

Evening Sermon Outline – September 19, 2021

“God’s Marvelous Mercy!” Psalm 118

I. A call to praise God for His mercy –

- <sup>1</sup> Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. <sup>2</sup> Let Israel now say, “His mercy endures forever.” <sup>3</sup> Let the house of Aaron now say, “His mercy endures forever.” <sup>4</sup> Let those who fear the LORD now say, “His mercy endures forever.” Psalm 118:1-4 (NKJV)

Verses 1–4.—Because we hear the sentence so frequently repeated here, that “*the mercy of the LORD endureth for ever,*” we are not to think that the Holy Spirit has employed empty tautology, but our great necessity demands it: for in temptations and dangers the flesh begins to doubt of the mercy of God: therefore nothing should be so frequently impressed on the mind as this, that the mercy of God does not fail, that the Eternal Father wearies not in remitting our sins.—*Solomon Gesner.*

II. The Psalmist’s testimony to the LORD’s help –

1. The LORD answered his prayer –  
<sup>5</sup> I called on the LORD in distress; The LORD answered me and set me in a broad place. Psalm 118:5 (NKJV)
2. The LORD was with the Psalmist –  
<sup>6</sup> The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me? Psalm 118:6 (NKJV)
- <sup>31</sup> What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? Romans 8:31 (NKJV)
3. He is on the side of all the godly, against those who hate Christ –  
<sup>7</sup> The LORD is for me among those who help me; Therefore I shall see my desire on those who hate me. Psalm 118:7 (NKJV)
4. The LORD’s help is superior to the help of men, even the help of princes –  
<sup>8</sup> It is better to trust in the LORD Than to put confidence in man.  
<sup>9</sup> It is better to trust in the LORD Than to put confidence in princes. Psalm 118:8-9 (NKJV)

5. God is our strength against all enemies –

- A. Against nations, even many the surround –  
<sup>10</sup> All nations surrounded me, But in the name of the LORD I will destroy them. <sup>11</sup> They surrounded me, Yes, they surrounded me; But in the name of the LORD I will destroy them. Psalm 118:10-11

- B. Against enemies that swarm like bees, and attack violently –  
<sup>12</sup> They surrounded me like bees; They were quenched like a fire of thorns; For in the name of the LORD I will destroy them. <sup>13</sup> You pushed me violently, that I might fall, But the LORD helped me. <sup>14</sup> The LORD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation. Psalm 118:12-14 (NKJV)

C. He keeps His people singing and alive –

- <sup>15</sup> The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tents of the righteous; The right hand of the LORD does valiantly. <sup>16</sup> The right hand of the LORD is exalted; The right hand of the LORD does valiantly. <sup>17</sup> I shall not die, but live, And declare the works of the LORD. Psalm 118:15-17 (NKJV)

D. He helps us battle even our worst ENEMY, SELF -

- <sup>18</sup> The LORD has chastened me severely, But He has not given me over to death. Psalm 118:18

“Who has a greater combat than he that labors to overcome himself?”

Thomas ‘A Kempis

III. Our ultimate help from the LORD comes from our Lord Jesus Christ –

1. He is the only One Who opens the gates of righteousness -  
<sup>19</sup> Open to me the gates of righteousness; I will go through them, And I will praise the LORD. <sup>20</sup> This is the gate of the LORD, Through which the righteous shall enter. Psalm 118:19-20
- A. Jesus not only opens the door or gate of righteousness, He is the door –<sup>9</sup> I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. John 10:9 (NKJV)
- B. He is not only the gate and door, He is the Good Shepherd who leads us to it –<sup>11</sup> “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. John 10:11 (NKJV)

- *He leads us into the narrow way that leads to life –*

<sup>13</sup> “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. <sup>14</sup> Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. Matthew 7:13-14 (NKJV)

- *He leads us in the difficult way –*

<sup>23</sup> Then He said to *them* all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. Luke 9:23 (NKJV)

- C. *He makes righteousness ours by taking our unrighteousness upon Himself, He gave His life, He became sin –*

<sup>21</sup> For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV)

- 2. *He is our salvation and the ONLY ONE Who could be –*

<sup>21</sup> I will praise You, For You have answered me, and have become my salvation. Psalm 118:21

- A. *He is the Only Mediator –*

<sup>5</sup> For *there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,* 1 Timothy 2:5 (NKJV)

- B. *He is the Only Way –*

<sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. John 14:6 (NKJV)

- C. *His is the Only Name –*

<sup>8</sup> Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders of Israel: <sup>9</sup> If we this day are judged for a good deed *done* to a helpless man, by what means he has been made well, <sup>10</sup> let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole. <sup>11</sup> This is the ‘stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.’ <sup>12</sup> Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” Acts 4:8–12 (NKJV)

- 3. *Jesus is the prophesied Stone which the builders rejected -*

<sup>22</sup> The stone *which* the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. Psalm 118:22

1. Peter preached it – Acts 4:11 above ↑

2. Peter wrote about it –

<sup>4</sup> Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God *and* precious, <sup>5</sup> you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, “Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.” <sup>7</sup> Therefore, to you who believe, *He is* precious; but to those who are disobedient, “The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone,” <sup>8</sup> and “A stone of stumbling And a rock of offense.” They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed. <sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; <sup>10</sup> who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy. 1 Peter 2:4–10 (NKJV)

- IV. *Sending His only begotten Son to save us was God the Father’s plan all the time –*

1. *It “sending Jesus” is the LORD’s doing, Jesus too, chose to die for us –*

<sup>23</sup> This was the LORD’s doing; It is marvelous in our eyes. Psalm 118:23 (NKJV)

2. *The Day the LORD has made is a reference to the day or days of Christ’s death and resurrection -*

<sup>24</sup> This is the day the LORD has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24

3. *The Psalmist prays for this day, he wants it to come, He praises Jesus, He praises God for this day -*

<sup>25</sup> Save now, I pray, O LORD; O LORD, I pray, send now prosperity.

<sup>26</sup> Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We have blessed you from the house of the LORD. <sup>27</sup> God is the LORD, And He has given us light; Bind the sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar. <sup>28</sup> You are my God, and I will praise You; You are my God, I will exalt You. <sup>29</sup> Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. Psalm 118:25-29

*Arnold Brevick*