

Morning Sermon Outline November 23, 2014

“Praise and Thanksgiving” Psalm 100

I. Praise and thanksgiving; something all are called to, but few do –

^{NKJ} Psalm 100:1 <A Psalm of Thanksgiving.> Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands! (Psalm 100:1 NKJ)

^{ESV} Psalm 100:1 A Psalm for giving thanks. Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! (Psalm 100:1 ESV)

1. If all were right in the world instead of Playboy Magazine, we would have Pray Boy or Praise Boys Magazines, teaching young men to pray to, and praise God and these magazines would be popular!
2. Going to church, praising God are not popular today, especially among young people.
3. Not only that but atheists passionately rant against God, even in churches and in many places Christians are killed for their faith –

Scripture tells us these things –

⁷ Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. (Romans 8:7 NKJ)

Jesus tells us -

¹⁸ "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. (John 15:18 NKJ)

It is our duty to share and spread the Gospel and call “all you lands” or “all the earth” to “Make a joyful shout to the LORD.”

II. Before we can call others to this happy duty, we have to be doing it ourselves –

^{NKJ} Psalm 100:1 <A Psalm of Thanksgiving.> Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands! ² Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before His presence with singing. (Psalm 100:1-2 NKJ)

Verse 2.—“Serve the Lord with gladness.” It is a sign the oil of grace hath been poured into the heart “when the oil of gladness” shines on the countenance. Cheerfulness credits religion.—Thomas Watson.

1. Serve the LORD with gladness here, surely can and does apply to our serving one another, good deeds –

³⁴ "Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' ³⁷

"Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? ³⁸ When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? ³⁹ Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?'

⁴⁰ "And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' (Matthew 25:34-40 NKJ)

2. Yet, service in the context of Psalm 100, in the context of joyful shouts, and coming before God's presence with singing, has to do with CHURCH SERVICE –
 - A. Dr. Gross has often said pastor's sermon, pastor's outline are offerings to God.
 - B. Our singing, our participation in the worship service, our praying during the worship SERVICE is also worship of God! Offerings to God!

If you pray silently while I lead the Congregation in prayer does anyone hear you? Of course, God does!

- C. I heard part of a sermon recently where a man rightly criticized a church for having a band playing in front of a church. He did not criticize their music. He criticized the fact, they were playing to an audience, rather than LEADING the Congregation is singing and praise!

What is your role in Sunday morning worship, ask yourself, are you part of an audience, only hearing the sermon? Or are you a participant, praying, singing, hearing and maybe occasionally AMENNING? Even if the “Amen” is only in your heart, does God hear it? Yes, He does!

III. How do we do this, how do we rightfully participate in worship, in praise and thanksgiving?

1. Knowing God –

³ **Know that the LORD, He is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture. (Psalm 100:3 NKJ)**

A. *Knowing God necessitates knowing about God –*
WSC 4 What is God? A. God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth. (WSC 1:4 WCS)

B. *Really knowing God goes far beyond just knowing theological facts –*
Knowing God = eternal life -
³ **"And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. (John 17:3 NKJ)**

Knowing God is more important than wisdom, power or riches -
²³ **Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise *man* glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty *man* glory in his might, Nor let the rich *man* glory in his riches; ²⁴ But let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I *am* the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the LORD. (Jeremiah 9:23-24 NKJ)**

Knowing God moves us to positive action -
³² **"Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits. (Daniel 11:32 NKJ)**

Really knowing God influences our worship –

- *This is where the joyful shout comes from*
- *This is where the serving with gladness comes from*
- *This is where the coming into His presence with singing come from -*

The joyful shout means God is WORTH our loudest expression
Serving with gladness means we would be happy to do whatever He requires
Coming into His presence with singing, means we cannot help but be happy when we are with HIM!

These things do not come naturally, they are supernatural, and they require a cultivated relationship with God and the power of His Spirit – Galatians 5:17

2. *Knowing God, means having a relationship with Him, knowing what He has done and does do for us -*
It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture. (Psalm 100:3 NKJ)

A. *He is OUR MAKER, our Creator and our Redeemer*
B. *We belong to Him, we are HIS people, sheep of HIS pasture*
C. *His pasture, implies HE provides for all our needs*

3. *This is why WE should have an attitude of GRATITUDE –*
⁴ **Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. (Psalm 100:4 NKJ) – (see Leviticus 7)**

A. *We have access through His gates*
B. *And into His courts*
C. *Access beyond THANKFUL Old Testament believers –*
¹⁴ **Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* confession.**
¹⁵ **For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are*, yet without sin.**
¹⁶ **Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:14-16 NKJ)**

⁵ **For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting, And His truth endures to all generations. (Psalm 100:5 NKJ)**

IV. *Everything is based on the goodness of God -*
⁵ **For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting, And His truth endures to all generations. (Psalm 100:5 NKJ)**

The little word "For" at the beginning of Psalm 100:5 gives us the reason(s) for Thanksgiving and Praise

1. *Everlasting Mercy, continues always – Hebrews 7:24-27*
2. *Eternal Truth – 1 Peter 1:23-25, is always relevant*

These are the basis of our praise and thanksgiving

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