

1872 - Psalm 30:11,12 - IMPORTANT to PRAISE GOD

This Psalm shows the **importance** of praising God for His goodness. To be **unthankful** is a **great sin** to God. David here has enjoyed a wonderful deliverance and recounts its blessings *that my glory may sing Your praise and not be silent* [12]

Being **unthankful** when we receive blessings is a **great sin** in God's sight. Men are *without excuse* for *although they knew God* (through general revelation) they did not glorify Him *they did not honour Him as God or give thanks to Him* [Rom 1:21] Men are therefore **excuseless** for not giving thanks to God for daily blessings!

You know, even when an unbeliever, in his ignorance, but aware of 'Some Outside Power' 'delivering' him from near disaster, if he gives thanks even to a 'Power he does not know', that is something God **takes 'cognizance' of!** The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him" [Psa 145:18] – **even in ignorance**. God 'winked at' **ignorance!** **It is when** men completely **reject** the possibility of a God above who 'orders Providence' and 'delivered' them at that moment and refuses to be thankful and just go on their way **opposing** the idea of a God above - **that** is what is truly serious! It is in **such** wonderful deliverances, that we should **develop** our **trust** in God!

In this Psalm, we have David resolving to praise God **for ever**. Such is his thankfulness! David was counting his blessings! Note: *You have brought up my soul from Shoel + You restored me to life + You have healed me + You made my mountain stand strong + You turned...my mourning to dancing + You loosed my sackcloth – all so that my glory may sing Your praise and not be silent. O Lord my God I will give thanks to You for ever!* Six times David mentions what the Lord has done for him! He spells out in detail the circumstances and is deeply grateful and thankful! He cannot be silent!

APP It is important that we 'spell out' to God the very details of God's blessings to us – whether it is deliverance from enemies (as David on many occasions) or on the sale of your house, or a rise in your salary, or a good result from a biopsy, passing an exam! To **fail** or **refuse** to **acknowledge God** for the many good things and the

mercies and blessings He gives us, is to **DENY God!**

Do you realise that sometimes, God **sends an angel** to assist and deliver us? Mostly, in the **form** of a human being! An often not recognised as an angel until **after** the event! Many commentators believe this Psalm was written at the time of the events in [1 Chro 21] where **angels** were sent by God to destroy Israel for his sin. We read *the angel who was working destruction* [15] God commanded the **angel** to *put his sword back into his sheath* [1 Chro 21:27]. The destruction ceased! So, although **people/angels** are involved, David attributes it all to God and exalts the Lord! *I will extol You O Lord.*

Angels are messengers and agents deliberately sent by God to help and deliver us *Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation* [Heb 1:14] When someone comes and helps you, I hope you realise that it was God who sent them!

David is also grateful because it was an answer to prayer! *I cried to You for help and You have healed me* [2]! **APP** God does take note of our prayers - even when we are going thru a rough time, perhaps even when filled with doubt about God's goodness! It is so important that we never stop calling on God!

David is able to give thanks to God that his enemies did not rejoice over him *You...did not let my foes rejoice over me* [1] – something which David feared! David often prayed that his enemies would not gloat over his misfortunes **APP** In enjoying particular blessings, it is good to thank God for the things we were **afraid might happen**, but did not happen.

COME JOIN WITH ME

David now calls upon his godly friends to join him in praising the Lord! *Sing praises to the Lord O you His saints* [4]. **APP** Most people when they celebrate call their friends to 'uncork a bottle'! David calls them to come and **worship**! We are to *rejoice with those who rejoice* and no doubt David did. A **time of prayer** of thanks!

Now David was a man of great experience – great experience of life! He had many 'highs' and 'lows' from his earliest childhood! Killing a

bear and a lion, killing Giant Goliath, hunted by the King up and down the country, he knew what it was to have a life full of wide ranging and varied experiences. Yet he can say in all honesty *His anger is but for a moment, and His favour is for a lifetime; weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes in the morning* [5]! This is David's overall, universal conclusive statement about **his life with God!** The big perspective on life, for David is: **problems are for a moment, blessings are for ever.** Life is wonderful with God!

David is **not pretending** life is good with God, he **really does enjoy** life with God. He knows what it is like to be full and to be empty, to be rich and to live in a cave! And in the midst of all the 'blows' he gets he can say *In the way of Your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches!*[119:14] God's providences are *More to be desired than gold* [Psa 19:10] David was **not exaggerating** when he said these things. David was truly happy in the Lord.

If we are truly thankful to God for what we already have (ie if we **recognise** that all we have is from God and that we are **unworthy** of it), then **God will give us even more** satisfaction. *Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and His wonderful deeds for men, for He satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things* [Psa 107:8,9] James tells us *He gives more grace* to whom? To the **humble!** The humble person is the person who is **truly thankful** knowing he is undeserving - the person who is already exercising the grace of humility – that is the point James is making!

If you are feeling empty/dissatisfied, then **try to recognise** all God's goodness to you and praise Him. As the hymn goes, count your blessings, name them one by one, and it will surprise you, what the Lord has done. Remember *who made you to differ from another? And what do you have that you did not receive?* [1Cor 4:7] Nothing!

You could have been born in the **Sudan/Ethiopia/Orient**; you could have been born to deprived parents; you could have been handicapped at birth! Who regulated and determined these things? God! God gave you all the wonderful things you have! Attributing thanks to God actually heart brings peace to the soul.

All kinds of people are to give thanks to God – because all kinds of people receive blessings from God. *The eyes of all look to **You**, and **You** give them their food at the proper time. **You** open your hand and satisfy the desires of **every living thing**. The Lord is righteous in all His ways and loving towards **all** He has made* [Psa 145:15cf].

I think one of the most serious omissions in our **nation** today, is the **lack** of our government **acknowledging God!** *God is not in all their thoughts*. We congratulate ourselves only when things go well - despite it being ‘outwith our control’, as if we were the total reason why things have gone well. God is just not there in any event good or evil! Yet we are still a very **prosperous nation** - through God’s grace

The psalms are full of commands to **all classes** of people to give thanks to God for His wide range of mercies! In Psa 107, on the sea and on the land we have to give thanks to God! Even the **heathen!** Even **fools** through their sins are to give thanks to God! We need to acknowledge God’s mercies in everyday life.

When men, even unbelievers, acknowledge the Divine Being, however ignorantly, this is **pleasing to God** Himself! It has its ‘**reward**’ although **not eternal salvation**. God does bless the **outward** acknowledgment of Himself!

Very often we hear Xns complain (even Asaph in Psa 73) at the prosperity of the wicked!! And all of us have done that - in our hearts at least! Why does God bless these wicked people? Notice the **two different effects** that can have on people! **On one hand** it makes some people **deny the existence of God!** It was one of the reasons the great atheist Bertrand Russell refused to believe Xnity!

On the other hand, it can be a means of **great blessing!** Notice what God’s Word says: *do you presume on the riches of His kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God’s kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?* [Rom 2:4] It is a beautiful thing to see someone rejoicing over another persons good fortune - even although that person was wicked! But that is what the grace of God does – it makes a man kind-hearted! Also, we were **created to rejoice** and be glad - but **we spoiled** everything by our selfishness!!