Reedy Fork Baptist Church Wednesday, December 13, 2023

BIBLE STUDY – "I Will Bless the Lord" SCRIPTURE – Psalm 34:1-22 NIV

"¹ I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. ² I will glory in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. ³ Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together. ⁴ I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears. ⁵ Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. ⁶ This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles. ⁷ The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them. ⁸ Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him. ⁹ Fear the Lord, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing. ¹⁰ The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing. ¹¹ Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. ¹² Whoever of you loves life and desires to see many good days, ¹³ keep your tongue from evil and your lips from telling lies. ¹⁴ Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. ¹⁵ The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry; ¹⁶ but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil, to blot out their name from the earth. ¹⁷ The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. ¹⁸ The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. ¹⁹ The righteous person may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all; ²⁰ he protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken. ²¹ Evil will slay the wicked; the foes of the righteous will be condemned. ²² The Lord will rescue his servants; no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned."

I. Key Words

- Praise
- Proclamation

II. People, Places, & Times

• David

III. Background:

- David composed this psalm after he escaped from the Philistines at Gath. He accomplished this by feigning insanity and later sheltered in the cave of Adullum. This experience is recorded in 1 Samuel 21:10-22:1. Like Psalm 25, this is an acrostic psalm.
- Psalm 34:18-19 reads, "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. The righteous person may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all."
- The message behind this passage is one of comfort and hope for those who are experiencing hardship and distress.

IV. In Depth:

- 1. Lesson Emphasis #1: David Praises (34:1-10)
 - A. What He Resolved (34:1-3)
 - B. What He Remembered (34:4-6)

- 1) His Danger
 - a. I was lost (34:4).
- 2) His Discernment
 - a. I looked (34:5).
- 3) His Deliverance
 - a. I was liberated (34:6).
- C. What He Realized (34:7-10)
 - 1) God Protects (34:7)
 - 2) God Provides (34:8-10)

2. Lesson Emphasis #2: David's Proclamation (34:11-22)

- A. The Summons (34:11)
- B. The Subject (34:12)
- C. The Sermon (34:13-20)
 - 1) Listen to my exposition (34:13-16)
 - a. Watch your Words (34:13).
 - b. Watch your Walk (34:14)
 - c. Watch your Works (34:15).
 - 2) Learn From My Example (34:17-20)

D. The Summary

V. Make it happen:

- 1. What will you do in your time of difficulty?
- 2. What lessons does David teach us in this Psalm?

VI. Follow the Spirit:

• What will I do as a result of this lesson?