

March 3rd – The Grace & Mercy of God

“Sing praise to the Lord, you saints of His, and give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name. For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for life; weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.” (Psalm 30:5)

Not everyone agrees on the occasion of Psalm 30, but the superscription says, “A song at the dedication of the house of David.” Upon reading the psalm, it’s not hard to imagine David saying the words of Psalm 30 upon dedicating his own new residence. By that time, David had been through a great deal – anointed king of Israel, killed Goliath, ran from evil King Saul, hiding in the wilderness, brought back to Israel and finally crowned the king over the entire nation! All in about a decade of time!

As David reflected on God’s grace and mercy, he had to give thanks. “For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for life.” I know we’ve all experienced God’s anger – when we violated His Word, when we failed to pray, etc. We’ve felt His displeasure burn hot against us at times, but we’ve also felt the favor that comes with His grace. When we confess our sins and failures, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

Not only that, but while “weeping may endure for a night...joy comes in the morning.” All of us go through extremely difficult times. Some have been diagnosed with cancer, some have lost a spouse or a child, etc. When we go through those times, Satan tempts us to wonder, “Does God really love me?” We discover the answer when our weeping is exchanged for joy – when God’s mercy comes pouring in like a flood. How can we help but give thanks to such a gracious, merciful God?