

**A STUDY OF
PSALM 103**

**VBS-July, 2019
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I. INTRODUCTION:

A. By tradition, this Psalm has been assigned to king David of Israel.

B. In the record in II Samuel 23:1, David is called, “The Sweet Psalmist of Israel.”

C. It is believed that David wrote 75 of the 150 chapters in the book of Psalms.

D. I have entitled Psalms 103, “*Bless the Lord, O my soul!*”

The reason for that is because that phrase is found 6 times in the chapter-see verses 1, 2, 20-22.

The Hebrew word for bless means, “to praise!”

E. So, the theme of the chapter is “To Praise God!”

II. TO WHAT EXTENT SHOULD WE BLESS THE LORD?

A. Answer: With all that is in us!

“Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name”-v. 1.

III. DAVID USES A COMMAND TO PRAISE GOD, AND NOT FORGOT HIS BENEFITS!

“Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not his benefits”-v. 2.

The Hebrew word for benefit carries the idea of being rewarded by the Lord! God rewards his people in many wonderful ways!

II Chronicles 32:25 is very helpful with this point!

“But Hezekiah rendered not again according to the benefit done unto him; for his heart was lifted up: therefore there was wrath upon him, and upon Judah and Jerusalem.”

Thankfully, according to verse 26, Hezekiah humbled himself for the pride of his heart!

Passages about remembering, and not forgetting-Deuteronomy, chapter 8; Luke 22:19; I Corinthians 11:23-30; II Peter 1:5-15; Revelation 2:5.

The record of the prodigal son is a story of the son going astray and then remembering all the benefits from his father!-See Luke 15:11-32.

IV. A LISTING OF THE BENEFITS:

A. Forgiveness of sins and the healing of diseases-v. 3.

“Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases.”

See Psalms 32:1-7; Isaiah 38:1-4; Ephesians 1:3-7; James 5:14 & 15.

Many miracles of the Lord in the NT had to do with healing-see John 4:46-54; 5:1-9; 9:1-7.

B. God redeems, or delivers from destruction, and gives lovingkindness and mercy-v. 4.

The life of Joseph and Paul would be classic examples of being rescued from destruction and being recipients of God’s mercy and lovingkindness!

C. God satisfies our mouth with good things and renews our strength like an eagle-verse 5. See Matthew 6:24-34; Isaiah 40:27-31; II Corinthians 4:16.

D. God executes righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed-v. 6.

God has always been “The Champion” for those who are oppressed-see Leviticus 19:13-18.

God has always wanted justice to be applied-see Exodus 21:18-32.

God will punish the evil doers in the world-see Exodus 21:15-17; James 5:1-5, and many other biblical texts.

E. God made His ways known to Moses and His acts to the children of Israel-verse 7.

God entered into a covenant relationship with Israel and gave the nation the law of Moses and demonstrated his great power to the people of Israel-see Exodus, chapters 7-11, 14, 19 & 20, and many other texts.

The New Testament is a book demonstrating to all people today, God's great power! It is also a revelation from God as to how He wants people to live today!

F. God is merciful, gracious, slow to anger, and bountiful in mercy-verse 8. See Numbers 14:11-20; Ephesians 2:4-8; Titus 3:4-7; II Peter 3:15.

G. God will not always chide (strive, or contend): neither will He keep His anger forever-v.9. See especially Isaiah 57:16; Jeremiah 18:5-10; Jonah, chapter 3.

H. God does not deal with us according as we have sinned-verse 10. See especially Ezra 9:13; Romans 6:23.

I. As high as the heaven is above the earth, so great is God's mercy towards them that fear Him-verse 11.

This verse punctuates the thought that has been expressed so many times: "Christians can never fully understand how God could give His Son for them, nor accept them as His sons and daughters!!"
See Paul's prayer in Ephesians 3:14-21.

J. God has removed our transgressions from us as far as the east is from the west-verse 12. See also Micah 7:18-20; Matthew 18:23-35.

K. God has great pity towards man because of our frailty-verses 13-16.

“Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him.

For he knoweth our frame, he remembereth that we are dust.

As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.

For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.”

This has always been a “touching verse” to me to realize when God looks down from heaven upon man, He has pity upon us, because He realizes man is so frail and is on earth for such a short while, and He is “*From Everlasting to Everlasting*”-Psalm 90:2.

It should be noted in these verses that God’s pity is towards those that “fear Him!”

Look at the record in I Peter 1:3-9, 23. Because the Christian is born again by the incorruptible word of God that lives and abides forever, he will receive an eternal inheritance!

L. *“But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children’s children;*

To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them”
-verses 17 & 18.

This is similar to the Lord’s statement in Exodus 20:6, *“And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.”* See also Deuteronomy 7:9.

M. The Lord's throne is prepared in the heavens, and His kingdom rules over all-verse 19. see Daniel 2:20 & 21; 4:25, 34-37.

“AND IN THE DAYS OF THESE KINGS SHALL THE GOD OF HEAVEN SET UP A KINGDOM, WHICH SHALL NEVER BE DESTROYED: AND THE KINGDOM SHALL NOT BE LEFT TO OTHER PEOPLE, BUT IT SHALL BREAK IN PIECES AND CONSUME ALL THESE KINGDOMS, AND IT SHALL STAND FOREVER”-Daniel 2:44.

Brethren, may we never forget that God is in control, and He will “see us through to heaven!”

See I Corinthians 1:8 & 9; I Thessalonians 3:12 & 13; 5:23 & 24; Hebrews 13:20 & 21.

V. CONCLUSION: Angels, all His works, and men are to praise God-verses 20-22.

“Bless the Lord, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments hearkening unto the voice of his word.

Bless ye the Lord, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure.

Bless ye the Lord, all his works in all places of his dominion: bless the Lord, O my soul.”

See also Psalm 148 & Revelation, chapter 5.

***“MANY, O LORD MY GOD, ARE THY
WONDERFUL WORKS WHICH THOU HAST
DONE, AND THY THOUGHTS WHICH ARE
TO USWARD: THEY CANNOT BE
RECKONED UP IN ORDER UNTO THEE: IF I
WOULD DECLARE AND SPEAK OF THEM,
THEY ARE MORE THAN CAN BE
NUMBERED”-Psalm 40:5.***

**Brethren, may we ever praise God for the
innumerable and undeserved blessings He
pours out upon us daily!!**