



**Jesus the Messiah
Part 3
His Future Glory and His Sufferings
Psalm 69:29-36
Psalm 70**

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We are in Psalm 69, the first of four psalms grouped together that tell us about the Messiah. We have been learning about some of the things that the God Man Jesus Christ would have experienced here on this planet. We get a bit more information here about the silent years than anywhere else in the scriptures, and it is David who is the author and writing as a prophet.



We stopped last time with as we concluded the incredible imprecatory prayer of Messiah. All of that prayer has been fulfilled.

As we pick up, we hear Him once again repeating what we heard back in verse 1.

Psalms 69:29–31

“But I am afflicted and in pain; May Your salvation, God, set me safely on high. I will praise the name of God with song, And exalt Him with thanksgiving. And it will please the LORD better than an ox Or bull with horns and hoofs.” (NASB 2020)

Messiah is clearly describing the condition He will encounter for much of His life here on earth. After praying about those who are responsible for it, He looks back at Himself. Those He has just prayed about are under God’s wrath, even so, because He remains obedient to the Father, He is persecuted and afflicted and in pain.

As we read that, we are reminded of what Isaiah will later say prophetically about the Suffering Servant, Messiah, our Lord.

Isaiah 53:2–6

“My servant grew up in the LORD’s presence like a tender green shoot, like a root in dry ground. There was nothing beautiful or majestic about his appearance, nothing to attract us to him. **He was despised and rejected— a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief. We turned our backs on him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care.** Yet it was our weaknesses he carried; it was our sorrows that weighed him down. And we thought his troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for his own sins! **But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed.** All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God’s paths to follow our own. Yet the LORD laid on him the sins of us all.” (NLT)

The people closest to Christ couldn’t understand him. Knowing him personally as a man in the neighborhood—many knew him that way—didn’t make unbelief impossible. It took faith to see the glory of God in Jesus of Nazareth. It still does. (Ortlund Jr. and Hughes 2005, 355)

When Jesus was here the first time, He was indeed well acquainted with sorrows, He took all the sin of mankind on Himself at the cross.

God has indeed set Him safely on high. Paul encourages us to be like Jesus and also tells us how this prayer was answered.

Philippians 2:5–11

“Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. **And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**” (ESV)

Jesus never doubted that God was for Him, even at the darkest moments there on the cross, He still knew the truth and that is why He remained obedient to the Father. His love for us and for the Father. As a result, He will praise the name of God.



Psalm 69:30

"I will praise the name of God with song, And exalt Him with thanksgiving." (NASB 2020)

And here is the exciting part of this, Jesus desires to praise the Father in the throne room, in song, with all of us with Him.

Hebrews 2:10–13

"For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. **That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, saying, "I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise." And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Behold, I and the children God has given me."**" (ESV)

That is not all. When Jesus Christ returns at His second coming, He returns as the avenger of blood and He returns in exaltation accompanied by the heavenly host as well as all His redeemed ones, the Church.

Revelation 19:11–16

"Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS" (NKJV)

By the end of the sheep and goats judgment, those left on the planet will be redeemed ones. Those who have rejected the sacrifice of Christ on the cross will not be here. And His sacrifice was so much more superior to any made in the Temple?

Psalm 69:31

"And it will please the LORD better than an ox Or bull with horns and hoofs." (NASB 2020)

Matthew Henry carries on with this thought that "this is a plain intimation that in the days of the Messiah an end should be put, not only to the sacrifices of atonement, but to those of praise and acknowledgment which were instituted by the ceremonial law; and, instead of them, spiritual sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving are accepted—the calves of our lips, not the calves of the stall, Heb. 13:15. It is a great comfort to us that humble and thankful praises are more pleasing to God than the most costly pompous sacrifices are or ever were. (Henry 1994, 843)

Jesus is indeed our High Priest in that He is fully human (Hebrews 2:17) has been appointed by God (Hebrews 5:5-6) and His sacrifice was superior (Hebrews 9:13-14) to all others.

The suffering and exaltation of Christ have made possible a 'better hope', 'a better covenant' (Hebrews 7:19, 22). The real has replaced the shadow, the permanent has replaced the temporary (Hebrews 8:2, 5, 13; 9:24; 10:1). The old order was there only 'until the time comes to set things right' (Hebrews 9:10). (Marshall, Travis and Paul 2011, 250)

The sacrifice that Jesus made on behalf of the Father for us is everything. He is the Father's Son. He is the answer to prophecy.



Genesis 22:7–8

“And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” Abraham said, “**God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.**” So they went both of them together.” (ESV)

Leviticus 17:11

“for the life of the body is in its blood. I have given you the blood on the altar to purify you, making you right with the LORD. It is the blood, given in exchange for a life, that makes purification possible.” (NLT)

The language of sacrifice is problematic for people far removed from any contact with animal sacrifice. But essentially it addresses the awareness of sin, guilt, shame, failure and alienation which lie deep in human consciousness. We are made aware that we owe to God a total offering of ourselves—and that we cannot make it on our own. (Marshall, Travis and Paul 2011, 250)

What Jesus did on the cross for us was the only truly complete offering and as a result, we are all now eligible for redemption too if we believe what He did on the cross for us.

Romans 3:21–26

“But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. **For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.**” (NKJV)

Psalms 69:32

“**The humble have seen it and are glad; You who seek God, let your heart revive.**” (NASB 2020)

We are glad because we see Jesus Christ risen from the dead. We are glad because now we see in Christ, that those who believe will live with Him for all eternity. The humble are those who have humbled themselves before the Lord seeking the salvation and redemption that been provided for by the obedience of Jesus Christ to the Father.

James 4:9–10

“Be miserable, and mourn, and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning, and your joy into gloom. **Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.**” (NASB 2020)

We also see elsewhere in the scriptures that those who are in the Lord, who have sought Him and humbled themselves before Him relying on Him for their salvation, will also be protected from the wrath yet to come.

Zephaniah 2:3

“Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land, who do his just commands; seek righteousness; seek humility; perhaps you may be hidden on the day of the anger of the LORD.” (ESV)

Proverbs 22:4

“The reward for humility and fear of the LORD is riches and honor and life.” (ESV)

Our hearts are revived because we know our Savior is alive and at the right hand of the Father. The resurrection changed everything forever. Paul made it clear this is the center of the Gospel.



1 Corinthians 15:1–5

“Now I want to make clear for you, brothers and sisters, the gospel that I preached to you, that you received and on which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I passed on to you as of first importance what I also received—that **Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day according to the scriptures**, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.” (NET 2nd ed.)

Our Lord is alive. Warren Wiersbe tells us that “The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead was an event that changed everything in that first fellowship of believers and it can change everything in our lives and churches today. Whenever a sinner turns to the Lord for salvation, the resurrected Christ forgives sin and imparts eternal life (Rom. 10:9–13). Whenever a troubled believer cries out for help, the living Christ hears and answers from the throne of grace (Heb. 4:14–16). When believers gather to worship, they address their praise and prayers to the living Lord and experience His blessing (Acts 4:23–31; 16:25–34). If the church is dead, it’s because the people have forgotten that Jesus is alive.” (Wiersbe 2015, 117)

Our living Lord has promised to come back to get us.

John 14:1–4

“Do not let your hearts be distressed. You believe in God; believe also in me. There are many dwelling places in my Father’s house. Otherwise, I would have told you, because I am going away to make ready a place for you. And if I go and make ready a place for you, **I will come again and take you to be with me, so that where I am you may be too.** And you know the way where I am going.” (NET 2nd ed.)

Our resurrected, living Lord is at this very minute, sitting at the right hand of the Father (Colossians 3:1) where He is making intercession for us (Hebrews 7:25) and will continue to do so right up to the moment the Father turns to Him and says, go get them.

This indeed revives my heart, I think it does for all believers. And there is this, what happens when the Father says for Jesus to go get His church. And this can happen at any moment.

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

“But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. **For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.** Therefore encourage one another with these words.” (ESV)

As followers of Messiah, we have all discovered that the Lord hears us. We are all needy and David, the author of this prophetic psalm, knows that as well.

Psalms 34:18

“The LORD is near to the brokenhearted And saves those who are crushed in spirit.” (NASB 2020)

Psalms 69:33

“For the LORD hears the needy, And does not despise those of His who are prisoners.” (NASB 2020)

Christ, when He rose from the dead, set free all of those who were prisoners in paradise.



Ephesians 4:7–10

“But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift. Therefore it is said, “When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.” (When it says, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.)” (NRSVue)

RA Torrey tells us “Sheol (or Hades) before the coming, life, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord, was the place where all the spirits of the dead, good and bad, went. Before the ascension of Christ, in Hades was Paradise, the place of the blessed dead, and Tartaros, the place of the wicked dead. At His ascension Christ emptied the Paradise of Hades, and took it up to Heaven with Him, as we read in Eph. 4:8.” (Torrey 1918, 288)

He did not despise the prisoners; He set them free. He set all of us free as well from our slavery to sin (Romans 6:11).

Psalm 69:34–36

“Heaven and earth shall praise Him, The seas and everything that moves in them. For God will save Zion and build the cities of Judah, So that they may live there and possess it. The descendants of His servants will inherit it, And those who love His name will live in it.” (NASB 2020)

Now we see Christ after His second coming as He prepares to rule and reign here on planet earth. Not only is this moment the one that we as His church having been looking forward to but so have all the Old Testament saints, and don’t forget the Tribulation saints, and then there is the rest of the universe.

Romans 8:19–22

“For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.” (NKJV)

The picture now being provided to us is everything and everyone is now praising the Lord. We get the first hint of this future in Revelation 5.

Revelation 5:13

“And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: “Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!”” (NKJV)

The prophets saw this day, David wrote about it looking forward, but now the picture being provided is one of reality as all who are remaining on the earth praise Him.

Zechariah 8:23

“Thus says the LORD of hosts: In those days ten men from the nations of every tongue shall take hold of the robe of a Jew, saying, ‘Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.’ ” (ESV)

Psalm 69:35–36

“For God will save Zion and build the cities of Judah, So that they may live there and possess it. The descendants of His servants will inherit it, And those who love His name will live in it.” (NASB 2020)



As Armageddon comes to an end and Jesus takes the throne, the nations will need to be rebuilt. Here we see that beginning to take place.

Joel 2:18–19

“Then the LORD will be zealous for His land, And will have compassion for His people. The LORD will answer and say to His people, “Behold, I am going to send you grain, new wine, and oil, And you will be satisfied in full with them; And I will never again make you a disgrace among the nations.” (NASB 2020)

Isaiah 11:12

“And He will lift up a flag for the nations And assemble the banished ones of Israel, And will gather the dispersed of Judah From the four corners of the earth.” (NASB 2020)

Isaiah 11:16

“And there will be a highway from Assyria For the remnant of His people who will be left, Just as there was for Israel On the day that they came up out of the land of Egypt.” (NASB 2020)

Ezekiel describes Jerusalem, the Temple area as well as how the nation will settle into the land after Jesus takes the throne.

Ezekiel 47:13–21

“This is what the Sovereign LORD says: “Divide the land in this way for the twelve tribes of Israel: The descendants of Joseph will be given two shares of land. Otherwise each tribe will receive an equal share. I took a solemn oath and swore that I would give this land to your ancestors, and it will now come to you as your possession. “These are the boundaries of the land: The northern border will run from the Mediterranean toward Hethlon, then on through Lebo-hamath to Zedad; then it will run to Berothah and Sibram, which are on the border between Damascus and Hamath, and finally to Hazer-hatticon, on the border of Hauran. So the northern border will run from the Mediterranean to Hazar-enan, on the border between Hamath to the north and Damascus to the south. “The eastern border starts at a point between Hauran and Damascus and runs south along the Jordan River between Israel and Gilead, past the Dead Sea and as far south as Tamar. This will be the eastern border. “The southern border will go west from Tamar to the waters of Meribah at Kadesh and then follow the course of the Brook of Egypt to the Mediterranean. This will be the southern border. “On the west side, the Mediterranean itself will be your border from the southern border to the point where the northern border begins, opposite Lebo-hamath. “Divide the land within these boundaries among the tribes of Israel.” (NLT)

That brings us to the next psalm. It too is a short Messianic psalm.

Psalms 70:1–5 “For the music director. A Psalm of David; for a memorial. God, hurry to save me; LORD, hurry to help me! May those who seek my life Be put to shame and humiliated; May those who delight in my harm Be turned back and dishonored. May those who say, “Aha, aha!” be turned back Because of their shame. May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; And may those who love Your salvation say continually, “May God be exalted!” But I am afflicted and needy; Hurry to me, God! You are my help and my savior; LORD, do not delay.” (NASB 2020)

When life is good, we tend to let our relationship with the Lord slide a bit (1 Corinthians 10:12). We shouldn't, but we do. But then there are those times of discipline, persecution or testing. When I recognize that is what is going on, then I want it to end and end now.

Most of us do, we get rather impatient about waiting on the Lord through it yet, when we examine the book of Job, we see how long all of that took. And that is not real encouraging for the impatient amongst us.



If that is the case, this is your psalm. It also reflects the heart of Messiah as He went through persecution as well. None of us like it at all.

And yes, we have indeed seen most of this before. It shows up in an altered form in Psalm 40:13-17. I did not spend much time on that section of scripture opting to cover it more in depth here. By the way, did you catch the sense of urgency in this psalm?

The word translated hurry, הִסֵּךְ (husa(h)) shows up here twice. And both times when it appears it is in the imperative. The need to hurry with deliverance here is extremely urgent. It does indeed mean "to go quickly, hasten, rush upon; to be ready; to make hurry, hasten." (Mounce 2006, 931)

This psalm begins and ends with a serious sense of urgency. It is a "plea for God to get to it!" (deClaissé-Walford and Tanner 2014, 563)

Yes, this is a picture of our Messiah looking to the Lord as He is undergoing persecution. And yes, in His human side, He wanted it to end and end right now. All of us tend to agree when it comes to persecution or testing.

The intent of this psalm is to bring to remembrance, and it is not so much for us even though that is important, but it is "to put God in remembrance of his mercy and promises (for so we are said to do when we pray to him and plead with him. Isa. 43:26, Put me in remembrance)—not that the Eternal Mind needs a remembrancer, but this honour he is pleased to put upon the prayer of faith." (Henry 1994, 843)

Once again we find it is okay to remind the Lord about His promises and His attributes. And here, the need is seriously urgent. Hurry x 2.

Waiting on the Lord and His timing is one of the hardest things I am still learning how to do. I am not there and probably will never arrive.

Jesus had also been there too, waiting on the timing of the Lord. The first obvious time was when He was still young, right after the Magi had been in town. It looked like everything was about to take off, but there were some other prophecies which still needed to be fulfilled. God was still working and what looked to Joseph and Mary like waiting, was God working.

Matthew 2:13–15

"After they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to look for the child to kill him." Then he got up, took the child and his mother during the night, and went to Egypt. He stayed there until Herod died. In this way what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet was fulfilled: "I called my Son out of Egypt."" (NET 2nd ed.)

God was protecting from a very real threat of death. The fulfillment of Jeremiah 31:15 was coming.

Jeremiah 31:15

"The LORD says: "A sound is heard in Ramah, a sound of crying in bitter grief. It is the sound of Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because her children are gone."" (NET 2nd ed.)

True, there are no such prophecies written about us and what it is the Lord has called each of us to do, but we find that we also must wait on His timing.



As Christians, we need to learn to be still and wait on God, especially in times of danger when we need God's protection from threats. Sometimes it is hard to sit still and wait on God but it is needed and commanded. (Mattoon 2018, 334)

God literally orders our starts and stops. When He says stop, He is not hindering our progress, He knows what is ahead and there is some more preparation that must take place. Or He is protecting you.

Do not ignore those times we are waiting on the Lord. WE want everything right now, but God's ways are not our ways and His timing is very different as well. We need to learn to be like Micah.

Micah 7:7

"But I will keep watching for the LORD; I will wait for the God who delivers me. My God will listen to me." (NET 2nd ed.)

Important point to remember, Jesus is, right now, waiting on the Lord, He is waiting for the Father to tell Him, go get your Church.

You and I rebel at this idea of waiting. We agree with the hurry of this psalm. Yet, there is the waiting we all end up doing. From the door over the weight room at Biola.

Isaiah 40:31

"But those who wait for the LORD's help find renewed strength; they rise up as if they had eagles' wings, they run without growing weary, they walk without getting tired." (NET 2nd ed.)

The benefits of weight lifting are not immediately observable, but they do take place, just be patient. The same goes for the benefits of wait lifting, as we wait, we lift up our prayers to the Lord and continue to look to Him. The words "wait upon" are from the word qavah {kaw-vaw} which means "to bind together, giving the image of two separate things twisting around each other so they become one." As one moves, the other moves. As one is still, the other is still.

When we wait upon the Lord, we are making the decision to bind together and abide in Him. We mirror the leading of the Lord in our lives. How do we learn to wait on Him? (Mattoon 2018, 336)

By the way, that same verse was at the Chapel, the ultimate wait room.

Getting back to our text, the desire for an end of the persecution is obvious.

Psalms 70:2

"May those who seek my life Be put to shame and humiliated; May those who delight in my harm Be turned back and dishonored." (NASB 2020)

The situation is still dire and attention from the Lord to the situation is still being requested for right now. There is a group that wants Messiah dead, that would be the Sanhedrin, the religious leadership of the day. It was all about religion and their interpretation of God's word, forget what the reality truly is.

We see this clearly as Jesus shows us who He is immediately after His triumphant entry on Palm Sunday.

Mark 11:15–18

"And they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold and those who bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. And he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. And he was teaching them and saying to them, 'Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for



all the nations'? But you have made it a den of robbers." **And the chief priests and the scribes heard it and were seeking a way to destroy him, for they feared him**, because all the crowd was astonished at his teaching." (ESV)

When Jesus arrived, His actions literally stopped the activity of sacrifices. Not allowing anyone to carry merchandise in the Temple grounds means no cattle were coming in, no doves, no goats and no sheep as well as no wine or grain. Jesus put the entire sacrificial system on hold, because the superior sacrifice was now in the house presenting Himself.

Were they seeking His life? They had been for years now. He is praying that they will be put to shame and humiliated, and that would also indeed take place.

Were they turned back and dishonored? That too.

John 19:19–22

"Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, 'Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.' Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. **So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, 'Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'**" **Pilate answered, 'What I have written I have written.'**" (ESV)

And why is it they deserve to be shamed, humiliated and dishonored? Their shame from seeking the shame for Messiah.

Psalms 70:3

"May those who say, 'Aha, aha!' be turned back Because of their shame." (NASB 2020)
When we pray in alignment with the model prayer of Jesus.

Matthew 6:10

"Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven." (NASB 2020)

Then we are also praying for the shame of what it is they do be made public. When Jesus returns, millions who have rejected the gospel will be humiliated. Some will be destroyed at Armageddon others will discover the ultimate shame of being judged and sent to hell.

We see people arrogantly boasting everyday. Just read the newspaper and we discover that there are some political figures out there who have made a habit out of it. As followers of Jesus, we are imagers of the Lord and because of that, we dislike injustice and look forward to the proud being brought down a notch or two.

Psalms 70:4

"May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; And may those who love Your salvation say continually, 'May God be exalted!'" (NASB 2020)

Is it okay though to ask God to hurry up while we are in the middle of waiting on Him? Absolutely. We want God's name to be honored.

There has been recent actions taking place in various cities in our nation, due to the arrogant pride of so-called spiritual leaders, that has resulted in the name of Jesus not being lifted up, but being made, unfortunately, a by-word for those who would slander others as well as lie all in order to achieve their own goals, mildly disguised as the Lord's work. It hasn't been and that is the issue. It is not about the size of your "kingdom" or so-called ministry. It is all about Jesus and making disciples.



Many Laodicean churches in our nation no longer have that as their focus, it is now more about shame. And why is that?

Could it possibly be that they no longer love the salvation of the Lord, but they prefer the things of the world. They indeed do say the following.

Revelation 3:17–19

“Because you say, “I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have no need of anything,” and you do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked, I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to apply to your eyes so that you may see. Those whom I love, I rebuke and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent.” (NASB 2020)

Herein lies another balance for us as we wrestle with the ethic of praying for God’s enemies to be humiliated. The glory of Christ and the glory of man cannot coexist. It’s one or the other. Either He is exalted and mankind is principally humbled, or mankind is exalted and He is perceived to be humbled. We know that our great and glorious Lord ultimately will not allow anyone to steal His glory; He’s the only one worthy of it. So, if He’s exalted, it follows that those who try to steal His glory will be humiliated. (Platt, Mason and Shaddix 2020, 185-186)

Psalms 70:5

“But I am afflicted and needy; Hurry to me, God! You are my help and my savior; LORD, do not delay.” (NASB 2020)

Back to the need of the moment. Deliverance from the persecution and soon please. When Jesus was in the depth of despair in the Garden of Gethsemane, in less than 24 hours, He was in paradise and all that He came to this planet for had been achieved with the remaining act of resurrection yet to come. Charles Spurgeon says the following as he quotes James Frame.

The morning saw him condemned at the bar of an earthly tribunal, sentenced to death, and nailed to the bitter tree; before the evening shadowed the hill of Calvary, he was nestling in the bosom of God, and had become the great centre of attraction and of admiration to all the holy intelligences of the universe. The morning saw him led out through the gate of the Jerusalem below, surrounded by a ribald crowd, whose hootings rung in his ear; but ere the night fell, he had passed through the gate of the Jerusalem above, and his tread was upon the streets of gold, and angel anthems rose high through the dome of heaven, and joy filled the heart of God. (Spurgeon n.d., 206)

Is there still a sense of urgency for the Lord today? Yes, but that urgency has been delegated to us, His servants, as we go about working to fulfill His command, the Great Commission.

2 Corinthians 6:1–2

“As God’s partners, we beg you not to accept this marvelous gift of God’s kindness and then ignore it. For God says, “At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you.” Indeed, the “right time” is now. Today is the day of salvation.” (NLT)

And right now is, if you do not know Him, your opportunity.

Romans 3:21–24

“But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. For



everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins." (NLT)

Romans 10:9–13

"If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. As the Scriptures tell us, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced." Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. For "Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved."" (NLT)

ABC's of Salvation

- A. Acknowledge that you are a sinner, tell Him that.
- B. Believe that Jesus died on the cross for our sin and that He rose from the dead.
- C. Confess that Jesus is Lord. Tell someone about what you have done.

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