will look at key terms, explain some imagery, then reread the Psalm to receive the impact meant for its readers.

Then we will answer what it means and how we shall respond.

PRAY

✠ Words

- A. LORD – is YHWH The I AM that I AM, the Self-sustaining Living One from whom flows all life, love, justice, goodness, & peace
- B. Ascribe – yabu
 1. Imperative meaning give, but as for God we cannot add to Him with our gifts, we cannot add or alter to His character or nature
 2. We recognize what is true about Him and identify it, describe it, and point others to it.
 3. P. R. Gilchrist said, “This is a command to acknowledge Yahweh as the great king & offer such ascription of glory & greatness that corresponds with his majesty”¹
- C. Heavenly Beings – ben-elohim
 1. Term is ben-elohim - sons of god(s) (ben can mean a member of a group (sons of prophets)
 2. Deut 32:15-18 notes how the ‘gods’ of the Gentiles are demons as does 1 Cor 10:20 “No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons.” The NT “Every knee shall bow” “Even the demons believe & shudder”
 3. Like many other Psalms, this speaks for YHWH and puts the false gods, demonic spirits in their place.
- D. Glory – kabod
 1. Ex 20:12, It means to give someone or something weight... Their opinion carries more weight... importance
 2. Which has more weight, the Sun or a flashlight?
 - a. The Sun has more weight in mass & brightness & warmth,
 - b. Therefore, the Sun has more “glory”.
 3. YHWH has more infinitely more weight in love, wisdom, power, strength, etc and therefore carries more glory.
- E. Strength – oz
 1. Strength resides and flows from God.
 2. No one has strength of any kind unless it comes in measured amounts from YHWH.
 3. He alone is all-powerful; we alone depend upon Him for our breath, for our energy, for work.
- F. 3 words that appear together 3 times in the OT, twice in Psalms.
 1. Worship – havaw –
 - a. Simply to make known.
 - b. But when a certain verb form is used, it means to prostrate oneself, to worship.
 - c. When God is made known through Word, voice, vision, or action, the proper response is to flatten oneself on the ground!
 2. Splendor of holiness is two words
 - a. hadarah – honor, as a noun it is the glory of an elderly man’s hair ☺, nature that reflects goodness of God,
 - 1). Or the royal majesty of a king, or especially that of God.

¹ Gilchrist, P. R. (1999). [849](#). In R. L. Harris, G. L. Archer Jr., & B. K. Waltke (Eds.), *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament* (electronic ed., p. 368). Moody Press.

2). Ps 96:6 – splendor & majesty are before Him; strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.

b. qedesh – is “apartness”, holiness. Our Latin word is transcendence. That quality of separation from all created.

c. This couplet is in Ps 110:3 that we saw last week... “holy majesty”

3. V 2a Put these 3 together we have: “prostrate yourselves before YHWH, when He appears in majestic holiness”.

G. Voice of YHWH – qol

1. It is a sound made with vocal chords, but it can be written record of that sound. It contrasts with low noise or utterance.

2. It appears in prophetic and covenantal contexts as well as thunder, trumpet, or the gentle whisper like that voice to Elijah.

3. It is not an imagined voice, for YHWH is a real being with personality and perfect communication ability.

4. David rightfully believed that it was the Voice of YHWH, His commands, *not just thunder*, that was causing all these things to happen.

H. Temple – hekel – palace / temple / sanctuary

1. While at this time it is a word used for the tabernacle that was used in the wilderness and in the time of the judges

2. David is likely thinking of the whole scene in creation as the temple as in Ps 11:4a *“The LORD is in his holy temple; the LORD’s throne is in heaven...”*

I. V 11 – grammar is active imperfect... YHWH gives (ongoing) strength, YHWH blesses His people...

J. Peace - shalom

1. General idea is completion and fulfillment, of entering into a state of wholeness & unity, of restored relationship with God & others

2. It is a condition of fact, which will often produce a feeling of rest and comfort.

✚ Imagery in a storm

A. VS 3-4 The voice of YHWH over the waters, The voice of YHWH is powerful, The Voice of YHWH is full of majesty.

1. Elijah (My God is YHWH) V Baal (god of thunder storm)

2. Most likely this storm was causing a flash flood

B. VS 5-6 The voice of YHWH breaks the cedars, YHWH breaks the cedars of Lebanon, He makes them skip...

1. Lebanon & Sirion are mountainous regions.

a. Lebanon is a mountain range west and north of Mt. Hermon with light coloured soil that appears whitish, & renowned for its cedars. Solomon harvested cedars for temple. David could easily see both from the valley as he pursued Shobach of 2 Sam 10.

b. Sirion is the Sidonian name for Mt. Hermon used 3 other places in the Bible. It is visible with snow at times from Galilee.

2. With the dark skies, flashes of lightning in strobe like affect, and the wind violently blowing the tops of the trees, they must have appeared to be moving up and down... a skipping motion... For someone not accustomed to cinema... it must have been awesome

C. VS 7-8 The voice of YHWH flashes forth flames of fire. The voice of YHWH shakes the wilderness...

1. Lightning flashes that are brighter than stadium lights... at night a tree struck & fire kick out from a tree just 60 steps from me.

2. I have felt the ground shake from thunder at times when camping in the Badlands, WVA, & our home in Callahan

3. Earthquakes... I’ve felt a few minor ones... but Kate was in a major quake in LA in the 60’s

D. V 9 The voice of YHWH makes the deer give birth, strips the forests, and in His temple all cry, “GLORY”! (This has been recorded)

1. We have a choice in this verse due to an alternative suggestion because the context is about the wilderness & forests but deer?

a. We know that a low-pressure front such as a storm tends to favor birth, had a strike of nearby lightning & a doe may birth...

b. It is possible that the Hebrew was originally, “The voice of YHWH makes the oaks to shake.” Same consonants, different vowels

2. When The voice of YHWH is heard by His people in His temple, there comes a loud cry of “KABOD!” “GLORY”!

3. There is no question of who wins the seesaw when YHWH steps on the other side of the question from us.

✚ 3 main parts – Read these 3 parts with this understanding!

- A. VS 1-2 Identifying YHWH
- B. VS 3-9 The Voice of YHWH at work beyond our control in nature and this world.
- C. VS 10-11 The conclusion:
 1. YHWH sits enthroned over the flood;
 2. YHWH sits enthroned as King forever!
 3. YHWH gives strength to His people
 4. YHWH blesses His people with peace!

✚ What does it mean?

- A. OUR GOD REIGNS!
 1. CALL OUT GLORY!
 2. CALL OUT WE SURRENDER! HAVE YOUR WAY!
- B. YHWH or other gods? In David's day, the Gentiles believed that a spirit or god controlled the events about them.
 1. If they could control that "god" with sacrifice, offerings, and exact prayers... they could get what they wanted to happen.
 2. The problem was that sometimes those "gods" were like people... they had problem & drifting minds too!
 3. But YHWH IS HOLY, detached from all natural connections, with real strength that affects all humans,
 - a. Yet so involved and intimate with each person's life...
 - b. He weaves each person in their mother's wombs!
 - c. His will is done and thus He alone is worthy to receive glory... much weight... much!
- C. This God has a voice!
 1. The false gods of the world look powerful: science, media, education, finances, politics, or religion.
 - a. But those false gods are just platforms for people to give opinions... to get things to happen for THEIR benefit.
 - b. But all of that is short lived, temporal, and defective, none of what they pursue will last for eternity.
 - c. These false gods are simply tools to manipulate others to do their own beck and call.
 2. YHWH has a voice that is loud as Thunder or as tender as a whisper,
 - a. *Habakkuk 2:18-20 What profit is an idol when its maker has shaped it, a metal image, a teacher of lies? For its maker trusts in his own creation when he makes **speechless idols!** Woe to him who says to a wooden thing, Awake; to a silent stone, Arise! Can this teach? Behold, it is overlaid with gold and silver, and there is no breath at all in it. But the LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him."*
 - b. **Jesus said, "Everyone then who hears these words of mine & does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock." Mt 7:24**
 3. The Word of God is active & powerful, a two edged sword, because His Holy Spirit SPEAKS it into our lives...
 - a. Creation still obeys Him... wind, sea, storms, & creatures as when Christ walked this earth.
 - b. The question is, do you hear Him to obey Him?
- D. In fact, our God controls that which is beyond our control
 1. HE IS IMMENSE! HE IS SOVEREIGN!
 2. HIS LOVE IS WIDER THAN THE EAST FROM WEST! From one scarred hand to the other.
 3. **1 Tim 6:15b-16** speaking of God who gives life to all things, "... he who is the blessed & only Sovereign, the King of kings & Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor & eternal dominion. Amen."
- E. When storms slam into God's people, & they will, our God brings strength & peace to His people in the midst of those storms
- F. In His temple, all cry Glory!
 1. Whenever God speaks, His people will bow down in awe, adoration, and amazement.
 2. **Rev 5:8-10** *And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."*

✚ How shall we respond / What shall we do?

- A. Whatever storm hits you, choose to TRUST Jesus no matter the pain, humiliation, and wait. TRUST HIM.

- B. KEEP your eyes fixed on Jesus and not lose sight of Him like Peter did in the storm of waves & wind he tried to walk through.
- C. Then as you trust Him, enjoy the show of what HE IS DOING WITH THE STORM! Give thanks FOR Everything!
- D. Like David, write down what you see God doing, what you are feeling, and what you need to learn from your Shepherd.
- E. THEN FIND SOMEONE TO SHARE IT ALL WITH, PRAY, AND WATCH WHAT GOD WILL DO WITH IT ALL, THEN DO WHAT HE SAYS TO DO!
When the storms of life hit... Will you trust Jesus to get you through so you will glorify Him?

Conclusion: A STORM IN LIFE... The year 2008... Still reeling from the loss of some key families a few years before a storm hit. We had the joy of our 1st grandchild. Then several former youth group kids went on a wild rumspringa. I had skin cancer, prostate cancer. Then one member criticized me for the rumspringers. A gossip woman stirred up some families with unfounded opinions of others. Then right after I told the church I was to have surgery for the cancer, A couple quit membership because an unworthy man was helping our children workers with a game in a large space with other adults (4 of them were his). And then immediately after that a deaconess proceeded to list about 10 different things I did or did not do for her and her husband in favor of the unworthy man and his 7 children right in front of several other members. And the next morning I found out that I was about the last one to hear of that list... A storm hit and it hit big time.

My immediate thought & response: "Your will be done" "You be glorified!" Kate & I prayed. I called my District Superintendent and then with his instructions, the elder in our church. And then prayed as they with the Lord's help, sorted out the whole messy storm. God worked everything out rightly and justly, working His character in my heart. And within the next 6 months, God began a move in our church that was the beginning of the best 10 years of my ministry.

And I have just one word: GLORY!

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