

Last week we looked at the fact that I keep myself from personal revival. Our biggest enemy is our self. But how great it is when we see this and we deal with ourselves. Our joy is renewed and we walk around praising the Lord, for He is worthy.

There is much we could look at in looking ahead to our meeting beginning September 15 with Bro. Nick Holden, but today we will look at being thankful to be heard by God.

For all who are saved we have access to the throne room of God by the blood and the body of Jesus Christ. Hebrews 10:19-22.

How great it is to be heard by God. He is the One who is in total control; He is the self-sufficient One. He doesn't need anything, but we do. We need Him; we need His joy. He wants us to be joyous in whatever state He has allowed us to be in.

1). Gather around- verse 16

The Psalmist is saying he has something to say that needs to be regarded. All ye that reverence God, this will help. Gather around and I will recount and declare unto you what God hath done, is doing, and is going to do; for me. But you must gather around. How sweet it is to hear testimonies of how God is working in the lives of others.

In order to hear you must turn from your business; block out all the distractions and disturbances. Gather around and be attentive to what I will declare unto you.

If you hear, you will be helped. If you hear you may be edified or rebuked. If you hear and obey. A person can hear the sound of a train horn and say "that is a train horn, a train must be coming", yet if that person doesn't take heed to the warning and get off and away from the train tracks what they have heard will not be a help to them.

verse 16-

Gather around and I will distinctly tell you what He hath accomplished in me. The Psalmist here has a message to proclaim to all who fear God. All that truly fear God will hear and be helped. It is encouraging to hear how God has worked in others. To hear of God saving sinners. Saving someone from the bondage of religion and traditions of men; saving others from the depths of sinful living. Whatever background you are from, whichever past you had, Gods mercy and grace are rich to all who call upon Him.

Romans 10:13; John 6:37; I Timothy 1:15

It does us all good to gather around and hear what great things God hath done, is doing, and will do for His children.

2). Give praise to God- verse 17-

I called Him with my mouth. It was a true calling. I understand I am poor and needy, but also that I am rich in Christ. I know where He brought me from and I understand that positionally I am in heaven because of Christ.

My heart overflows with joy, therefore from the abundance of my heart I will praise Him. I will magnify my God, my Saviour.

He is my Rock; my Hightower; He is my place of refuge; He is my strength and protector; I shall not be moved; He is my Shepherd; He is my sustainer; because of my God I will not be afraid of what man will do unto me.

He is worthy of praise. He fights my battles and He has defeated my foes. O death where is thy sting, O grave where is thy victory? You have none because Christ has defeated you. Death could not hold Him, and the grave could not bind Him; He arose on the third day victorious over death, hell, and the grave. We have victory in Jesus Christ! O magnify the Lord, for He is worthy.

3). Girding sin- verse 18-

girding- binding; surrounding; investing.

In verse 18 regard means to see. Iniquity refers to evil.

If I see evil in my heart and I don't deal with it, then I have girded it. I have binded it and by protecting it I am investing in it.

This means I don't view sin as God views sin.

I may make an excuse or say it isn't that bad. Surely God will look over this one. After all it is a little one. It is the little foxes that spoil the vine.

All sin is against God. Isaiah 53:4-11.

Every sin, even what we call little sins, Christ went to the cross for. Oh that we wouldn't hide the stink and darkness of our sins with perfume and flowers; but that we would call sin, sin.

And then deal with it. Don't try and dress up sin.

Look what happens when we gird sin in our hearts- verse 18. Isaiah 59:2; I John 1:9

Call sin what it is. Don't look at others and compare yourselves to others, put your life beside the Word of God. God's Word is infallible, and it isn't swayed by our feelings.

It is obvious here that the Psalmist had recognized sin and dealt with it.

4). God giving heed to the one who got right, and is right. Verses 19-20.

hath attended- to listen carefully, to pay attention, to give heed, to obey.

An appeal to God to hear and respond to an urgent prayer.

The Psalmist did not gird sin in his heart therefore God heard his prayer and God answered his prayer. It's obvious he had girded sin in his heart before, but not anymore.

This person has power with God, this person is full of joy because he has fellowship with the Lord. Lord willing next week we will be back in I John.

In reading this Psalm it's obvious the Psalmist has been through a lot, but he was praising the Lord. His trust was in the Lord. He strived to be right, and encouraged others to do the same.

He was in personal revival. Where are we at? What do we classify as sin and are we dealing with it? We are thankful to be caught by His grace. To God be the glory.