



COMMUNITY
CHURCH

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

April 10, 2022

Psalm 103 - Remember Me!

Command your soul – Praise the Lord! Praise! And don't forget His benefits!

You are what God desires. His chosen people. His Church. (A people set apart for Himself.) His very own **possession**. A people that might worship Him with their inmost beings.

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”
(1 Peter 2:9–10)

So do not forget that our God:

1. He forgives

It all starts because we are seated with Christ by His completed work on the cross. (Ephesians 2:4-6)

2. He heals

God does not leave us in the state in which He finds us. He heals us. Now in part, one day in full.

3. He redeems

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.” (Galatians 5:22-23)

Forgiven, healed and redeemed, ... it's time for you to realize WHO YOU ARE.

4. He crowns

He crowns you as royal family, with steadfast love, compassion and mercy. You are crowned with it! You are the royal people of the living and righteous God! (1 Peter 2)

But ...we're still here on this broken earth, still human. We have passions and desires. Wants and needs. Does He leave us there? No...

5. He satisfies

He satisfies ALL of our desires ... with good.

Our desires wage war in our souls. (1 Peter 2:11) But God does not kill our desires; He satisfies them.

“I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name, I will lift up my hands. I will be fully satisfied as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my mouth will praise you.” (Psalm 63:4-5)

Psalm 103:6-10

“Clouds and thick darkness surround Him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne.” (Psalm 97:2)

“Justice is not an optional product of His will, but an unchangeable principle of His very nature.” (Easton’s Bible Dictionary)

“We must not misunderstand. The idea is not that God is bound to some abstract rule external to himself – that would imply that there is some standard above God himself, some superior rule to which he must conform. Of course there could be no standard above God.

That righteous standard to which God conforms is himself. It is God’s own nature and will that determine what is right and wrong, and when Scripture affirms that God is righteous it assures us that God always conforms to himself – he faithfully adheres to his own perfections. He acts only and always according to the very highest principle of justice: himself.” (Fred Zaspel)

“But justice instantaneously applied only when it favors me is not justice at all. Selective justice that favors one individual above another is simply another name for corruption. And no one wants a corrupt God. (Don Carson)

And the Lord God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.” (Genesis 2:16-17)

*“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”
(Romans 3:23)*

“For the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23)

“My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.” (Matthew 26:39)

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Matthew 27:46)

Psalm 103:11-18



Triumphant Entry

As He went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. When He came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” (Luke 19:36-38)

Just a few days earlier...

Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, "We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. He will be delivered over to the Gentiles. They will mock him, insult him and spit on him; they will flog him and kill him. On the third day he will rise again." The disciples did not understand any of this. Its meaning was hidden from them, and they did not know what he was talking about. (Luke 18:31-34)

Why did Jesus ride into Jerusalem anyways?

*For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who fear Him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far has He removed our transgressions from us.
(Psalm 103:11-12)*

*But from everlasting to everlasting
the Lord's love is with those who fear Him... (Psalm 103:17)*

HOME GROUP Questions for Psalm 103:

1. Who is David directing his words to in Psalm 103? Why do you think he is doing so? What do you think the purpose is of David's self-talk? What can be gained by it? Is he reminding himself of something?
2. Verses 3-5 list the benefits God bestows on those who fear and love Him. What do you think the most significance benefit is (verse 3 & 10-12)? Do you think this Psalm might possibly have to do with sin in David's life? Do you think he may have experienced God's love through forgiveness, or do he have the need for forgiveness?
3. How should we respond to Psalm 103 in our own lives (verses 5-7)? When is the last time you needed to direct your soul to praise the Lord? Are we so easily distracted from the truths and benefits by the world around us? By our sin? Problems, trials? How can reflecting on God's character and His attributes bring us back to what is real and true?
4. How does speaking objective truth to our inmost being, our soul, reorient us to God? Why does it work?